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WHERE YOU HAVE SO GENEROUSLY GIVEN US YOUR BUSINESS IN THE PAST GENEROUSLY GIVEN US IN THE MR. THOMPSON WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THIS PLANT AND WE RESPECTFULLY SOLICIT YOUR VALUED PATRONAGE WHEN YOUR CAR NEEDS ANY ATTENTION IN OUR LINE. ALL WORK GUARANTEED AND PRICES REASONABLE. PROMPT SERVICE OUR SPECIALTY.

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**The Best Work**

is offered you in every garment made in Our Shop.

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To neglect your personal appearance when our prices for cleaning, pressing and repairing clothes are easily within your means?

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To overlook the importance of personality as relates to outer garments?

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We carry a full line of the Nation-wide reputation "Arrow Brand" Shirts and Collars, all sizes, patterns and shapes. They are made especially for the young man and for the man who wishes to dress young. No trouble to show them to you, whether you buy or not. Come in and look them over.

Also have a beautiful line of Neckties for the Christmas Season.

**Sherman Brothers**



**Deacon**

How He Took Out The Christmas Mail

by Sewell Ford

**I**T WAS upon one of those good old days of nearly four hundred years ago when that prince of bold buccaners, Cortez, was grinding Mexico under his iron heels and sending his ships back laden with treasures, and while all Spain was ringing like a bell to the tune of his deeds, that the beginning of the circumstances happened. As to whether the ending was due to a near miracle or pure chance each must take his choice, but the way it all happened was like this: Carlos de Montbar, grown old and gray as a silver fox in adventures upon land and sea and adventures upon land and sea and listening with his ear to the ground the better to hear the rumbles from afar, arose saying to himself:

"Cortez! Who, then, is he to be a worker of marvels which I cannot do? True, he has shaken the tree of conquest first and many golden apples have fallen into his helmet, but in his haste he has not left as many more behind? I will follow in his steps, and with much less trouble than befell him gather those he has left behind, also becoming rich and famous. I will take my two ships, summon my men and sail to this land of gold." And thus having determined he assembled his crews, after which he sought out the good padre Ferdinand. "Father," he said, "I have two as good ships as ever broke a wave and

said as he crossed himself, "you have come prepared to convert a universe." "If the better the day the better the deed, why may it not as well be that the greater the emblem the greater the good?"

Whereupon they made sail and disappeared adown the western horizon. And from that day nearly 400 years ago until but a few months ago no eye of man saw sign or trace of them.

Up the Gulf of Mexico the oil barge Crescent came wallowing like a pig in the trough of burly, rough and tumble seas that ran over her like the slithering tongues of monstrous brutes gone mad. Deep down in her the old engines clanked and wheezed, while McArde, the engineer, scratched his head dubiously as he watched their spasmodic laborings. "And while by the grace of the Lord they may last the trip out, I sometimes misdoubt it," he muttered. "For at any minute are they liable to fly to flinders like the wind-rus old one-horse shay."

And fly to pieces they did. With the report of a gun a connecting pin snapped asunder, and the next instant its rod had jammed, while with the roar of a cannon a cylinder head went crashing through a bulkhead. In an instant the engine room was deluged with live vapor, but with one thrust of his arm the engineer shut off the steam and half fainting from his scalds went working his way forward between seas to the bridge where Captain Travers was clinging in a smother of spume. "And its gone to glory they have, sir," he reported, with a death's head grin. Gray of face, Travers pointed to the bar of Madre de la Lagun with its spouting foam a few miles under their lee.



There Came a Mighty Tug Upon the Cable.

"Then so have we along with them. Our anchor will never hold on this bottom, and we'll all eat Christmas dinner tomorrow in Davy Jones' locker." Reverently McArde drew a small cross from his pocket, kissed it and replaced it while the captain looked on silently.

"It will take a bigger cross than that to save us," he announced grimly. The engineer straightened his put-twisted face.

"That may be, sir. Yet big and small, that same token has saved many a man and 'tis my belief it will save many another. Leastwise, 'tis our only hope." Down to his own cabin he went creeping in search of oil and bandages.

All night long the Crescent, plunging backward against her restraining cable as a wild horse bucks against its tether, dragged the anchor closer and closer to the seething bar where she must break her back, casting them all into a seething pot, where neither man nor boat could survive a minute. At dawn of Christmas morning, with destruction but an hour away, Captain Travers summoned his men before him. He pointed an ominous finger at the roaring bar now but a cable's length away.

"My friends," said he, "In an hour from now it will all be over. This will be our last Christmas day. We have but little time in which to say our last words. Therefore, what shall they be?" From somewhere among the despairing dozen the hoarse voice of the engineer arose in a croaking attempt at song.

"To the cross I cling— One by one they joined their voices in a raged accompaniment of chorus that was torn from their lips by the hurricane to be lost in the yell of the surf upon the bar. And as their last words ceased there came a mighty tug upon the cable as if some giant of the depths inconceivably vast had seized the anchor and was holding the ship fast against the drift. And as they saw that it dragged no more they looked at each other, first in amazement, then with the joy of men snatched from the very jaws of death by a miracle.

"The anchor has found its grip and is holding," they told each other. But that such good fortune could long continue each had but little faith. Yet 24 hours later when the sea had calmed they still found themselves riding in safety. Then they gave the steam winch full power and gradually the anchor came to the surface, still holding in its grip the object which it had found and fastened itself to so desperately. And as the crew burning with curiosity bent over the rail to gaze upon the mysterious thing which had preserved them, and which foot by foot was being dragged from its bed of sand, they saw rising through the waters in the anchor's grip a great object blackened and incrustated by the waters of the sea, a monstrous iron cross such as it might take 40 strong men to carry.

**When You Build, or Plan to Build CONSULT**

**J. S. Zimmerman,**

"THE GASTONIA ARCHITECT"

Room 6 Building Ragan Gastonia, N. C.

**Linwood College News.**

Correspondence of The Gazette: LINWOOD COLLEGE, Dec. 4. — Thanksgiving was observed by the faculty and students of Linwood last Thursday. About half of the student-body went to Pisgah that morning for the Thanksgiving services. Revs. A. T. Lindsay and S. J. Hood made appropriate talks on Thanksgiving day and its importance.

Mr. Brady Johnson, of Gastonia, spent Thanksgiving here with friends. Mr. J. W. Bigham spent a few days here last week with his old roommate, P. S. White. Messrs. Lee, Simpson, Pressley, Minters and Carter, of Chester, S. C., spent Thanksgiving here with relatives and friends.

Messrs. McGill and Riggins spent Thanksgiving here with friends. Miss Juliet Pollard, of Spartanburg, S. C., spent the week-end here with her sister, Miss Ruth Pollard. Mr. C. G. Castles, of Smyrna, S. C., spent a few minutes here last Saturday.

Mr. W. J. Falls is spending the week-end with his parents on route one. Miss Mildred Falls is spending the week-end with her parents. Misses Lois White and Lilaue Castles are spending the week-end with relatives in Gastonia.

Messrs. C. D. Broom and H. D. Sherrer spent last Saturday night with Mr. Gus Anderson, in Chester, S. C.

Miss Charles, of Greenville, S. C., is spending a few days with her friend, Miss Lulee French. Miss Watts, of Statesville, is spending a few days here with her sister, Miss Watts, of the faculty.

Sergeant Walter H. Penly, U. S. A., died at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, Thursday morning as a result of drinking liquid from a can that was left beneath a bath tub in the hospital. Penly, it was stated, was returned from the Philippines and taken to the hospital for observation as to his mental condition and was supposed to be kept under surveillance at all times, the coroner was informed. He was a native of North Wilkesboro, this State.

The Elberbe Knitting Mills, of Elberbe, Richmond county, capital \$100,000, has been chartered.

THE GAZETTE \$2.00. On and after January 1, 1917, the subscription price of The Gazette will be \$2 the year instead of \$1.50 as at present. Until that date new subscriptions and renewals will be taken at the old price. All subscriptions are strictly cash in advance. This increase in the price of the paper is rendered imperative because of the unprecedented increase in the cost of print paper and all other materials which enter into the making of a newspaper.



**SOUTHERN RAILWAY.** Arrival and departure passenger trains, Southern Railway Station, Gastonia, N. C. N. B. Schedule figures shown as information and not guaranteed. Arrive from

29. New York, Washington Birmingham special	5:25 a. m.
42. Atlanta, Night Express	5:25 a. m.
39. Charlotte (local)	8:00 a. m.
36. New Orleans-Atlanta (U. S. Fast Mail)	9:21 a. m.
37. N. Y., Washington, (N. Y., Atla., N. O., Limited)	10:42 a. m.
11. Richmond (local)	11:30 a. m.
46. Seneca (local)	12:45 p. m.
12. Atlanta (local)	5:00 p. m.
45. Greensboro (local)	5:45 p. m.
38. N. O. Atla. (N. Y., Atla., New Orleans Ltd.)	7:51 p. m.
40. Atlanta (local)	9:38 p. m.
30. Bham-Atla. (B., spl.)	10:16 p. m.
43. Charlotte, Night Express	11:17 p. m.
43. Charlotte, Night Express	11:32 p. m.
35. N. Y.-Washington, (U. S. Fast Depart for	
29. Bham., (Bham., Spl.)	5:25 a. m.
42. Charlotte, Night Express	5:25 a. m.
39. Atlanta (local)	8:00 a. m.
36. Washington N. Y. (U. S. Fast Mail)	9:21 a. m.
37. Atla., N. O., (N. Y., Atla., New Orleans Ltd.)	10:42 a. m.
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30. Wash., N. Y., (Birmingham Special)	10:16 p. m.
35. Atla., New Orleans (U. S. Fast Mail)	11:17 p. m.
43. Atlanta, Night Express	11:32 p. m.

For rates reservations or other information call on or write A. A. SUTHER, T. A., phone-22 G. C. ANDREWS, Agt., phone 73.

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**Santa Claus Suggests Sensible Gifts**

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We have scores of good practical gifts, and if you buy them here you won't have to pay "special holiday prices." Toilet Goods, Leather Goods, Stationery, Smoker's Supplies, Huyler's Candies, etc.

should suggest something appropriate for everyone on your list.

Shop now and avoid the rush which will come later.

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CLINTON & MORROW, Props.  
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