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THE NEWS BY WIRE

To-Day's Happenings All Over the Country.

GERMANY TO FIGHT US

PRINCE HENRY'S FLEET BOUND FOR OUR POSSESSIONS

Blizzards in Nebraska--Schooner's Crew Saved Near Providence--Etruria Arrived Late--Jury Says Wilful Murder

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20.—The Record this morning publishes the astounding news that Germany has taken the initial steps towards war with the United States. The article is printed on the authority of prominent German financiers, who are now visiting here. Germany's mysterious fleet in command of Prince Henry is said to be now en route to threaten American territory instead of Chinese possessions.

SAVED IN THE RIGGING.
The Schooner Whittemore Went Ashore but Crew Was Saved.

By Telegraph to The Times.
Providence, Dec. 20.—The schooner Whittemore, bound for New York, went ashore near Watch Hill early this morning. The schooner is a total loss, the entire cargo going down with the hull. The crew was saved, but they had to spend the night in the rigging, and as the temperature here is below 15 it was a most unpleasant one.

AGAIN AT WORK.
By Telegraph to The Times.
Bridgeton, N. Y., Dec. 20.—Several glass works started the fires under their furnaces today and gave employment to two thousand millers.

JUDGE VAN WYCK'S SUCCESSOR.
By Telegraph to The Times.
New York, Dec. 20.—Governor Black to-day made public an important appointment in that of District Attorney Olcott to succeed Mayor Elect Van Wyck as city judge. Attorney Olcott will accept and will take the oath of office and begin his duties on the first day of the new year.

GAS MONOPOLY.
The Companies of Pittsburg and Allegheny Combined To-day.
By Telegraph to The Times.
Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 20.—As a result of the negotiations which have been pending for three years, planning the consolidation of all gas companies in Pittsburg and Allegheny county, a new company was formed to-day with a capital stock of five million dollars. The new company will erect a new plant in Pittsburg which will cost \$800,000.

BURNED TO THE WATERS EDGE.
By Telegraph to The Times.
Salem, Mass., Dec. 20.—The three-masted schooner Marguerite en route from St. John to New York was burned to the water's edge near here this morning. The schooner was laden with laths and burned rapidly.

KILLED IN A COLLISION.
Unknown Tramp Given a Lift by an Illinois Express.

By Telegraph to The Times.
Pontiac, Ill., Dec. 20.—An unidentified tramp was crushed to death in a collision here by an express train on the Alton road which was side tracked by a freight train yesterday afternoon. Several railroaders were severely injured.

THE ETRURIA ARRIVES LATE.
By Telegraph to The Times.
Queenstown, Dec. 20.—The Etruria, of the Cunard Steamship Company, arrived here this morning twenty-four hours late.

A HOLIDAY TREAT.
As we approach the brightest holiday of the year, an occasion will be afforded next Wednesday night, 22nd, for a gathering at Metropolitan Hall, to enjoy the sweetest of pleasures, the superb music of the Clara Schumann Orchestra. There is nothing in this country like this band of refined and cultured women; artists who are graduates of the Boston Conservatory, and those fortunate enough to enjoy the entertainment will have something to remember. To accommodate patrons, the performance will not begin until 4:45. Tickets at King's drug store at one dollar each. Subscribers can obtain their seats there at once.

TOBACCO FROM CUBA.

By Telegraph to The Times.
New York, Dec. 20.—The steamship Segurana, of the Ward Line Steamship Company, arrived here today from Havana with 882 bales of leaf tobacco brought from Cuba. This is the second shipment which has been received here since the recall of Captain-General Cervera.

DUTIES ON HOGS.

Chamber of Deputies Fix Rating for Lard, Etc., in France.
By Telegraph to The Times.
Paris, Dec. 20.—The debate on the bill to increase customs duties on hogs and hog products, such as lard, was opened in the Chamber of Deputies today. The bill was finally adopted by a vote which fixes the duty on hogs at twelve francs, sucking pigs at three francs, hog products at fifty francs and lard at thirty-five francs.

"WILFUL MURDER."

So Said the Jury in the William Terris Inquest To-day.
By Telegraph to The Times.
London, Dec. 20.—At the inquest held today over the remains of the late William Terris, the actor, who was murdered Thursday night by Richard Archer Prince, the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder.

PRINCE HENRY SEES QUEEN.

The Record's Story Appears to Be Denied by Dispatches.
By Telegraph to The Times.
Osborne Isle Wight, Dec. 20.—Prince Henry of Prussia left Osborne after visiting the Queen and returned aboard the Deutschland this morning. If the weather permits sailing, the Prince will resume his journey to China to-morrow. The customary salutes were exchanged this morning.

COL. McDONALD DEAD.

Mr. Chas. McDonald Received News of His Father's Death Yesterday Morning--Will Be Buried Here To-morrow.
News was received yesterday from Asheville of the death at Fairview of Colonel John A. McDonald, for many years a resident of this city, at his home in Fairview. Col. McDonald represented Chatham county in the Legislature several terms, and then made his home in Raleigh. He leaves a widow and eight children: Mrs. P. L. Ellis and Mrs. J. Will Jones, of Fairview; Mrs. W. M. Sorrell, of Asheville; Mrs. Walter McDonald, of Chattanooga; Chas. McDonald, of Raleigh; Henry McDonald, of Brooklyn, and Will McDonald, of Rocky Mount. The body will be brought to Raleigh to-morrow, and the funeral will be held from the Church of the Good Shepherd at noon.

FORPARDONOF RILEY PATE.

Mr. Hendricks Here to Secure Pardon for the Murderer of Mat. Hensley.
Mr. John A. Hendricks, of Marshall, Madison county, is in the city on an errand of mercy. He was all this morning trying to see the Governor touching the pardon of Riley Pate, who has been sentenced to be hanged for the murder of Mat. Hensley, in Yancey county, one year ago.

WILL CALL IT "THE ARK."

"The Ark" is the name of Mr. Dughl's Christmas wagon. Messrs. J. H. Robbins, O. M. Walters, C. G. Koonce and S. L. Muir, composed the committee to decide from the seven hundred suggestions that came from ladies all over the State. The winner of the basket of fruit is Miss Lily Ferrall, daughter of Mr. J. R. Ferrall, of this city. "The Ark" was suggested by her. It was No. 59. All suggestions had been numbered and no one in the committee knew who had sent in any of the suggestions. Mr. Dughl put his advertisement in the News and Observer for three days and received over 700 letters replying to it. From Newbern alone he received 82 and from Tarboro 63. Moral: If you want to sell, buy or give away anything, advertise in the News and Observer. At least 20,000 people read it every morning.

CHRISTMAS TREES AT THE CHURCHES

Sunday Schools to be Merry With Them

FOR HAPPY CHILDREN

THE PROGRAMME OF THE SEVERAL GATHERINGS.

To Begin Thursday Night at the Methodist Church--Fun and Frolic for all the Tots

The little children throughout the city are looking forward to the visit Santa Claus is soon to pay the schools of the various Sunday Schools, and Raleigh is not to be disappointed, for he is going to attend to the wants of the little ones who have been regular attendants at Sunday Schools before the regular visit to the homes of our good people.

The Methodist and Christian churches will start the sleigh bells a-jingling, and Thursday night the little ones and the big ones will have a merry time together watching and waiting for Santa's appearance. He will come, and when he arrives many good things will be given with him. Dr. Norman and Pastor Foster will have good words to say to the scholars.

The Baptist churches will treat their pupils to the happiest Christmas entertainment they have ever experienced. The able superintendent of the First Church's Sunday School will look after his pupils, and the Tabernacle will have several entertainments.

The Tabernacle will begin the pleasure of the week by opening the doors of the church that all who wish to give to the poor may send contributions between 4 o'clock and 9 o'clock p. m. on Friday. Saturday night, at Metropolitan Hall, the infant department of the Sabbath School will give its annual cantata. Monday or Tuesday night of next week the boys' brigade, girls' department and several classes will have a jolly time in the armory of the Governor's Guard, which has been kindly tendered for the occasion.

The Fayetteville Street Baptist church will they have any Xmas services? John Pullen will be there, the whole congregation will be present, and every member of that Sunday School will have a present and a happy time. Santa Claus always goes hand in hand with good men like John Pullen, and it may be safely said will give the children of that church the happiest of Christmas-masses.

The children of the First Presbyterian church have decided, by their own choice, that the most appropriate time for their celebration of Christ's coming into our world will be when they enter their new Sabbath School, which will be the handsomest in the city. Their hopes are all in this one object, and some of the little ones have said they intend to lay aside the amount of a present and give it towards the building fund. It is a good idea, and the scholars at that school should be complimented upon their wise choice.

The Christmas tree at the Good Shepherd Sunday School's exercises is always beautiful, and this year will equal any previous years. They begin their exercises on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and will name the date for the Xmas tree later.

Friday afternoon, at 5 o'clock, will be a glorious time with the children of Christ church. The Sunday School teachers are all around at the stores buying presents for their pupils, and from the selections one made this morning, the scholars will surely be delighted with the many surprises they are to be given on Christmas eve.

The Central Methodist Sunday School will have a glorious time celebrating the holidays, and the many suburban and mission chapels will have beautiful trees filled with presents.

Many trees have been ordered for home use, and the time will be truly one of "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

ANANIAS PUT TO SHAME.

Col. Olds has discovered the boss prevaricator in North Carolina, and writes to the Messenger: "A man writes to the adjutant general here that he captured at Sailor's Creek the flag of the Twenty-first North Carolina regiment and the remnant of that regiment, also parts of two other regiments; that he did this alone and unaided; that his regiment came up and that he had to turn over his prisoners, some 300 men, but kept the flag of the Twenty-first. He wants to correspond with some of the Twenty-first. This letter writer lives at Wall's Wall, and is the banner prevaricator of this decade."

MR. ALFRED UPCHURCH DEAD.

For Years a City Alderman and Most Progressive Citizen.

The news of the death of Mr. Alfred Upchurch, one of Raleigh's oldest and most popular citizens, has reached the homes of many in this city, bringing with it sad news.

Mr. Upchurch was 75 years of age, and leaves a wife and six children in Raleigh and other cities.

His children are Mr. W. W. Upchurch, of the Seaboard Air Line; Mr. Merrimon Upchurch, of Chattanooga, Tenn.; Mrs. J. W. Walker, of Charlotte; Mrs. Chamberlain, of Durham, and Mr. Fabian Upchurch, a telegraph operator, of Durham.

Mr. Upchurch was for many years an alderman in this city, and has always been a most progressive citizen.

He was married twice, but no children were left by his first wife, who was a Miss Crowder, of this county.

The funeral was to have been held this afternoon from the Tabernacle Baptist church, but a telegram from Mrs. Walker, in Charlotte, asked that a postponement be made until to-morrow morning, after her arrival.

The funeral has, therefore, been postponed, and due notice of the hour will be made in to-morrow morning's News and Observer.

THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

Students from the Raleigh schools are already beginning to leave for their homes to spend the Christmas holidays.

Examinations at the Agricultural and Mechanical College will be completed on the 22nd, and on the 23rd all the students are free for the holidays. The new school year begins on the 3rd of January.

The holidays begin at Peace Institute Dec. 23d and continue until Jan. 4th. St. Augustine Normal School will give holiday from next Friday until January 3rd.

Shaw University will not take any holidays for Christmas, it is said. They intend to teach even on Christmas day. Many students from the University, Wake Forest, Trinity and the Greensboro schools passed through the city today on their way home.

All the schools of the State are expecting largely increased attendance after the holidays. President Alderman says he looks for at least 30 new students at the University.

WINDOW ATTRACTIONS.

The business of window dressing and decoration has become so extensive that a shopper can walk up the street and make selections of almost anything desired by glances at the show windows. One of the handsomest and most attractive displays on Fayetteville street is the holiday show of the new store of Mr. I. Rosenthal. Behind the large plate glass can be seen many Christmas attractions, all arranged in charming display, and this is only an index of the many beautiful and useful articles that are to be seen on the inside of this store.

THE WEATHER.

Forecast for North Carolina—Rain to-night and Tuesday; warmer.

Weather Conditions.—There are only four stations east of the Rocky mountains which have clear weather this morning, namely, Key West, Fla., Bismarck, North Dakota, and North Platte and Omaha, Neb. Everywhere else it is either cloudy, snowing or raining. The snow is confined to the lake region and westward, while it is raining at scattered points throughout the central valley and east. It is very cold in the northwest. The unsettled conditions are caused by a long trough of low pressure extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes, with high areas on the Rocky mountain slope and Atlantic coast.

GOOD WEEK FOR WEDDINGS.

The past week has been great for marrying and giving in marriage. No less than twenty-three couples have been granted license to wed since Monday morning. Of these thirteen couples were white and ten were colored.

Seven licenses were granted Saturday as follows:

- John Bailey and Maggie Watkins, both of Wake.
- Lennie Sanderford, of Wake, and Hattie Avera, of Johnston.
- Henry Pope, of Johnston, and Jane Bullock, of Wake (colored).
- Hesekiah Jones and Arena McCullers, both of Wake (colored).
- Charles Hain and Neta Snellings, both of Wake (colored).
- Samuel R. Sugg and Nellie Jones, both of Wake.
- Bud Simpson and Sally Bevers, both of Wake.

AN UP-TO-DATE TAILOR.

On the third page of this issue will be found an advertisement of Mr. J. E. Phylis, the tailor. No word as to his work is necessary to Raleigh people.

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

Important Happenings in and About the City

FOR BUSY READERS

INTERESTING EVENTS OF TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

What is Heard on the Streets and Jotted Down in Our Note-Book--Personal and Otherwise.

Mr. W. C. Douglas's lady is slightly better to-day.

There is talk of building a new railroad from Raleigh to Lillington, Harnett county.

The Chorus of the Raleigh Musical Association will meet at their hall, in Woman's Exchange building, at 8 o'clock this evening.

At the residence of Mrs. C. M. Busbee's this afternoon at 4 o'clock an interesting meeting of the Ministering Circle was held.

The Monday Evening Club will hold its regular monthly meeting at the residence of Mrs. Dr. Parker, on Edenton street, at 8 o'clock this evening.

The Oak City Steam Laundry will close Friday evening, Dec. 24, and will not open until Monday morning, Dec. 27. The managers hope every one will send in their work as early as possible this week.

An appropriate Christmas present would be a bunch of choice cut flowers, a handsome pair or a blooming plant. Mr. H. Stuenkel has a lot of choice flowers and orders sent to him early will be certain to receive prompt attention.

The Christmas exercises of Edenton Street Sunday School will be held Thursday night. On Wednesday afternoon, after two o'clock, a committee will be at the church to receive such gifts for the poor as members of the church and others may send.

Hiram Lodge, No. 40, A. F. and M., will meet in regular communication this evening at 7 o'clock. As it is the time for the annual election of officers a full attendance of the membership is earnestly desired. Brethren of sister lodges cordially invited.

The Watanga Club will hold a meeting this evening at 7:30 o'clock at the office of Mr. George Allen in the Pullen building. A full attendance is desired. This club is composed of progressive, public-spirited citizens, and its object is to disseminate information upon topics that will be helpful to the whole State.

Mr. Duncan was not confirmed before Congress adjourned, and will not probably be able to assume the duties of Collector of Internal Revenue before Jan. 15th, or Feb. 1st. Mr. Simmons had held the office four years on the 27th of November, though, owing to delays about confirmation, he did not receive his four years' commission until June 30th following. O. H. Dockery, Jr., is to have a clerkship in the department.

SHUMANN WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

A Select Orchestra of Sixteen Beautiful Young Women.

The Clara Schumann Ladies' Orchestra, Wednesday night, will be a bright particular star for the week.

The orchestra is composed of sixteen young women, all thorough artists, and the programme is one delightfully selected for the occasion. There should be a packed house.

BOUND OVER TO COURT.

William Whitaker, colored, was this morning arraigned in the mayor's court for the larceny of a watch, stolen from Mr. Gulon Dewey on Saturday night.

An attempt was made to get the fellow released by transferring him to Justice Marsom's court, but Squire Marsom was on to the game and bound Whitaker over to court on \$100 bond.

BOOKER IN JAIL.

Booker, the murderer of Mehaley White, who was captured in Baltimore about a week ago was yesterday brought here by Deputy Sheriff Brooks.

The story of the crime is a familiar one to all Raleigh people and many have called at the jail to see the negro. He will be tried at the January term of court.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

An important adjourned meeting of the Chamber will be held on Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, in the Mayor's office.