

NEW SHORT STORIES

Bluff No Good With Underwood

When Frederick D. Underwood, the president of the Erie railroad, was arrested...



HOW WOULD YOU PAY IT?

and also reassured him. When the bill of \$12,000 was sent to Mr. Merrill...

No Plans For Etiquette

Professor Isaac Schwab of the University of Pennsylvania, who has been occupying the chair of mathematics at that institution...

English Fishings

In England a dog used to guide a blind person is exempt from taxation. The municipality of Portoroz...

German Gleanings

Germany follows on skyscrapers of anything approaching them. The German people are very fond of their own...

DAMES AND DAUGHTERS

Bertha, daughter of Atlanta, Ga., is a successful business woman. She has out a dozen patents within the last few years...

Pen and Brush

Emerson was a notable sufferer from the vagaries of memory. G. K. Chesterton's figure is now so large on the literary stage...

Things Theatrical

Erna Orenson has been engaged for 'The King of Qadonia.' A new comic opera by Julian Edwards and Walker Brown is called 'Miss Mollie May'...

Short Stories

William Powell Frith, the oldest of British painters, died in London early in the year. He was 91 years old...

Sporting Notes

Philadelphia A. A. U. is paying more attention to basketball. Some automobile dealers are adding aeroplanes to their stock...

College and School

The Ohio State university has a class for the study of wireless telegraphy. India has five great universities...

Tales of Cities

About 90 per cent of the fire alarms of Chicago are transmitted by telephone. Hundreds of the houses of Minneapolis and St. Paul are equipped with wireless up-to-date weather...

Recent Inventions

A machine has been invented to wrap with wire a telephone or telegraph pole to save it from gnawing horses. A sword has been constructed...

Queer Ads

'Wanted, a horse to do the work of a steam engine.' 'I have a fine lot of second-hand clothing...

Facts From France

The Paris population is 2,500,000. The French people are very fond of their own wine. France has a large number of people engaged in the silk industry...

German Gleanings

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SIRENS AND SONS

Mr. O'Brien, the political economist, is a well-known figure. He has written a book on the 'Sirens and Sons'...

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THE GREAT APPEAL

Of forms of immolation, however, the most common is that of the 'Great Appeal'...

THE STAGECOP

Driver—Oh! say, this money don't go here. Passenger—Why not? Stagecop—Well, you'll see this stage!

LOOK AT THE OTHER SIDE

'When you get to the other side of a horse,' said Uncle Eben, 'keep still and remember that you are simply feeling de way de yuhub feller would feel if you'd got de best of it.'—Washington Star.

REAL HAUGHTY

Hotel Clerk—What time will you be called? Guest—At 9 o'clock, and I want the proprietor to call me. Don't send a bellboy!—New York Press.

FOOLISH STUFF

Guest—I'm going to speak. But what am I going to say? Answer—A public Cleveland Leader.

GOING UP!

'I shouldn't think this aviation business was profitable.' 'Why?' 'Because it is always going up.'—Baltimore American.

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Merry Christmas

The spirit of Christmas fills the air and is reflected in the many beautiful remembrances, being selected for the festival. We most cordially invite you to inspect the splendid display in our store...

Christmas Presents from One Cent Up

From the penny toy to the most elegant token. To enumerate the big assortments we are offering would require much space and occupy too much of your time. It were better if you call and see for yourself.

Toys, Candies, Fine Groceries, Fruits and Delicacies. Everything for Christmas. Hamilton-Brown Shoes make a sensible gift. Our American Lady styles are the finest made.

S. T. WEIR

Manassas, Va.

C. E. NASH

Dealer in Shell and Heavy Hardware

Eastern Produce Co.

Manassas, Va.

IF YOU

Wish to purchase the very nicest package of Candy ever put on sale in the town of Manassas, call at the Prince William Pharmacy and look over the line of Hopkins' Fine Xmas Boxes and Baskets of Fine Chocolates...

Your Patronage

is solicited at this store. You are assured of courteous treatment and reasonable prices always. My stock of Groceries, Dry Goods, Shoes and Furnishings

W. L. SMITH

Manassas, Va.

TOTS SEND REMINDERS TO SANTA CLAUS; MAKE APPEAL TO THEIR PATRON SAINT

Children have written the following letters to Santa Claus: Dear Santa, I am a little boy three years old. I want a watch, an automobile, a wagon, a mouth organ, some candy and nuts...

THE CHILDREN ARE INDEED IMPROVING THEIR OPPORTUNITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH SANTA CLAUS...

The children are indeed improving their opportunity to communicate with Santa Claus, so that he may make no mistake in the distribution of gifts. A number already have written to him, and others are planning letters for the Santa Claus department of THE DEMOCRAT next week...

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WASHINGTON LETTER WOMAN AND FASHION FACTS IN FEW LINES

(Special Correspondence)

Washington social season... the first Monday in December...

Smart Neckwear

Paris has the greatest neckwear and lingerie shops in the world... change the display often...



FRANCIS BISHOP BY GREEN AND GOLD

The New Year's Reception... All Washington, outside of the official set...

One of the sights of the Year... The New Year's reception is really one of the sights of Washington...

The City Spread Up... The entire Washington landscape has been having its face washed...

Mr. Tatt's Costumes... Mrs. Tatt has been to New York for a few days...

A Pan-American Pageant... John Barnett, director of the bureau of American republics...

To my way of thinking... Mr. Barrett said, "Such a pageant would not only be spectacular and interesting..."

A Rose Colored Fur... It is here! No longer must we go to the States to get the fur which resembles the natural tone...

Appropriate Anniversary... The year 1910 will be especially appropriate in which to have the pageant...

A Robin Hood Hat... It is a design that takes us back to the merry robbers and has a certain appeal...

In Japan dancing is part of a child's education... Deep liking sentiments of the ocean are after the Japanese deity...

The postal business of the world is increasing at the rate of 7 per cent per annum... In the list of the imports of this country...

To aid in the study of high ceilings a short experimental instrument has been built in Sweden adapted to operate at 600,000 volts...

Ecuador exports about 20,000 tons of vegetable ivory annually, of which Germany takes about one-half and the United States one-fourth...

Ireland exports annually approximately \$20,000,000 worth of eggs, and of the exports of live and dressed poultry are added the said receipts \$25,000,000...

Standard time in Belgium, Holland and Spain is the same as in Great Britain... It is one hour faster in Germany, Italy, Austria, Denmark, Serbia and Sweden...

There is a process in use in England whereby a metallic ribbon a mile long can be turned out in about the same time that it takes a locomotive to travel a mile—that is, one minute...

One of the requests for a patent received in the patent office of Germany... Mr. de Stout—Yes, full length, but many, Italy, Austria, Denmark, Serbia and Sweden...

All places of any size in South Africa have town halls well equipped for public entertainment... The seating capacity in most of these theatres and halls is 500 to 1,000...

Contrary to the general impression, the American Indians have increased by about 40,000 in the last twenty years, according to government figures... The total number of red men in the United States is now about 500,000...

The main lesson of leprosy is some of what philosophy of the four centuries was covered with it, but the quick, strong, reactive blood of the white races straggled the germs of leprosy... It was not until the nineteenth century that leprosy was started crossing the Atlantic...

Girls are wearing neck accessories that show touches of the colored lace in favor this season... The new neckties, in white or cream heavy mesh, with the figures stamped on them in color...

No padding should be used, and the printed lines are necessarily set in feet... A Rose Colored Fur, It is here! No longer must we go to the States to get the fur which resembles the natural tone...

The newest tones in button adornment on coat suits is the cloth or velvet button that has a heavy gold ornament in the center... There are also on the rough cloth that are fashionable for all about skirted suits...

It is a design that takes us back to the merry robbers and has a certain appeal... A Robin Hood Hat, It is a design that takes us back to the merry robbers and has a certain appeal...

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Blaming it on Mary... If Mary had used her little lamb as just the way she should use the lamb...

Willie's Scheme... "Willie, I am glad to see you chewing your nails so thoroughly," said the frugal elderly relative with whom he was dining...

In Due Season... The counting is serious. Thoughtful is a business. I never put hands to the wheel. And this is the reason: And mine is an autumn-cable...

Fame... "What is fame? The cryle cried to the poet at a table. "Fame is that which renders me (I mean) visible to the public. Valuable when I'm dead."

No-Bygones... Artistic—you wish me to paint your wife's portrait. Full length, I presume? Mr. de Stout—Yes, full length, but many, Italy, Austria, Denmark, Serbia and Sweden...

The hen's conscientious dance... When ages are scarce she's frank and just. "I'm making 'em go as far as I kin," Chicago Tribune.

Give to Win... "Charlie Simpheed has made a bet that he will never be married. Joe—And most of the girls will probably do it—except for Miss Charley who his bit—Cleveland Leader.

One on Mamma... "Gwendolen, I suppose some worthless young dude is going to take you to the theater this evening." "Yes, mamma, I'm going with Brother George tonight."—Chicago Tribune.

Only One Tie... "Did that sort of a human is a man's usual business?" "Oh, my, mamma, I'm going with Brother George tonight."—Houston Post.

In a quicksilver mine near the town of Kona, in Asia Minor, which is worked by an American company, the workers find not long ago the skeletons of city and not long ago the skeletons of city and not long ago the skeletons of city...

A Cincinnati man asked for a divorce because his wife was irritable, high tempered and used exasperating language. But the judge held that a woman who had the care of four small children and no domestic help had a right to have a temper and to use language that expressed her feelings.

For the first time since the national bank act went into effect, forty-six good moral standing banks in California, may be allowed to assume Chinese nationality if asked for.

Nations of Papua are said to have converted a Church of England clergyman to a Pagan religion...

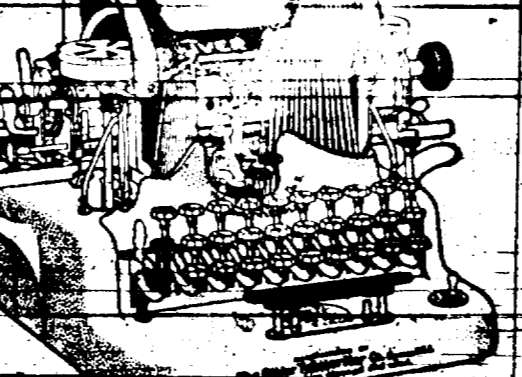


A Christmas Day Drive

Should not be marred by the possibility of an accident. To prevent one come and get a set of our dependable Harness. How handsome it is you can see at a glance...

W. C. Austin You Can Pay 17c a Day

The largest typewriter concern in the world... The certainly, however, is a common sight.



The OLIVER Typewriter

The Standard Visible Typewriter Its Record Has Never Been Equaled Catalogue Free



W. S. ATHEY CITY TRANSFER

Hauling of all kinds promptly done. Phone orders to residence and Payne & Poin's store, Manassas, Va.

J. B. LYNN Wheelwright and General Repairing

Center St., near Catholic Church, Manassas, Va.

Fire! Fire!!

THEORY OF IS A PROPOSAL.

Have You a Policy?

BEST COMPANIES REPRESENTED

WRITE FOR RATES

Jas. E. Nelson MANASSAS, VA.

The Folks at Home

would appreciate your photograph as a Christmas remembrance. No gift could be more appropriate.

GEORGE M. JAMESON

READ THIS

W. S. ATHEY CITY TRANSFER

J. B. LYNN Wheelwright and General Repairing

H. D. WENRICH

The Lure of the Mask

By special permission this fascinating romance will be published in serial form in THE DEMOCRAT, the first installment appearing on Thursday, December 30.

THE DEMOCRAT, the first installment appearing on Thursday, December 30. The publishers of THE DEMOCRAT have secured exclusive newspaper rights to this enthralling romance for Prince William county. It will appear under copyright. The Lure of the Mask is the strongest of recent serials, and the publishers of THE DEMOCRAT take pride in presenting it to readers of this newspaper. This stroke of newspaper enterprise, marks the beginning of the presentation of the most brilliant features obtainable without regard for expense. In order that you may begin reading this charming romance with its initial appearance in THE DEMOCRAT it is advisable that you subscribe immediately. By so doing you will miss none of the opening chapters. THE DEMOCRAT presents superior service in all departments. Subscription price only

One Dollar the Year

The Democrat IS the Leading Newspaper of Manassas and Prince William County.

XMAS SPECIALS

We are ready with the Best Values in Xmas Gifts, along the useful line, that we've ever shown in Manassas. They are not only sensible as a gift, but the values are unprecedented in our history as merchants.

DON'T FORGET Women's Collars at 15c (Reg. 25c value and every collar boxed) Women's Collars at 25c (Reg. 50c value and every collar boxed)

Fine Chinaware Men's Neckties for Xmas A Fine Display 25 CENTS

Our stock of fine China is now ready for inspection. Remember, One-Fourth Off on any piece in the house with the exception of 10 cent articles. We have the greatest values in

10c Cups, Saucers and Glassware

that was ever shown in the place. They are wonderful at the price, and you will say we are right when you see them. Don't put it off until everything is gone and then regret it.

is the popular price for gifts of this class and in all things the equal of most 50c lines in our other stocks. We have 50 dozen for your selection, and the most beautiful and refined colorings and combinations.

We have Ties for the Boy, the Young Man and the Elderly Man. Their tastes have all been considered. Ties "To be Tied" Ties "Ready Tied" Ties of all sizes and shapes. Your Choice 25c—Each and every Tie neatly boxed in Holly Box.

At 50c our range is not so great, but they are all very nice. Every Tie nicely boxed ready for "giving."

of Beautiful Hand-work Embroidery and Painting

These were made by a lady in our town and are for sale at a great deal less than they could be bought for in any city.

Call in and examine this Beautiful Work

Table with 4 columns: LOT NO. 1, LOT NO. 3, LOT NO. 5, LOT NO. 6. Items include Ladies' Swiss Embroidered 25c, Ladies' French Embroidered 25c, Men's All Pure Linen Hemstitched 25c, Initial Handkerchiefs, Men's Fine Hemstitched 3 for 25c, Men's Hemstitched at 5c each, etc.

HYNNSON'S The Quality Shop Manassas, Virginia

The Manassas Democrat.

PUBLISHED BY

The Virginia Publishing Company (Inc.)

Issued Weekly by The Virginia Publishing Company, Inc.

Application filed with the Postoffice Department at Washington, D. C., for entry to Manassas, Va., postoffice as second class mail matter.

HANK E. GARRISON LOUIS E. SLINGERLAND

GARRISON & SLINGERLAND,
EDITORS AND MANAGERS.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One year (in advance) \$1.00
Six Months .50
Three Months .25

Advertising rates made known upon application to this office.

MANASSAS, VA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1909.

Menace of Tuberculosis

WAR has never been waged by the human race against a foe more relentless and insidious than the dread white plague—tuberculosis. It is a fight against an enemy that lies in ambush, and deals the fatal blow when the unsuspecting victim is wholly off his guard. So great have become the ravages of the disease that concerted effort is at last being directed toward its extermination. Public sentiment, slow to arouse, has finally been awakened, and the campaign inaugurated against the disease promises to result in its ultimate overthrow. "Perhaps one of the most effective weapons in this warfare is the Red Cross Christmas stamp, a source of revenue for the State Anti-Tuberculosis association. The Red Cross, emblem of mercy on every stricken field, was never more symbolical of its mission than on the Christmas stamp.

Noteworthy is the fact that citizens of Manassas and Prince William county are most substantially contributing to the campaign in Virginia through the purchase of Red Cross stamps. The situation in practically all sections of the country has become so threatening as to arouse apprehension. So ominous has been the outlook that funds to carry on the fight are being most willingly and liberally donated. The spirit altruistic that hallows the Christmas season, reveals one of the tenderest of human sentiments reflected by the Red Cross stamp. It is the message ringing in Christmas chimes, the benediction tolling in the Bells of Bethlehem—"Peace on earth, good will unto men."

Startling indeed are statistics compiled by the State Anti-Tuberculosis association, showing that probably 12,000 new cases of consumption were contracted in Virginia during the last year. A physician at the headquarters of the State association is credited with the following comment regarding the tuberculosis peril:

"Of these 12,000 cases I feel confident that a large percentage will be unable to pay for the necessary cure. The others will be left to die, and within three years, at least, 6,000 of these new consumptives will perish. If they were treated now, while the disease is in its incipency, most of them could be saved. This work cannot be done without the help of the people. The public by the simple use of the Red Cross stamps, can furnish funds that will help stamp out consumption."

Railroad Wrecks

ANOTHER awful railroad catastrophe yesterday sent a thrill of horror through the country, when the dread details of a frightful chapter of death and suffering were flashed over the wires the length and breadth of the land. Twelve lives paid the toll of death; and injuries, some probably fatal, were inflicted on forty other passengers in a train on the Southern railway, the terrible penalty exacted for a defect in the track at a trestle near Greensboro, N. C. So far as can be ascertained the wreck was caused by a broken rail. Without a thought of danger, amid the luxurious surroundings in a limited train, the passengers were hurried to disaster. All efforts to fix the blame for railroad catastrophes of this nature lead to but the one conclusion—that so long as the human element enters into railroading, disaster must occasionally ensue. This is inevitable for the simple reason that man and his work have not attained perfection. No man can cast a steel rail so strong as to resist unexpected attack on its weakest point, nor can human skill build a bridge which can withstand the operation of forces beyond calculation. A track-walker realizes that in his powers of detection lies the portion of life or death for hundreds; yet the slightest distraction may cause a fatal oversight. Many railroad wrecks may be attributed to natural causes which set at defiance every safety appliance adopted to protect human life. The sacrifice of human life, and the infliction of human injuries is too terrible to be forgotten when the first thrill of horror has subsided. Effort should, and doubtless will not, be spared to investigate in most minute detail this catastrophies and its appalling cost in human life.

Reciprocity

THERE is no subject of more vital bearing upon the prosperity of a community, consequently, the upbuilding of a community than that of reciprocity. It is the very soul of any town, for without it commerce could not exist. It is the various degrees in which reciprocity is manifested that distinguishes one community from the other with regard to commercial activity. It is the fundamental principle of the institution of society. There is no man either so independent or so indifferent who can subsist primarily upon his own resources. Nature, wisely safeguarding the social fabric, made exchange of values imperative to the maintenance of life. The law of reciprocity is not a theory but a scientific fact.

No one can act against it without loss to himself as an individual and to the community of which he is a component part. A violation of its tenets is reactionary. Striking illustrations are presented in towns living in the past with vision turned from the future. Manassas is not to be classed in the latter category. The spirit of progress manifest in this community, is a testament of the loyalty of her citizens to local institutions.

Insult to South

CITIZENS of the South regard as a bitter insult the protest against accepting in the Confederate uniform the statue of General Robert E. Lee as a permanent addition to the Hall of Fame in the Capitol building at Washington. This sense of deep injury has been made all the keener by a resolution adopted by the Michigan Commandery of the Legion of Honor and presented to Congress by the vice president. This resolution "characterizes as an insult to the nation the suggestion that if the statue of Lee be rejected by Congress, Virginia will withdraw the bronze statue of Washington which accompanies it."

The protest by the Michigan commandery is characteristic of occasional outbursts in some sections of the North against the institutions of the South, expressing a most inexplicable mania to shatter the cherished traditions of this fair land and dim memories of the gallant bravery of her valiant sons and of the heroic sacrifices of the noble mothers and wives. Memories linger as lovingly in the hearts of the people of the South—as highly treasured as are the war remembrances of the people of the North. They cannot be effaced, for they were indelibly impressed upon the participants in either side of the conflict.

And so this Michigan commandery and others would deny Gen. Robert E. Lee, humane and Christian soldier, a place in the Hall of Fame, simply because he fought on the side which his conscience and heart told him was right and just, and in the plain path of duty, and of loyalty, albeit opposed to their convictions. However, the splendid achievements of General Robert E. Lee as soldier and citizen will stand monumental to him, no matter if petty partisans succeed in denying the reverence due him in the Hall of Fame in the Capitol building.

Significance of Christmas

WITH the joyous message of "peace on earth and good will unto men" ringing out triumphant from the Shadows of the Cross, Christmas, the hallowed season of worship is dawning proclaiming the birth of the Savior. Down through the vistas of time has come this glad promise for all mankind with the beautiful story of Bethlehem. This simple story of the birth of a Carpenter's Son has lived through the centuries, while deeds of mighty kings and illustrious princes were forgotten when their cities crumbled into dust.

But the story of the Savior has lived on, a source of even greater comfort and hope as the years go by. It is the Light which reveals the path to salvation to feet which have wandered astray. It has been the one true source of consolation to torn and broken humanity and so shall be forever.

Christmas is a day of family reunion, and so for many is an occasion of mingled joy and sadness. But with it all, the observance each year typifies the advance toward the Kingdom Come, when human history shall be complete. For on Christmas prevails universally the spirit of brotherly love, the greatest of the precepts of the Savior, the balm which heals all wounds. Those upon whom fortune has smiled take this occasion to bring cheer into the lives of those less fortunate. Mankind is nearer heaven on Christmas than at any other time.

THE friends of Dr. Cook are firm in the belief that he is the victim of a plot to rob him of the glory of discovering the North Pole, and declare that they are confident of a favorable verdict from the University of Copenhagen. Commander Peary last night received a medal commemorating his reaching the North Pole. A medal also was given Captain Bartlett. Significant of the fact that the society does not propose to be drawn into the Cook-Peary controversy the inscriptions on the medals say that the explorers "reached" the Pole, and not that they "discovered" it. Save for the vindication of right in either case, the dispute is carried on before a wearied audience whose interest is rapidly waning.

THERE is consolation in the fact that Congress will adjourn for the Christmas holidays, giving the republican factions an opportunity to lay in much verbal ammunition with which to annihilate the republican party. The regulars and insurgents, either of them and both of them, the lion and the lamb, may after a while "lie" down together—and lie and lie and lie—but in the finish the lamb will have disappeared in the lion.

ALL scions of nobility are not business incompetents nor do all of them fail to recognize the main chance, particularly when it is attractively presented. This was demonstrated conclusively out in Denver in the case of a dashing young French count, working as a traveling salesman, who married the beautiful daughter of his wealthy employer.

CARRIE NATION so far has succeeded in making absolutely no impression with her hatchet in Washington. That city, cherishing the cherry tree tradition, will have nothing to do with Kansas type of hatchet wielder.

PRESIDENT TAFT did not meet the expectations of the republicans of the West in deferring his recommendations on the conservation problem to a special message to Congress.

PAY no attention to the alluring promises of the big city stores and mail order houses. Do your Christmas shopping in Manassas and get full value for your money.

THE loan sharks have been given a ray of the sun in the Columbia, a bill having been sent to the senate to protect small borrowers against them.

WITH Zeleya and his elephants sailing into eternity, the Nicaragua situation would assume a more satisfactory aspect.

Discordant strains are wafted from the republican presidential band wagon and the parade has not yet even started.

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BESIEGED IN A CAVE.

A Girl the Principal Actor in a Defense Against Indians.

By MARTHA L. TWEED.

"Well," said Charlie Elson as he leaned back against the side of the cave and laid down his rifle, almost for the first time in ten days, "I suppose we can consider the siege raised. The Indians would hardly collect their ponies and ride off across the plain with an idea of circumventing us."

"We have an unobstructed view for at least five miles in front, and they could never climb over the mountains behind. It is fortunate for us that Gertie remembered the cave and thought of it as a refuge."

"It is fortunate for us in everything that we have Gertie," returned his sister Kate, smiling affectionately at the seventeen-year-old girl who was crouching near the entrance of the cave, with one arm to a sling.

"Of all the party she was the only one wounded, and of all the party it was she who had best acted the part of a man. She snuffed back slightly, but without turning her head."

"There was something to her whose appearance—her figure, her face, especially her mouth and eyes that expressed firmness. Muscularly there was in her the same strength. She wore a skirt reaching but a short distance below her knees, a man's gaiters, a jacket buttoning close about her throat and a man's ordinary felt hat, without even a tiny feather in the band."

"When we first saw the Indians," Kate Elson went on, "it was Gertie who whirled the horses round, riding on her pony at their heads and urging them forward, and it was she who insisted on forcing the wagon almost in the very mouth of the lower cave and

massacre of the harsh snowed father and stepmother, there had been little of love and caring for."

"Not many men could have held out so well as you have, Charlie," she said, using the last word hesitatingly, as though not quite accustomed to it.

"You have scarcely slept at all since we've been in the cave, and you have kept us laughing most of the time with your funny talk."

"I'm a man," he interrupted gayly. "Of course I don't think I lack nerve or endurance. It's only that I need a leader with drawn sword. Now what shall we do?"

He was moving toward the entrance as he spoke, and with the last word there came a dull thud, followed by a sharp report. A bullet had flattened against the rock near his head. Gertie caught his arm and drew him back.

"Here," she cried, snatching his hat swiftly and replacing it upon the muzzle of his rifle. "They will not suspect the old trick, as they have just seen you moving. Now"

She pushed the muzzle of his rifle toward the entrance, so the hat could be seen from below.

Almost instantly there were two more thuds and reports, and this time the bullets passed through the hat and then flattened against the rock.

"That empties their guns," the girl cried. "I know they have no rifles from the way they have been firing. Wait! Let me shoot. I have had more practice than you."

She slipped by him to the cave opening, where she dropped at full length in order to see the side with her uninjured arm.

Below she could see three Indians hurrying toward the cave. Evidently they had remained behind, hiding in some crevice in hope of the besieged coming forth when the main body rode away.

Believing their bullets had pierced the head they thought inside the hat and thus deprived the cave of one of its few defenders, they were rushing forward to complete the work before following the main body.

Gertie recognized with a sudden feeling of conviction that the Indian man was the one she had seen giving directions all through the siege, evidently the chief. With him gone the danger would very likely be over.

There were a quick flash and a report, and then she slipped back into the cave.

"I shot him through the hip," she explained in answer to their inquiring looks. "I don't like to really kill any one, but he won't fight again. He was the chief, so they could not leave him. They are carrying him to their ponies now, which they have concealed somewhere. I don't think they will trouble us any more."

But she was mistaken. Maddened by the loss of one of their number, the two other Indians, after taking him to their cave, were seen looking up at the cave and talking to each other, evidently deliberating upon a new plan of attack. They were aware that the party was not strong, but they had no heart for making an attack upon them, entrenched as they were in so strong a position. They wished to circumvent them. Presently by their pantomime the besieged discovered that they had arrived at a conclusion. Then they were seen gathering wood.

"Great heavens!" exclaimed Charlie. "They're going to try to burn or smoke us out!"

"I don't think they will succeed," said Gertie calmly.

"Why?" asked Rob.

"They must get above us and drop the firebrands down before the mouth of the cave. There is only one path by which they can climb, and down there to the left we can see a dozen feet of it. They must pass that point to get above us, and unless we miss them we can shoot them."

"They may make a quick dash," said Kate, who was fast losing her equanimity.

"I can do one of them," said Charlie, "and I know Gertie can do the other."

It was half an hour before the Indians had gathered wood sufficient to make the attempt. Then they disappeared. The besieged got ready to drop them as they passed the open space where they could be seen. Gertie and Charlie each took a rifle, ready to fire as they passed.

They waited some time for the other man, but the next they saw of him he was helping his companion away.

"Now what shall we do?" asked Charlie Elson, some of the old depression returning to his voice. "Our wagon is burned, and all the horses are carried off except the two which got away and ran across the plain. I think maybe they will come back to us when their flight wears off. But how can we go on without a wagon?"

Gertie's face looked thoughtful.

"Suppose we don't go on," she suggested. "The land is beautiful around here and the soil rich, and we would always have this cave to protect us should there be any more danger. And then there is a fine spring of water."

There was a look in her eyes which brought Charlie Elson to his feet with eager questioning in his own.

"You—you don't mean, Gertie, that—that why I'm fifteen years older and an incompetent, and you do?" as the look in her eyes slipped down into a tender tremulousness about her lips.

"Then we'll stay," a sudden vibrant ring of earnestness falling into his voice. "We could hardly find a prettier country. We will make a house on the edge of the plain down there."



SEE COULD SEE THOSE INDIANS HURRYING TOWARD THE CAVE.

and supplies up here as we could."

"If it had not been for them and the keg of water she brought up herself when the Indians were almost upon her we could not have held out so long."

"That's so," admitted Charlie Elson candidly. "I do not suppose I would have thought of the provisions myself or even of climbing to this upper cave instead of stopping in the one below. And it's the same about the marriage. I have been popping off the gun like a boy does his Fourth of July crackers, for the noise, though maybe that did keep them off a little. But if Gertie's telling shots had not re-energized my feeble arms the Indians would soon have caught on and scrambled up the rocks."

Charlie Elson's voice had been strained and depressed for the past ten days. Now, with the Indians moving across the plain, his tones became care free, almost jubilant. It was his mercurial temperament, and his sister looked across at him indulgently, but lovingly.

Whatever else he might be, careless, tactless, visionary, he was always lovable, always oblivious of himself. It was the careless, visionary nature that had started him west when his little property was lost and the obliviousness to self that had caused him to share his scanty means with the weak, emaciated creature they found wandering on the plain—all that was left of a frontier massacre.

He never thought of asking her to a trading post or transferring the burden to some one with means and a settled home. His only thought was that wherever they would be there instead of two. Later she had developed into a beautiful, strong, lovable girl, to the wonder and satisfaction of himself and Kate.

Now, only three months from the rescue, she was returning the broad upon the waters a thousandfold. As she turned her face toward them for the first time there was something of the same expression in her eyes that appeared in Kate's, though with a difference.

No one could be in the tender hearted, irresponsible man's company long without loving him and wanting to care for him as she would for an affectionate, helpless child.

And in Gertie's life, even before the

man, he interrupted gayly. "Of course I don't think I lack nerve or endurance. It's only that I need a leader with drawn sword. Now what shall we do?"

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Below she could see three Indians hurrying toward the cave. Evidently they had remained behind, hiding in some crevice in hope of the besieged coming forth when the main body rode away.

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Gertie recognized with a sudden feeling of conviction that the Indian man was the one she had seen giving directions all through the siege, evidently the chief. With him gone the danger would very likely be over.

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But she was mistaken. Maddened by the loss of one of their number, the two other Indians, after taking him to their cave, were seen looking up at the cave and talking to each other, evidently deliberating upon a new plan of attack. They were aware that the party was not strong, but they had no heart for making an attack upon them, entrenched as they were in so strong a position. They wished to circumvent them. Presently by their pantomime the besieged discovered that they had arrived at a conclusion. Then they were seen gathering wood.

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It was half an hour before the Indians had gathered wood sufficient to make the attempt. Then they disappeared. The besieged got ready to drop them as they passed the open space where they could be seen. Gertie and Charlie each took a rifle, ready to fire as they passed.

They waited some time for the other man, but the next they saw of him he was helping his companion away.

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There was a look in her eyes which brought Charlie Elson to his feet with eager questioning in his own.

"You—you don't mean, Gertie, that—that why I'm fifteen years older and an incompetent, and you do?" as the look in her eyes slipped down into a tender tremulousness about her lips.

"Then we'll stay," a sudden vibrant ring of earnestness falling into his voice. "We could hardly find a prettier country. We will make a house on the edge of the plain down there."

man, he interrupted gayly. "Of course I don't think I lack nerve or endurance. It's only that I need a leader with drawn sword. Now what shall we do?"

He was moving toward the entrance as he spoke, and with the last word there came a dull thud, followed by a sharp report. A bullet had flattened against the rock near his head. Gertie caught his arm and drew him back.

"Here," she cried, snatching his hat swiftly and replacing it upon the muzzle of his rifle. "They will not suspect the old trick, as they have just seen you moving. Now"

She pushed the muzzle of his rifle toward the entrance, so the hat could be seen from below.

Almost instantly there were two more thuds and reports, and this time the bullets passed through the hat and then flattened against the rock.

"That empties their guns," the girl cried. "I know they have no rifles from the way they have been firing. Wait! Let me shoot. I have had more practice than you."

She slipped by him to the cave opening, where she dropped at full length in order to see the side with her uninjured arm.

Below she could see three Indians hurrying toward the cave. Evidently they had remained behind, hiding in some crevice in hope of the besieged coming forth when the main body rode away.

Believing their bullets had pierced the head they thought inside the hat and thus deprived the cave of one of its few defenders, they were rushing forward to complete the work before following the main body.

Gertie recognized with a sudden feeling of conviction that the Indian man was the one she had seen giving directions all through the siege, evidently the chief. With him gone the danger would very likely be over.

There were a quick flash and a report, and then she slipped back into the cave.

"I shot him through the hip," she explained in answer to their inquiring looks. "I don't like to really kill any one, but he won't fight again. He was the chief, so they could not leave him. They are carrying him to their ponies now, which they have concealed somewhere. I don't think they will trouble us any more."

But she was mistaken. Maddened by the loss of one of their number, the two other Indians, after taking him to their cave, were seen looking up at the cave and talking to each other, evidently deliberating upon a new plan of attack. They were aware that the party was not strong, but they had no heart for making an attack upon them, entrenched as they were in so strong a position. They wished to circumvent them. Presently by their pantomime the besieged discovered that they had arrived at a conclusion. Then they were seen gathering wood.

"Great heavens!" exclaimed Charlie. "They're going to try to burn or smoke us out!"

"I don't think they will succeed," said Gertie calmly.

"Why?" asked Rob.

"They must get above us and drop the firebrands down before the mouth of the cave. There is only one path by which they can climb, and down there to the left we can see a dozen feet of it. They must pass that point to get above us, and unless we miss them we can shoot them."

"They may make a quick dash," said Kate, who was fast losing her equanimity.

"I can do one of them," said Charlie, "and I know Gertie can do the other."

It was half an hour before the Indians had gathered wood sufficient to make the attempt. Then they disappeared. The besieged got ready to drop them as they passed the open space where they could be seen. Gertie and Charlie each took a rifle, ready to fire as they passed.

They waited some time for the other man, but the next they saw of him he was helping his companion away.

"Now what shall we do?" asked Charlie Elson, some of the old depression returning to his voice. "Our wagon is burned, and all the horses are carried off except the two which got away and ran across the plain. I think maybe they will come back to us when their flight wears off. But how can we go on without a wagon?"

Gertie's face looked thoughtful.

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CHOICE MISCELLANY

The Quilts in Spain

At the age of eighteen every man Spanish chooses home to serve either in the army or navy. But the government does not need or cannot afford as many soldiers and sailors as it would like to have.

The peace footing of the army is only 80,000 and of the navy about 6,000 in a country of which the population is 17,000,000; hence the quota of choosing by lot of those who are to serve in the national forces.

The word *quilts* literally means the selection of every fifth man, of one man out of every five eligibles. The quilts takes place once a year in every town, and all the males resident in the district who have just completed their eighteenth year are called upon to participate. Those whom fortune appoints to serve their country are forthwith drafted into the army or navy.

Exemption may be bought in time of peace, the amount payable being about \$275, but youths approaching the military age frequently leave the country before they are summoned to the quilts. Cuba and the Argentine Republic, both Spanish speaking countries, where work is abundant, are the commonest objectives of the sons of the working classes flying from conscription.—London Answers.

An Inhuman Innovation.

From Vienna comes a new fad in the stage management of weddings, the crowning of the bride's mother. After the solemn immolation of the bridegroom is over and he has been dragged from the church to the home of the bride to be exhibited there and then before her tedious and innumerable relatives, like some strange monster from the vasty deep of Africa's sunny strand—after this first saturnalia of sneers is over he is handed a wreath of roses, and while the whole congregation snickers and stares, he must place it upon the head of his mother-in-law. He is expected to do so with a genial smile and some amusing epigrams of peasantry—to feign delight, in a word, in an act of public obsequity to his natural and inveterate foe.

This ingenious device for making weddings more horrible will gain no foothold, we believe, in these fair United States. We are a humane and civilized people, and we have no taste for needless brutality.—Baltimore Sun.

Pol Pianco's Sumptuous Lunch.

The record for sublime, sumptuous and egotistical lunching belongs to it is asserted, to M. Pol Pianco, the grand opera star. The record was established during his last visit here. It is necessary for full understanding of M. Pianco's gastronomic-athletic feat to hear strictly in mind that he always lunches alone.

The complete menu of the record-breaking luncheon is now at hand. But the mainstay of it was a fowl from Mantua, costing in France \$5 and by the time it is imported and served in a restaurant in New York at least twice as much. Such a fowl was served to M. Pianco. He ate all of it. The most expensive imported fish, half bottles of the costliest wines and finally several cognacs from a bottle marketing at \$10 the imperial pint rounded off the royal feast.

The check was \$35. But then M. Pianco is a millionaire and alone in the world.—New York Telegram.

Sorry He Was Elected.

It may seem impossible, but even one of the successful fusion candidates for justice of the supreme court of New York in the recent election is disappointed over the result, so far as his own victory is concerned. The man in question has a large practice, worth more than the salary of a supreme court justice. When the fusion leagues were looking for candidates he was in the west. They telegraphed him asking whether he would accept the nomination. "Is there any chance of election?" he was cross-questioned by wire. "None," came the reply. "Then I'll accept," the lawyer telegraphed. He was nominated, and what is more, he was elected by a good plurality, to his great surprise.—New York Tribune.

The Big Hotel Spenders.

On the broad verandas of the Breakers at Palm Beach in the after-noon hour an average of \$1,000 will be taken in tip. Drinkables, save o'clock tea at the Plaza hotel in New York is worth about \$700. Last New Year's eve the Knickerbocker hotel took more than \$24,000 through its restaurant. And one of Louis Sherry's waiters, upon oath, estimates his tips at from \$80 to \$100 a week. And these items have their significance. Significant, too, is the number of "big hotel" proprietors who now own country estates. The big hotel is not run at a loss.—Arthur J. McFarlane in Everybody's.

DIPLMACY

A Vague Threat That Meant Nothing.

but Brought About Results.

The late Lord Salisbury, five years ago sent a foreign emissary to make some demand of a South American republic. Before setting out on his mission the emissary, to whom his lordship had explained the exact nature of the demands, required to be informed of the course to take if after he had said everything, there was a refusal.

"Oh," answered Lord Salisbury, "this is not a matter in which we have the least thought of fighting! If the president refuses, you will simply have to come home again."

The emissary went and had his say to the president of the republic, who blankly refused to give in, and the diplomat retired to think things over. A few hours later he wrote to the president:

"I regret that your excellency does not see your way to recognize the justice of the claims which I have had the honor to present. I have now to say, on behalf of her Britannic majesty's government, that unless your excellency yields on all points which I have named it will be my painful duty to act on the second half of my instructions."

Under this vague and significant threat the president yielded at once.—London Telegraph.

HAUNTED ALASKAN ISLAND.

Ghosts of Russian Exiles Who Died of Starvation or Torture.

To the south and west of Kodiak, distant about 100 miles and forming one of the Semidi group, is the island of Uhirkof, the haunted island of Alaska.

Enshrouded for a great portion of the time with almost impenetrable fog, this lonely isle is an object of terror to the natives, who claim it is haunted by the ghosts of Russian exiles.

The natives will not go near the island, saying it means certain death to invade the canopy confines, and there are few men in the far north who have the temerity to test the truth of the many and weird tales told of this forbidding and barren island.

Shipmasters and sailors passing the place assert that the agonizing cries of Russian exiles sent there to starve or die by torture are sometimes heard on quiet nights, while the clink of chains and the sound of blows are testified to in an affidavit by a white man who once attempted to remain there for a week and who nearly lost his reason.—Kansas Tribune.

Close Quarters.

Bensonhurst—Does your wife and aunt with the six of the fat?—Yorkville—There isn't room for complaint.—Smart Set.

Mother's Darling Girl.

Some marry pretty show girls And think they take the cake. But give me one who turns out plain Like mother used to make.—Punch.

In Price, Not Size.

He looked in a store window and saw "Hats reduced." "Heavens!" said he to himself. "What was their original use?"—Atlanta Constitution.

"Hats."

Backward, turn backward, Hats, And you'll be What Peary and Cook found. It seems to me.—Atlanta Constitution.

Suitable Flight.

"Where's Jagby going?" "He says he is going on a lark." "Oh, he's a bird!"—Atlanta Constitution.

A Silent Process.

It makes no noise Nor shakes the floor When wife bangs Her pompadour.—Detroit Free Press.

The Lure of the Mask

Through the popularity and merit of his earlier literary hits, "Arms and the Woman," "The Puppet Crown," "The Grey Cloak," "Half a Rogue," and "The Man on the Box," Mr. MacGrath has won high rank as a fictionist. "The Lure of the Mask" is rated his best.

By special permission this fascinating romance will be published in serial form in THE DEMOCRAT, the first installment appearing on Thursday, December 30. The publishers of THE DEMOCRAT have secured exclusive newspaper rights to this enthralling romance for Prince William county. It will appear under copyright. The Lure of the Mask is the strongest of recent serials, and the publishers of THE DEMOCRAT take pride in presenting it to readers of this newspaper. This stroke of newspaper enterprise, marks the beginning of the presentation of the most brilliant features obtainable without regard for expense. In order that you may begin reading this charming romance with its initial appearance in THE DEMOCRAT it is advisable that you subscribe immediately. By so doing you will miss none of the opening chapters. THE DEMOCRAT presents superior service in all departments. Subscription price only

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TOTS HAIL WITH ACCLAIM SANTA CLAUS--THEIR PATRON SAINT

Never has there been more royally hailed by his loyal subjects than Santa Claus by the tots on Christmas eve. These powerful monarchs, if they had but known that such immortal allegiance exists, would have given half his kingdom to possess it. But the implicit faith, the true devotion, of little children cannot be purchased. They are priceless gifts bestowed only upon those worthy to receive them, by the children-infallible judges of character.

From the dawn of the day which brought a Child Savior into the world, the day which opened the way to redemption to all mankind, Santa Claus, rejoicingly has ever made known his presence to the little ones. And so on this Christmas eve, as in centuries past, Santa Claus will come riding over the housetops with his sleigh loaded with gifts to fill the stockings the tots, in happy anticipation, hang over the fire-place.

Santa Claus has received all the messages which the children have sent to him through THE DEMOCRAT. Every one of the letters was filled with tender appeal and bright hope—a heart-to-heart talk with Santa Claus—and he, no doubt, will answer the petitions of his faithful friends without overlooking any of them.

THE DEMOCRAT has, during the past week, received for publication, the following letters to Santa Claus:

Dear Santa Claus—I want you to bring me for Christmas, a doll carriage with a beautiful baby with long dresses in it, a sweater and toboggan cap and an automobile. Don't forget to put lots of nice things in my stocking. Your little friend,
MARGARET ANNA WINDSOR,
Ellicott City, Md.

would like some nuts. I have a big brother. He wants a box of tools. Please don't forget my little baby brother and bring him some things that he can eat and some toys he can play with. Your little friend,
JULIA GARNETT,
Haymarket, Va.

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little girl six years old. I don't want much as my papa is sick. I

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little boy four years old. Please bring me a wagon and a lamp and a ball and some figs and an orange

and some nuts and some candy. Don't fail to come. Mamma will have cake and wine on the table for you. Goodbye. Your friend,
ALLEN MAYHUGH,
Gainesville, Va.

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little girl nine years old. I try to be good. Please bring me a set of dishes, some hair ribbon, a fur scarf, an orange, nuts and some candy. I have a little brother and two little sisters. Please don't forget them. Goodbye.
MARY MAYHUGH,
Gainesville, Va.

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little girl of seven years old. Please bring me writing paper and a baby doll, a ring and a hair ribbon and paper doll and candies and nuts and horse and wagon and a sled. Good-bye. Yours truly,
JOSEPHINE PETERS,
Haymarket, Va.

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little girl of five years old. Please bring me a dressing paper doll and a writing tablet and a knife and a pencil box and a doll. Your friend,
KATHERINE PETERS,
Haymarket, Va.

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little girl of ten years old. Please bring me a baby doll in long dresses, a tiny doll carriage with a pair of twins in it and some paper dolls and some candy and nuts and an orange. I am always your friend,
EMMA PETERS,
Haymarket, Va.

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little girl seven years old, and I will tell you what I want for Christmas. Please bring me a doll and

a carriage and don't forget the candy and nuts and a banana. Please don't forget these things. Your loving little friend,
JOSEPHINE B.

Dear Santa Claus—I am the smallest girl who has ever won a prize from The Ladies' Home Journal and I want you to bring me some more subscribers for that and The Saturday Evening Post so I can win another prize and get a big doll for I broke the one I bought with the money I won in October. Tell the gentlemen they cannot give a lady a nicer present for \$1.50 than The Ladies' Home Journal. Each copy is worth a dollar. If I win the prize I can buy my toys and leave you more for other children.
CARY NICOL,
Manassas, Va.

Dear Santa Claus—I am a little girl five years old and as I cannot write I have had my uncle to tell you what I would like for you to bring me for Christmas. I want a big doll with blue eyes and curly hair, a folding top go-cart for the doll, a big set of dishes and an extension table, set of napkins and tablecloth. If I am not asking too much, you will please bring me a bedstead with mattress, blanket and counterpane. That's all except please don't forget to fill my stocking with good things.
CHRISTINE FREE,
Nokesville, Va.

John Frazer, proprietor of the Malkin Hotel, of Napoleon, and his negro chauffeur, Tom Johnson, who were instantly killed at Hamler, Ohio, when their automobile was struck by an east-bound Baltimore and Ohio fast mail. The train was quite late and running at a high rate of speed. Both men were badly mangled.

A MERE MAN'S NOTION.
Business Wife Convinced We Adapt to the Business.
More men buy his wife a cook stove and a kitchen sink and a few pots and pans and thinks he's provided his wife with all the modern conveniences. Great! But if the stove and refrigerator? It oughtn't to be hard to keep house. And yet the wife looks bedraggled and tired and is everlastingly chasing the bugbear of work and never catching it.

With the kitchen stove and the refrigerator man thinks he's done his duty toward the working equipment he offers his wife.

In his own store, office or business he is always figuring out new ways of doing things to save time and labor. Now machines to do in an hour what it took a man a week to do and new methods to save time are what he's after.

Yet if mere man's wife suggests that a shelf be built above the kitchen sink or that he make her a drain board mere man can't see it.

In many large manufacturing concerns high salaried men are kept busy all the time working out new methods that might lessen the cost of production. Some of these experiments take years to work out and perfect before they can be used.

But the average woman takes the old way for granted and never stops to count the cost.

Too many kitchens just grow. They were never thought out. In the old fashioned house they are big and rambling and inconvenient. As a man expresses it in a current magazine article:

"Most kitchens are too large, which brings the fire of the wheel too far away from the hub."
If you can't stand in the center and by taking a step or two reach everything on the stove, table, sink, closet and refrigerator, then you are daily taking needless steps, spending needless time.

Most women test well enough stone. They don't analyze the process by which they do their work.

If custom says, "Thou shalt keep thy china dishes in the china closet in the dining room," then it follows as the night the day that china dishes are kept there and not in handy cupboards not far from sink and the work table and the stove in the kitchen.

table back in the kitchen, wash and finally get it away from the obnoxious place.
Five trips in all.
If it were kept in the dining room two trips would be made and the number of steps taken would be cut down just these trifling details.
Now, if a manufacturer could discover a process by which the weight of a given amount of labor could be saved he would patent his invention and proceed to make a fortune. But not so with a woman. She would like to tin cupboards that could be built well be built beside the sink and not only far carrying things to their places only to get them out again and put them in other places.

SUFFRAGETTE NEWS.
Three women have been nominated for parliament in Norway.
The Unitarians in their Pacific coast conference at Seattle, Wash., declared in favor of woman suffrage.
In Denmark the National Woman Suffrage Association has grown during the past year from 4,000 members to 10,000.
The state convention of the Universalist church, recently held in New Haven, Conn., unanimously adopted resolutions favoring woman suffrage.
Mrs. Dewey C. Bailey, president of the Denver Woman's club, has been endorsed by the State Women's Republican club for the nomination for congress in the First district.

In one day recently articles favorable to woman suffrage appeared in the Christian Science Monitor of Boston, Christian Herald of New York and the National Pure Food Magazine, showing the wide scope of this movement and its freedom from all political and sectarian bias.

Baltimore women are making a determined effort to secure municipal suffrage. The Baltimore Equal Suffrage League, numbering nearly 500 members, with Mrs. Ellicott, wife of Professor Ellicott of Johns Hopkins, as president, is taking an active part in the campaign. The first step of a woman for a vote in this country was made by Mrs. Margaret Brent of Maryland to the colonial assembly in 1638.

The State Federations of Labor of Maryland and New York held their respective annual meetings late in September, and both bodies officially endorsed woman suffrage. The American Federation of Labor declares for woman suffrage every year and federations in the following states have taken similar action: California, Connecticut, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and West Virginia.

Penn-Vir Coal, Oil & Gas Co.

What it is Doing in Promoting Developments in Virginia

Messrs. J. M. SULLIVAN and D. W. DOWNHOUR, expert oil and gas men from the famous oil field of Bremen, Ohio, have arrived in Manassas, Va., and will handle the entire treasury stock of the Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Company, whose main office in The Peoples National Bank Building, Manassas, Va. These gentlemen come highly recommended in their particular line of business and are wealthy and well qualified, so that any one need not hesitate to transact business with them in promoting this company's interests. The Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Company, it is declared by these gentlemen, holds a territory equal to, if not superior to, any undeveloped oil field in the United States. They have looked this territory over and have seen that the indications are identical with those found in all producing oil fields. It is necessary that the people in the vicinity of this particular proposition should subscribe for the stock of this company, as it is an absolute fact that in all new fields it has always been up to the local people to develop the first oil, as capitalists never go into undeveloped fields, but are ever ready to take hold of any and all things, when proven valuable. The company places its confident trust in the ability of these gentlemen and will do, all in its power to assist them in disposing of this stock. But, remember, that you can obtain only from these gentlemen, or from some agency they may establish. We wish to assure you that the money you invest to them will find its way safely and surely into the treasury of the Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Co. To attest our approval of the foregoing we, the officers of the Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Co., do hereto subscribe our names.

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W. E. Tolson, General Manager, Haymarket, Va.
DIRECTORS—J. W. Latham, A. D. Riden, O. C. Hutchison, F. S. Key Smith, W. E. Tolson, E. Raymond Ratcliffe, Ralph C. Lupton.

This company has 23,900 acres of land under lease, and has placed 80,000 of its 200,000 shares of capital stock in its treasury for sale, consisting of preferred, guaranteeing 8 per cent accumulative annual dividend, to be paid out of the earnings of the company, and common, to which it will add in the future other stocks when found necessary. The company offers this stock at its par value, \$1.00 per share; but will not accept any subscription for less than five shares. All payments will be made one-half cash and balance in two equal installments of thirty and sixty days from date of subscription. No stock certificate will be issued until it is fully paid. The stock is non-assessable. As an illustration to the reader of the great profits accruing from the investments in new oil fields here is submitted below the last and newest development in the United States, the Bremen oil field, and some instances of the paying capacity of this field. Compare this with the holdings of the Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Co. The Bremen oil field was a wild cat proposition for fourteen years. The first wells were drilled by a man named J. E. Purvis, who sank his capital in the venture. Though at first unsuccessful, Purvis believed in his proposition, and finally succeeded in getting a few friends to raise enough money to promote a stock company for \$200,000, known as the Bremen Oil and Gas Co., holding 8,600 acres of lease. By hard work he placed \$22,000 worth of this stock. The first well drilled was a 60-barrel producer, and for fourteen successive wells he did not strike a single dry one. As another example: While the first well was being drilled at Lima, Ohio, the State Geologist called the people of the community in a mass meeting, lectured them and ridiculed the idea of any one taking stock in such a scheme, declaring that there was no possibility of getting either oil or gas in that locality, as all indications necessary for their production were absent. Just while this meeting was in progress, he, and behind, the well began to flow at the rate of eighty barrels of oil per day. The people left the lecturer and fled to the oil fields. Now this field is a large producing and refining one. The Bremen company, after two years and two months, is selling fifty-five thousand dollars worth of oil per month; its stock, which originally sold at \$25 per share, now sells for \$625 per share, and more is on the market.

Recent geological examinations made by the Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Co.; whose holdings are situated in Prince William and Fauquier Counties, Virginia, led them to believe that in the not very distant future, as much may be said of Oil Production in Virginia as is now related of California, and more; because the oil is high grade. Hence, only enough stock will be sold at the present low prices to develop those promising holdings of the Company to the point of assurance, when the books will be closed; therefore, we would advise those who are disposed to invest not to defer the matter until it is too late to get in on the ground floor.

In transporting its products to the markets of the world, the Penn-Vir Company will have a very great advantage over all other oil-producing sections of the United States—being in the neighborhood of 20 miles from the water on the Potomac and about 20 miles from Washington City.

Does not the Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Co. offer an unheard of opportunity for investment? We claim we do. Then, why not invest in it now? Not to-morrow, for its stock will go rapidly, and only a sufficient amount of stock will be sold to develop paying values. When the expected happens the stock-books will be closed.

The Oil of Bremen, Ohio, is of a Grade Bringing \$1.53 Per Barrel—the Product Indicated in Our Field is of Same Quality

This Company will within the week begin to erect a derrick at Nokesville, Va., preliminary to drilling.

D. W. DOWNHOUR and J. M. SULLIVAN,
General Sales Agents.

Penn-Vir Coal, Oil and Gas Co.

OFFICE: The Peoples National Bank Building.
Correspondence Solicited.

Home Office: Manassas, Virginia.

TOPICS OF THE TOWN

Mrs. H. Smith, who has been quite ill, is improving.

C. A. Heinek, of Haymarket, is seriously ill and it is feared that it may be necessary to remove her to a hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Baker, of Bristow, are to be Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Hornbaker.

Samuel Loyde has erected a new residence on his property near town to replace the building recently destroyed by fire.

W. H. Bassell is completing a four-room frame residence on his property near town and has rented it for one year to Louis Brown.

Webb Garrison, who is attending Business High school at Plainfield, N. J., will arrive home today to spend Christmas with relatives.

The many friends of Capt. Edwin Nelson, clerk of the circuit court, who has been quite ill the past several weeks, is some better today.

W. A. and DeWitt Bodine have completed a contract for sawmill work in Fairfax county, and returned with their mill to their farm near Nokesville.

A new one-room frame school house is nearing completion at Nokesville, and will be ready for occupancy with the opening of the winter term in January 5.

Miss Sallie Rudolph, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. F. S. Cooley, returned Friday to her home at Tombsbrook. She was accompanied by little Miss Lucile Cooley.

S. C. Harley, who lives near town, states that ice in a pond on his property is between three and four inches thick and of good quality. He will begin harvesting the ice at once.

Harry Penn, colored, was arrested Sunday night by Sergeant Wilcox on a charge of disorderly conduct. He forfeited an appearance bond of \$5 in Justice Smith's court Monday morning.

The remains of Sarah Washington, daughter of George Davis, deceased, who for a number of years conducted a barber shop in Manassas, were brought here Saturday and interred in the colored cemetery near town.

Christmas will be a season of romance for the following residents of Prince William county, who, during the last week, have procured licenses to wed from the clerk of the circuit court: Lewis M. Swartz and Pearl L. Kelly; Charles K. Davis and Virginia Wolfe; John F. Donovan and Florida V. Allison.

Beautiful art calendar, depicting George Washington and suite standing at his coach door in front of Christ church, Alexandria, on Easter morning, 1795, are being distributed as advertisements by The National Bank of Manassas. The production, a replica of a painting by a famous artist, is worthy a place as an ornament.

Funds to purchase uniforms consisting of coats and helmets are being solicited by the Manassas fire department. Citizens desiring to contribute may do so through a subscription paper in charge of R. Weir Waters, at The Peoples National bank. A regular business meeting of the department will be held tonight at the city hall.

George Gaither, of Woodlawn, Md., father of R. L. Gaither, of Manassas, has in his possession the only book known to be in existence which contains an account of the mob in Baltimore, together with other important data. When the history of Western Maryland was being prepared several years ago, Mr. Gaither received a flattering offer for this book and was paid the sum of \$2,500 for the use of it as a historical reference.

A son was born Friday night to Mr. and Mrs. Mulleneaux near Milford.

Mrs. C. W. Payne and children visited at Washington several days last week.

Mrs. E. ... seriously ill and it is feared that it may be necessary to remove her to a hospital.

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P. P. Chapman is planning a visit next week to his mother at Roanoke.

Bryan Gordon returned Monday from a visit to his parents at Charlottesville.

Bryan Gordon leaves tomorrow for Baltimore to spend Christmas with his family.

W. S. Athey lost a valuable horse Sunday night when the animal fell in a stall and sustained a fatal rupture.

A gang of eight plovers, operated by a powerful traction engine has been installed on Annaburg farm by Manager James Burkett.

Capt. R. E. Ross, of Haymarket, Edward Davis and John Dewey, of Occoquan, were guests Tuesday of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Athey.

The public schools of Prince William county will not begin the winter term until January 5, on account of the teachers' institute to be held in Manassas on January 3 and 4.

A team belonging to the Eastern Produce company ran away late Thursday afternoon throwing J. H. Craven under the wheels and inflicting slight injuries upon him.

J. H. Craven will represent the Eastern Provision company at the annual convention of the National League of Commission Merchants to be held at Norfolk three days commencing January 12.

Mrs. Maylon Taylor, who has been under treatment of Dr. John Iden at the Emergency hospital, Annapolis, Md., for the past three weeks, has returned to her home near Manassas, restored to perfect health.

Every Red Cross Christmas stamp is a bullet in the fight against tuberculosis. The little red stickers sell at one cent each at the Prince William Pharmacy, the High school building and the new public school building.

Christmas will be celebrated by the pupils of Cannon Branch school with an entertainment in the school building tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock. The program is in charge of the teacher, Miss Mary M. Roegner.

The Rev. A. J. Garland, of Front Royal delivered an interesting sermon before a large congregation at the Primitive Baptist church last Sunday night. His subject was "The Redemption of Man from Sin." Services are held the third Sunday of each month.

A mail pouch thrown from a south bound train last Thursday fell under the wheels of a train on a parallel track in the Manassas yards and was cut into pieces, destroying much mail. Scattered along the tracks were found mutilated checks on a Harrisonburg bank, and fragments of \$2 bills. Several letters addressed to persons in Manassas were torn.

Following the cue given by the first nickels coined by the government, upon which the word "cents" was omitted, thus making it possible to gild them and pass them for \$5 gold pieces, which was done in many cases before discovery, an official of Manassas recently found among the receipts of his office a Lincoln penny which had been coated with mercury and passed upon him for a dime. The official is on a still hunt for the perpetrator of the fraud.

A Christmas entertainment will be given by the Sunday school of the M. E. church South on Wednesday evening, December 29. The program is being arranged by Mrs. R. S. Hynson and Mrs. A. M. Fetzer and will comprise an exercise by a class of young men, vocal and instrumental music, distribution of gifts and awards for attendance.

A large canopy over the altar is one of the decorative effects. The Sunday school has been highly successful this year under the leadership of R. S. Hynson, superintendent.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry ... of New York, are to be Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. Traeger.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bowman, of Harrisburg, are to be Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Harley.

J. W. McLean, son of Major Wilmer McLean, upon whose farm at Appomattox, General Lee surrendered, was in town today.

Henry B. Cockrell, an electrical engineer at Washington, will spend Christmas here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Cockrell.

There will be a Christmas tree for the children and their friends at Greenwood church, near Minnieville, on Tuesday afternoon, December 28, at 2 o'clock.

L. C. Lindsley, formerly of Manassas, grandson of Mrs. Geo. W. Johnson of this place, has been appointed principal of the Cook street school in Portsmouth.

The Lutheran Sunday school will render the service "Christmas Tidings" Tuesday evening Dec. 28 at 7:30 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Mrs. W. S. Allensworth leaves today for Staunton. Her son, Carl, a pupil at the School for the Deaf and Blind will accompany her home for the holidays.

Dr. S. S. Simpson, who recently moved from Manassas to Clarendon, Alexandria county, was in town Tuesday. He is looking well and says he is enjoying a good practice in his new field.

B. D. and B. N. Merchant accompanied by Mrs. B. N. Merchant, Miss Sue Merchant and Master Warren Merchant, leave tonight for Baltimore, where they will spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Dunnington.

The attractions of Manassas and Prince William county are to be exploited in views of historic scenes taken by George B. Jamason, photographer, and mounted on postcards to be placed on sale here and throughout the country.

A Christmas festival will be held in the Presbyterian church on Monday afternoon, December 27, at 2 o'clock. The children on the cradle roll are especially invited with their parents and friends. The event is planned as a social hour.

Christmas is almost here. Do your shopping and buy in Manassas. The big city stores have absolutely no interest in your welfare or that of this town. All they want is your money. They do not contribute one penny to the support and upbuilding of this community. The merchants of Manassas devote all their resources to this town. Every dollar spent in big city stores is forever lost to local circulation.

Many Eastern college students have left town to spend Christmas at home. C. E. Sparrow, athletic coach, left Saturday for Scranton, Pa., and J. J. McGivney, manager of the base ball team, left for Brooklyn, N. Y. Other departures were: C. A. Rudy to Petersburg; Miss Carrie Elizabeth Bonner to Hartford, Conn.; Miss Sarah O. Wheeler to Richmond; Miss Sue Avery to Jersey City, N. J.; Misses Estelle and Alice Laws to Front Royal; Miss Aubyn Harris to Washington; F. W. Bannister and Ralph G. Grayson to Vienna; H. S. White and Sibley Kels to Culpeper. Miss Sue Brown, instructor in mathematics, will spend the holidays at Front Royal.

How John W. ... spinning at Prindle fair. John Alden came to woo her there. So she put down the spinning wheel. While he put up the winning spool. - Kansas City Times.

Don't Be Too Familiar. "Abusin' yuh bad luck," said Uncle Eben, "is 'tude to sit it so tame dat yuh don't see you anan like a yaller dog." - Washington Star.

Revised. "Don't you walk into my parlor," said the angel, "the day." "For you might give me a phoid." And I'd very likely ... Post.

GREETING

"WE wish you ever well and ever prospering to a greater and greater height."

The Peoples National Bank

OF MANASSAS, VA.

School of Commerce

EASTERN COLLEGE

MANASSAS, VA.

Thorough Courses in Shorthand, Typewriting and Bookkeeping. Tuition rates reasonable.

Write or call for further particulars

J. H. DODGE, Master Accounts, Director

A Few Suggestions

A few articles that we keep in stock that make good and useful Christmas Presents.

Boxes of Fine Stationery	Book—Story or Poems
Cut Glass—Libby's	Bible—Cheap or with Help
Fancy China	Perfumery—Hudnut's
Comb and Brush	Fancy Box Fine Candy

Prince William Pharmacy

Manassas, Va.

N. B. We take orders for Cut Flowers.

Phone Orders Promptly Filled

Saunders' Market

Center Street, Manassas, Va.

Tender Steaks, juicy roasts—the very choicest the market affords—are always supplied our customers. Our selection is complete—just what you expect to find in a first class market.

Deliveries made Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

Give Us a Trial Satisfaction Guaranteed

EUROPEAN PLAN

Hotel Fleischmann

Alexandria, Virginia

BRISTOW AND MILFORD

L. C. Lynn was in Washington on business Saturday.
 Dr. Buck reports Miss Laura Powell's condition improved.
 Mrs. L. C. Lynn was a Washington visitor last Saturday.
 Mr. Broadus is having some repairing done to his house this week.
 Every one is getting ready for Christmas and no one is quite ready.
 L. C. Lynn is indisposed this week. Too much excitement on the Avenue.
 Dr. Buck's eldest son, Will, who is in business at Spartanburg, S. C., is home for the holidays.
 The weather is quite cold and as the old colored woman said: "De syclometer is down below de depot."
 Miss Mae Simpson, who is teaching at Bristow, will spend the holidays with her parents at Clarendon.
 C. J. Meetze has just received a second car of shelled corn. This corn comes from Ohio and is of a fine quality.
 A passenger train ran off the bridge at Bristow on Monday. If it had not run off the bridge it would have been there yet, very likely.
 Col. J. T. Leachman's health keeps good, and he is able to go about when the weather is good. His many friends and his relatives wish him a very merry Christmas and many of them.
 Mr. Butler moved with his family from Bristow this week to the farm recently purchased by E. J. Weaver from Mr. Brown between Greenwich and Buckland. Mr. Butler is a brother-in-law of Mr. Weaver.
 A new style in hairdressing has made its appearance in our community. Instead of wearing rats in their hair, the ladies wear mice. The rats are removed from the hair at night, but the mice are removed in the morning.
 Among the turkey shippers from Bristow this week were George H. Ayres, S. A. Marsteller, E. P. Robertson and Otho Hederick. The turkeys were fine and the prices will be good. Mr. Ayres raised nearly one hundred this year.
 Mrs. E. L. Hornbaker and son, Harry, will leave Saturday for Portsmouth, where they will spend the holidays visiting her sister, Mrs. Rosenberger. Mrs. Hornbaker has a son in business at Portsmouth, also two daughters there at school.
 E. C. Mullenax lost a good draft mare last week. This mare had suffered from hemorrhages on several occasions this fall, and she bled to death in the stable on Friday night. She showed no signs of illness when fed the night before she died.
 JOSIAH.

ORLANDO NEWS

W. H. Breeden, near Orlando, will begin work on a new dwelling in the near future.
 J. C. Barbee is having his sawmill put in repair, preparatory to resuming work this winter.
 If the present weather continues the prospect for a nice crop seems good, as the streams are beginning to freeze over at this time.
 J. M. Ellicott who is engaged in the erection of a \$2,000 residence for Samuel R. Lowe, of Canova, soon expects to be ready for the plasterers.
 George M. Goodwin has a well drilled at his tenant house. Several others in the neighborhood expect to have wells drilled while the machine is here.
 W. Y. Mead is recovering from an operation at Sibley hospital, Washington, Saturday last.

...man, Saturday last...
 ...units. The operation proved...
 ...very successful and his many...
 ...friends wish him a speedy recovery.
 ...of Buckingham...
 ...county, has moved on the farm...
 ...which he bought of J. M. Ellicott...
 ...about one year ago. We are...
 ...always glad to welcome progressive...
 ...farmers and citizens to our...
 ...neighborhood.
 ...One of our trustees paid a visit...
 ...to Holmes school on Monday...
 ...Patrons' day, and reported a very...
 ...pleasant and entertaining time.
 ...The children showed a degree of...
 ...promptness in their replies to...
 ...review which is a tribute to their...
 ...teacher and a gratification to...
 ...their parents. Progress seems...
 ...to be the motto in all the schools...
 ...in our district this year.

NOW AND THEN

KOPP ITEMS

The stork left a new boy at the residence of James Luck Jr. last week.
 A Christmas tree entertainment is to be given at Belle Haven church, Christmas night.
 Quite an enjoyable dance was given by Cleveland Wright at the residence of P. M. Cole last Friday night.
 O. Leyar and family, of Warrington, Pa., have moved to the Wm. Wright farm, known as the Spicker place, which he bought last fall.
 Christmas jugs are beginning to arrive in the neighborhood. Folks will have them, even if they do have to send a long way for them.
 E. G. W. Keys has sold through Jelinek and Storke the old Keys homestead to a Pennsylvania man. The same firm recently sold several farms in this and Stafford counties, all to Pennsylvania parties.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Tubbs and son, Harry, have just returned to their home near here after a six months visit to relatives and friends in Pennsylvania. They report having a fine time but were glad to get back to Old Virginia.
 E. Y. Z.

SNAP SHOES

Nothing pleases the average boy in his teens more than to have some woman tell him he "looks awfully dissipated."
 When a young man decides that the time is opportune to ask a girl for her picture, she is usually ready to give it to him.
 Most girls believe that a dream-book is infallible.
 When a girl hangs up mistletoe, most of her thoughts are of one young man.
 Hope never shines brighter than when a girl is alternately affectionate and indifferent.

AS OTHERS SEE US

EXCELLENT NEWS AND EDITORIALS
 (From The Fairfax Herald.)
 We have received the first number of THE MANASSAS DEMOCRAT, published at Manassas by Messrs. Frank E. Garrison and Louis E. Slingerland. Its news and editorial features are excellent, and we wish it much success.
BRIGHT AND NEWSY
 (From The Loudon Mirror, Loudon, Va.)
 THE MANASSAS DEMOCRAT is the title of a new weekly newspaper published at Manassas, the first issue appearing on December 9. THE DEMOCRAT is published by the Virginia Publishing Company, Inc. of which Messrs. Frank E. Garrison and Louis E. Slingerland are the editors and

managers. The paper is a twelve-page, six-column sheet and is bright and newsy in every respect and splendidly printed.
LOYAL TO THE COMMUNITY
 (From The Transcript, Golden, Colo.)
 We have received a copy of the initial number of THE MANASSAS DEMOCRAT, a weekly newspaper established at Manassas by the Virginia Publishing Company, Inc. and edited by Messrs. Frank E. Garrison, formerly of Washington, and Louis E. Slingerland, a newspaper man of Denver, Colo. The first number consists of twelve pages neatly printed and presents the local news in interesting form. The publishers announce that the new publication will be Democratic in politics and so devoted to the interests of Manassas and Prince William county that not even advertisements will be inserted that come in competition with local business interests. We always feel a touch of genuine sympathy for those entering the country newspaper field with a view to finding peace, happiness and wealth still we hope THE DEMOCRAT may prove an exception to the rule and that its promoters may meet with a success fully measuring up to their most sanguine expectations.

HANDSOMEST NEWSPAPER

WELL WRITTEN NEWSPAPER

HANDSOMEST NEWSPAPER
 (From The Transcript, Golden, Colo.)
 We have received Number 1, Volume 1, of THE MANASSAS DEMOCRAT, published at Manassas, Va., by Frank E. Garrison and Louis E. Slingerland, former Golden men. It is one of the handsomest papers that has struck our exchange table, well edited, and starts out with an encouraging advertising patronage. The boys have hosts of friends in Golden who will join The Transcript in wishing them the best of success with their new venture.
WELL WRITTEN NEWSPAPER
 (From The Globe, Golden, Colo.)
 We have received Vol. 1, No. 1, of THE MANASSAS (Virginia) DEMOCRAT, with the names Frank E. Garrison and Louis E. Slingerland as editors. The initial number is a six-column folio form, but has twelve pages and bears 25 columns of display advertising. The make-up of the paper is artistic, and the matter is well assorted and well written. The boys say editorially that they have the finest office in Virginia, and that they propose to be boosters for their town and county and incidentally will publish a clean, wide-awake Democratic newspaper. It would be a difficult thing to secure a more competent pair of men to edit, print and bring to success a new newspaper enterprise than Frank and Louis. We wish them success.

WANTED

For Manassas and Warrenton, white men to canvass and collect. Must be a hustler, honest and capable. Apply Southern Mutual Aid Association, 115 Southern Fairfax street, Alexandria, Virginia.

For Sale Cheap

One 25-horsepower engine in good running order, 1 boiler, 2,000 feet of 1-inch pipe, with lot of fittings. Apply at Spiller's Factory, 12-14-20th St. JOHN W. FERRCOTT.

Christmas Candies, Nuts and Delicacies

Best the Market Affords

A. H. HARRELL, Successor to E. H. Powell & Co.

IT IS WELL TO REMEMBER
 in making your Christmas Selections, that the
People's Cash Store
 has succeeded in landing three lines of drummer's samples that you can buy at wholesale prices. From our enormous stock you can not only select from a great variety of designs, but you can select a present that will be appreciated. Besides these inducements we are going to hand you some good things from all of our departments. Owing to the mild winter we are "stuck" on certain lines and are going to sacrifice them even though we cannot replace them. We're always glad to "show you."

OUR LINE OF CHRISTMAS Confectionary and Groceries CANNOT BE SURPASSED

Do These Prices Appeal to You?

Good Mixed Candy, per pound	5c	8c Light Oulings	42c
Hopkins' Pure Coconut Creams, 6 pounds for	25c	Good Apron Checks	42c
London Layer Raisins, 2 pounds for	25c	1 Lot Ladies' \$1.25 Heavy Shoes	98c
All \$1.00 Dress Goods, including Silks	89c	Fire Works galore, bought direct from New York City	
All 50c Dress Goods, including Silks	44c		

Our Sample Lines include

Ladies' Leather Pocket-books and Handbags, 75c value	39c	Ladies' 50c Shawls	39c
Men's \$1.00 Shirts, in all colors	75c	Infants' Coats, \$3.50 value	\$2.25
Men's 50c Shirts, in all colors	39c	Infants' Coats, \$3.00 value	\$2.00
Men's 25c Neckties, in all colors	19c	Infants' Coats, \$4.00 value	\$2.50
Men's 50c Work Shirts	39c	Infants' Coats, \$5.00 value	\$2.75
A large assortment of Men's Pants that you can save 50 per cent on		Ladies' Petticoats, \$2.50 value	\$1.75
Ladies' \$1.00 Shawls	75c	Ladies' Petticoats, \$1.00 value	75c
		Ladies' Petticoats, \$1.50 value	\$1.00

Side Combs and Hair Ornaments of Every Description
 Ladies' Hosiery, Men's Hosiery, Children's Hosiery at Unheard of Prices
 Ladies' and Men's Sweaters at just One-half Price
 Beautiful Pictures that are well worth \$2.00, for only 25c
 1 Lot of Ladies' \$1.00 Sweaters, 79c
 Ladies' 50c Handkerchiefs, 39c Ladies' 25c Handkerchiefs, 19c
 A magnificent line of Ladies' Under Muslins can be bought in this line

In fact anything that any one would want can be bought here and bought right. It is right and if it isn't right its not right that you should take it.

Waters, Wright & Hickey
 MANASSAS, VIRGINIA

STATE HAPPENINGS

Thursday, December 16. S. J. Parker, of Suffolk, was badly hurt by a fall from a building on him, crushing his shoulder. Plans have been decided upon by the congregation of the Second Baptist church at Newport News for the erection of an edifice at \$25,000. The plant of the National Electrical Supply company at Alexandria was practically destroyed by fire. The blaze is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. B. B. Dillard, a real estate agent and liveryman at Roanoke, was accidentally shot to death. His wife, who was alone with him, states that he was going up a flight of steps when he slipped and the pistol in his pocket was discharged. The ball entered just above his right ear. Northbound passenger train No. 38 on the Southern railway had its engine derailed at Pacomah fifteen miles south of Lynchburg, by a landslide on the new double track. When the train arrived at Monroe and the freight engine was being replaced by a passenger engine, Engineer S. L. Dabney accidentally stepped in front of the engine and was killed. He was twenty-three years old and from Rockfish where he was shortly to have been married. Friday, December 17. James O'Rourke, a first class seaman on the United States battleship Kansas, fell from a launch of that vessel into Hampton Roads and was drowned. Benjamin Thomas, a negro, was sentenced in the Alexandria police court to serve six months in jail and pay a fine of \$50 as a charge of attacking Mrs. James Lee. Moses Sylvia, a West Indian negro sailor, was found guilty of felonious assault, and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary in the corporation court at Newport News. The sailor cut and seriously injured William Jones, a white man. Dr. Thomas Green, a prominent young physician at Bristol, narrowly escaped death when he pitched headlong from an upper story window of an office building. He was saved by two men who caught him as he neared the pavement. The board of aldermen at Lynchburg has concurred in a resolution adopted last week by the council providing an appropriation of \$200,000 for the building of a new high school, 650 grammar school for whites and another for negroes. The fight has been on for a year. William H. Hundley, an eighty-year-old negro, was found guilty of horse stealing at Williamsburg, and a jury in the circuit court fixed his sentence at three years in the penitentiary. Owing to the youth of the prisoner, the court probably will remit him to the State reformatory. Saturday, December 18. The case of "Ad" Ephanck, charged with the murder of a negro woman named Johnson, is being tried at Amherst. William L. Walker, of Portsmouth, doing business under the name of the William L. Walker Lumber Company, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. His liabilities are placed at \$32,000 and assets at \$25,000. A call has been extended to Dr. William E. Evans, rector of the church of the Advent of Birmingham, Ala., to become rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church at Lynesburg, the pulpit of which has been vacant several weeks. Fire broke out at Tangier Island Friday morning in the store of Henry L. Disk and Co., and spread to the dwellings occupied by Joshua Disk and Henry Chickett, which were quickly consumed. Owing to the scarcity of water, black mud was used in fighting the flames. The loss is estimated at \$4,000, partially covered by insurance. T. P. A. Vogel, charged with the abduction of Miss Deulah Shumandine, at Norfolk, was held for a hearing. Council for

The eighteenth annual convention of the National League of the Commission Merchants of the United States will be held at Norfolk, commencing January 12 for more than a day. Vogel was held for a hearing. Council for

Miss Shumandine says she expects to prove that Vogel joined the Commission Merchants of the United States will be held at Norfolk, commencing January 12 for more than a day. Vogel was held for a hearing. Council for

JOHN VANDYKE. Is making this store his headquarters in Manassas, and the display of Toys, Cakes and other remembrances for the little ones has never been so complete. In selecting Christmas Gifts, you will find that our display will meet the most exacting requirements. Bring in your list of Christmas gifts and we will fill it to your complete satisfaction. For all members of the family, from the old folks to the baby, there is something appropriate to be found in our stock.

The Christmas Dinner. Is a feast for which you are doubtless planning. We can supply you with dainties for the spread. The menu on this occasion will be all the more tempting by serving Oysters, Celery, Choice Fruits, Raisins and Confections from our splendid assortment. We are making a specialty of rapid service luncheon for people in a hurry.

L. E. Beachley, M. I. C. Building, MANASSAS, VA. When Planning to Build CONSULT B. C. CORNWELL Contractor and Builder. All kinds of Brick and Cement Work. Before buying let me give you prices. I CAN SAVE YOU MONEY. Office and Warehouse, Centre Street, Manassas, Va.

For the Holidays. We have a fine line Chinaware, Glassware, Pictures and Novelties. Our stock of Furniture is modern and complete, offering splendid suggestions for the Christmas gift.

W. C. WAGENER, Manassas, Va. Dictionaries Free. To each person securing five yearly paid in advance subscribers to THE DEMOCRAT, at the regular subscription rate of \$1.00 per annum each, the publishers will give as a premium a Funk & Wagnalls Comprehensive Standard Dictionary of the English language. This edition de luxe is issued in limp leather binding and with Benson thumb index. More than 38,000 words are defined, including 3,000 new terms, and there are more than 300 pictorial illustrations.

The preparation of this work the Editor has attempted to combine the qualities of accuracy, clearness, and conciseness, with the view to including in the smallest compass the greatest amount of information. The Comprehensive Standard Dictionary is especially designed for convenient use in the office and the home, by busy people of all classes who desire quick reference to a reliable dictionary. It contains over 38,000 words and phrases in common use among the English-speaking people, and more than 300 pictorial illustrations, definitive aids to the understanding of words, scientifically arranged and artistically executed, which were made especially for the work. The high standing of the editor, JAMES CHAMPLIN FRENKEL, M.D., and general excellence of the accuracy, comprehensiveness and conciseness of the work, have made it one of the most popular and useful of the century. The editor has kept constantly in mind the necessity of giving in the simplest form the most complete and reliable information. Derivation of all words is given, and the meaning of each word is explained in a simple and concise manner. The dictionary is arranged in alphabetical order, and the words are arranged in a simple and concise manner. The dictionary is arranged in alphabetical order, and the words are arranged in a simple and concise manner.

Woman's World. RUTH ST. DENIS. The American Girl Who Has Charmed Europe. After an absence of two years Ruth St. Denis is again in this country, bringing with her a new and wonderful Indian dance. A few years ago she began to work in New York City, today the most courted and talked-of performer before kings and queens in the western hemisphere. In 1907, she is the story of Ruth St. Denis, a young girl from the town of New Jersey, now Rhode Island, who was discovered by the court of Vienna. This remarkable woman has made the artistic and theatrical circles of continental Europe her home. She has made the artistic and theatrical circles of continental Europe her home. She has made the artistic and theatrical circles of continental Europe her home.

COOKERY NOT ALL. NEW METAL WORK. PRESHEENING RIBBONS. THE HOTEL VICTOR. W. S. ALLEN, Prop. Rates \$2.00 Per Day. Sample Room for Commercial Men. Manassas, Va. Christmas Candies. When on the Christmas shopping tour be sure to give us a call. We have an especially fine line of pure, wholesome candies for the youngsters. The Christmas Feast. Is now engaging the attention of housewives. It is a comparatively easy matter to prepare the dinner when you engage us to supply the bread, party and other good things.

RYCKMAN, The Tailor. I have bought W. J. Shelton's Furniture Store and increased the stock. Any goods not in stock will be ordered and shipped in your station. Fixing the Blame. The mother of the incorrigible young person was thoroughly and comfortably wrapped in her cloak of self rightness. Household Talks. Oranges may be served out in two barrels, with honey and powdered sugar. For those who cannot eat fried croquettes, enjoy the savory mixture that composes them. It is worth while to know that they can be baked. And if while baking, you are assisted with some speedy seasonings, they will taste just as good as fried ones and be more wholesome too.

HOUSEHOLD TALKS. Oranges may be served out in two barrels, with honey and powdered sugar. For those who cannot eat fried croquettes, enjoy the savory mixture that composes them. It is worth while to know that they can be baked. And if while baking, you are assisted with some speedy seasonings, they will taste just as good as fried ones and be more wholesome too.

Choice Meats. T. H. Athey. Bino Hat Cleaning. Eastern College. The People's Barber Shop. JOHN JOHNSON. Boots and Shoes Made to Order. FIRST CLASS REPAIRING. Prices Reasonable.

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A Good Dictionary Makes a Splendid Christmas Gift.

THE HYNSON STORES

Alive With Christmas Shoppers!

Christmas China and Glassware is being sold at **One-Half Off Marked Prices.** To begin with the prices were never but a little over wholesale prices as the entire lot were "Samples."

The Biggest and Best 10c Articles
in China and Glassware Ever Sold in County.

SENSIBLE GIFTS

Possibly "She" Would Like

A Coat, Suit or Furs
Pair "Queen Quality" Shoes
Gloves or Silk Underskirt.
Handkerchiefs or Fancy Collar
Rug for the Parlor
Lace Curtains
Sofa Pillow or Umbrella
Chinaware or Napkins
Hat Pins or Fur Hat
Counterpane
Blanket
Tablecloth

Possibly "He" Would Like

A Hart, Shaffner & Marx Suit or Overcoat
Hawes or Stetson Hat
Pair Walk-Over Shoes
Pair Fowns' Gloves
4 Pairs "Interwoven" Gloves
Fur Gloves or Cap
Necktie or Handkerchiefs
Suspenders or Slippers
Umbrella or Dress Suit Case
Silk Muffler or Coat Sweater
Underwear or Night Shirts
Pajamas or Cane

THE STORES ARE ALIVE WITH SENSIBLE GIVERS OF THE SENSIBLE GIFTS

HYNSON'S

The Quality Shop

Manassas, Virginia

Young Folks

QUEER FREAK OF NATURE.

A Siberian Lake That Is Covered With a Reef of Salt.

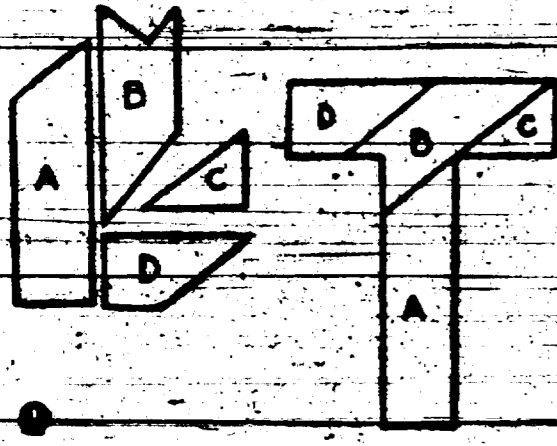
There is in Siberia one of the strangest freaks of nature yet discovered. Near a place called Odorsk is a salt lake nine miles wide and seventeen miles long, almost a little sea. And yet except in a few scattered places the great body of water is covered with a reef of salt, which is about three feet above the surface. The traveler who found it says that it was in summer time that he visited it, and when approached it looks like a vast plain of snow surrounded by fields of ripening grain. This contrast makes the sight all the more interesting.

An old man who remembers when the first salt crystals formed on the surface of the water acted as a guide to the traveler. Every year the evaporation of the water left more crystals, and after a while they became a sort of crust covering nearly the whole surface. Several years ago the water found an outlet into the river Obi, and that lowered the lake's surface about three feet, leaving that space between the water and the salt roof.

The guide took the traveler down through a hole in the roof into a low dirt boat that was resting in the water underneath. They both lay down on their backs in the boat and moved it here and there on the water, using the irregularities of the roof as a means of pushing the boat along. The effect as the sun shone down through the crystals was magically beautiful, its rays being refracted into all the hues of the rainbow.

A Clever Puzzle.

Cut out the queerly shaped pieces seen in the illustration, give them to your chum and ask him to make with



them a letter of the alphabet. You of course see that by arranging these sections properly they form the letter T.

Good-Guessing Game.

This game has a bearing on geography. One player selects in his own mind some well-known city, say Boston, for example, and begins, "I know a place where they sell boots" (or anything else beginning with "B"). The next player then knows what letter the place begins with and starts thinking what town it may be. Perhaps he decides that it is Birmingham, in which case he would indicate that he thought the second letter was "I" by saying, "I know a place where they sell ice" (or iron or ink). "No," says the first player, and the third must then try. She may think it is Brighton and may say, "I know a place where they sell socks" (or raisins). "No," says the first player again, and the trial goes around the circle. If the right letter is not guessed before it comes around to the starter he gives them a little light on the word by saying, "I know a place where they sell oranges" (or oil or oats), and so on until the word is spelled through.

Strange Strayways.

Among the many strange passengers that come from foreign ports without paying fares a flock of butterflies is the most curious. In one of the tropical ports a cloud of butterflies hovered around the rigging of the ship, following it out of sight of land and alighting on the deck and masts. Many were destroyed by stowaways, but some hid away, and after a thirty-day voyage to England they came out of their hiding places and flew ashore, introducing a new species of butterfly to that country. Cockroaches, ants, tarantulas, small serpents and all kinds of insects get on shipboard in tropical fruits and in other ways. Sometimes the sailors miss provisions and other articles, and then they know that there must be monkeys hidden on shipboard. The monkeys may resist capture when first found, but they soon become very chummy with the sailors. But they pay for their free ride by being men's skins over after.

Jehania's Sayings.

Jehania was asked to give a definition of origin, and he said it was "a little boy cow."
When John had a small piece of pie put on his plate he grumbled:
"I wish cook wouldn't put so much shortening in this pastry."
"What is shortening, John?" asked his mother.
"I don't know, ma," answered John. "I think he is in China last time I heard."
When the snow lay hard and smooth, the coasting time, you know, Ma, Ma, Ma, here and there with Ma, to the hillsides early so.
"Up they walk, and down they slide, On the snow, and the ice, And the grass, and the trees, Long to be a girl or boy."
Checks are red, and eyes are bright, Laughter rings across the land, As the sleds go gliding down, With the merry creaking band.

Coasting.

When the snow lay hard and smooth, the coasting time, you know, Ma, Ma, Ma, here and there with Ma, to the hillsides early so.
"Up they walk, and down they slide, On the snow, and the ice, And the grass, and the trees, Long to be a girl or boy."
Checks are red, and eyes are bright, Laughter rings across the land, As the sleds go gliding down, With the merry creaking band.

Make Your Hatpins.

Put your dressy hat by not silk your own hatpins of local. An old fern can be covered with a coquettish addition of lace flower. The stitches must necessarily be close in order to cover the foundation, but when an Irish lace daisy curls its petals over a hatpin you will pierce your crown with joy to the knowledge of having something homemade, but new.

The Popularity of Skunk Fur.

Skunk furs on gowns, muffs, mania and stoles. Some of the skunk skins are so blighted that they look as if a piece of the fur had been carelessly thrown around the shoulders, covering neck and bust, till it reaches the waist. Chinchilla is being made up in perpendicular stripes for coats

WOMAN AND FASHION FACTS IN FEW LINES HUMOR OF THE HOUR

GOWN FOR MIDDLE AGED WOMAN.

Nothing could be more appropriate and altogether charming for the middle aged matron than this afternoon gown of mauve silk voile. The long lines of the tunic, which is carried above the waist line, suggest the contour of youth and give a very trim appearance. The bodice is draped in loose plaits, with a vest of fancy net



embroidered in self tones and used as trimming. The jacket is of chantilly lace. The undersleeves are made in loose plaits, finished with a cuff of embroidery and ruffles of chantilly. The undersleeves are of fancy net. Stitched bands and embroidery are used as trimming of the tunic, which fastens at the left side with three large cut steel and jet buttons, with simulated buttonholes. The underdress is made with a demitrait, which adds dignity of line.

When Trimming Lingerie. Just as the general lines and style of cut of undergarments vary from season to season so will the theme in the ornamentation. Laces of fine mesh have been supplanted by clung, Irish crochet and square mesh laces. The introduction of these coarser laces is the note of this season's lingerie. Then, too, all over tucking in thin mull is new. Many new models have this substantial quality, and there is a daintiness always present with fine tucks. The introduction of narrow bands of gartering instead of lace insertion gives a relief to those who are tired of open effects. Solid embroidery is still trailing over ruffles and shirres. It is applied over the tucks of the bodice and is used in small and large flower patterns. The trimming on this season's lingerie promises more durability and just as much decorative beauty as that of previous years.

A Beauty Hint. The hands of growing girls are often red and clumsy, and girls who are beginning to take thought of their appearance say sometimes in despair about them, not being aware that they grow whiter and whiter every year. The ideal hand is white, certainly, but not dead white. It should have a touch of healthy pink tints. The tips of the fingers and the portions that surround the palm should be tinged with pink. The fingers should taper toward the nails, the most approved shape for which is the "albert," so called from its resemblance to the oval form of the nut of that name and the similarity of the direction of the lines of the nails to those on the wood of the nut.

A New Peppier Idea. We have been trained in various edgings for the painter, but one of the latest is a puffing about one-half inch in width. It is of the same material as the overdrapery, and the shirred effect is probably produced by a cord underneath. This new idea, by the way, sweeps over the skirt and on one side at the bottom of the gown ends in a huge bow of the material, held in place by a jet buckle. The loops and ends are edged in the same way as the painter's

Captain John G. Barrett of Keamsbank, Me., has a large silver watch which he bought in a Chinese pawnshop on the island of Sumatra in 1854. The watch was made in London in 1835 especially for a Batak chief as a reward for certain concessions granted. The figures are in Batak character instead of arabic. The watch strikes the hour.

Astronomers in Germany are greatly interested in the claim of Professor Jonkheer to have discovered a new continent on Mars, situated in the sea of Aeonius. The savant has named the continent Thamus, but Professor Aschbacher, director of the Greenwich Observatory, expresses grave doubts as to the accuracy of Professor Jonkheer's observations. He inclines to the belief that the dark patch in question is a "sea" hitherto unnoted.

Years.

There are about 5,000 men in the Portuguese navy. China has many different dialects as Europe has languages. Italy will expend \$20,000,000 to develop its first naval base on the Adriatic at Ancona. There is about 75 per cent more gold money in the world now than there was ten years ago. The government of Guatemala has placed a bronze bust of Robert Fulton in one of the parks of the city of Guatemala.

A complete library of Italian and foreign newspapers from the earliest times is to be instituted in Rome, and more than 200,000 collections have already been secured.

A memorial to the late Lieutenant General Corbin is to be placed in Corbin hall, as the officers' club on Governors island is now known. It will be a bronze bust to cost about \$2,500.

The wages of female employees in the toy factories of Nuremberg are about 5 cents an hour. The men make twice as much. The working day is nine and one-half hours, on Saturday eight and one-half.

When the postoffice was first opened at Kailang, China, the clerks had a fight with some men who bought stamps and refused to go away until the stamps were licked and stuck on their envelopes for them.

A custom which was in vogue more than 100 years ago has been revived at North, England. A number of four pound loaves of bread, each containing a coin, were distributed from a tombstone to the poor of Spilston parish.

There is a bridge over a brook at East Killbuck, Conn., composed of but one large stone and the supports. The stone is fourteen feet long, seven feet wide and fourteen inches thick. It has held up traffic for more than seventy-five years.

It is a matter of grave concern to the missionaries and other permanent residents of China to observe from year to year the increasing cost of living, which, of course, includes every item of household expense. Double and treble the prices are asked that were paid ten years ago.

The two chief scourges of Greece are malarial fever and tuberculosis. An annual average of 2,000 persons die each year from the former, while in epidemic years, due to extensive rains, the number exceeds 6,000, which was the case in 1903. The population of Greece is only 2,433,806.

The city of Hobart, Tasmania, has one of the finest harbors in the world, and many of the people live in suburbs on the opposite side of the harbor, which they are obliged to cross at least twice a day. The river Derwent, which flows into this harbor, is navigable for small excursion boats for thirty miles up the stream.

Sadie Fretcher of New York city threw \$50 in cash and a diamond ring worth \$225 into the sea. She telephonically telephoned to Street Commissioner Edwards, and the driver for that section of the city was ordered to sift all his ashes when he reached the dump. Mrs. Fretcher's property was found and returned to her.

Near Wamberg, Bohemia, the people in twenty-five surrounding villages are engaged in making handmade lace, and 8,000 families work at the cash-lace every winter, the work beginning as soon as cold weather sets in and no further work can be done in the fields. Boys and men work at the lacemaking as well as women and girls.

Complaint has been made to the Ipswich (England) guardians that inmates of the workhouse infirmary were washed as early as 3 o'clock in the morning, and a member protested against it, especially in the case of the older folk. The reply was made that it would be impossible to begin later unless more nurses were employed.

The English courts are taking action to catch and send up rascally bird dealers who for years have been systematically blinding song birds, which they put on the market under the popular impression that blind birds sing best. Such birds look and behave like other birds and can find their way and feed in their cages after necessary from pain.

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As a matter of curiosity it might be mentioned that under the Danish flag there are thirty-two sailing vessels built before 1825, and of these seven were built before 1800. One of them, the schooner Vigdan, was built in Baltimore in the year 1790 and has ever since been in service between the Danish Antilles. During the war between Denmark and Britain, 1807-14, she fought victoriously as a privateer against the English.

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The pessimistic tourist found the freckled farm boy sitting on the turnip.

"You needn't be so all-fired happy," warned the tourist as he slowed up his horse. "Do you know what the almanac predicts?"
"No, indeed, mister," drawled the lad, pausing in his tune. "Dad only has one almanac, and he won't let me see that."
"Well, it predicts that there'll be an earthquake within the next ten days that'll shake you inside out."
"Won't hurt me, mister. I broke six mules for dad this season, and I guess when it comes to shaking you up they beat a dozen earthquakes."
"Well, the week following there is to be a cyclone that will toss you over into the next county."
"Couldn't please me better, boss. There's a circus over there that week and I'm shy of railroad fare."
"H'm! You are a hard fut. Know anything about comets?"
"Never saw one in my life."
"Well, Halley's is due next year, and it is liable to hit this old earth and put you out of business with a billion sparks."
The farm lad grinned.
"Billion sparks, mister? Gee! Ma always did say I'd have a brilliant finish, and I guess that's what she meant. So long!"—Chicago News.

His Father's Advice.

"I kin make neither head nor tail to all that stuff ye've been writin' home about this football at college," wrote back the rural merchant to his enthusiastic son at college. "See we folks back home ain't up on such things. What I wish ye to do, however, is to score high in your studies. If it is Greek ye're lined up against for tomorrow, don't your scribbles and bring 'em subject down with a low, sure tackle. Then when ye get the signal ye tack that Greek head under your arm and rush it right down the field behind your interference and plant it squarely behind the goal posts. If ye do this I'll warrant ye'll have no trouble then in lettin' your sheepskin clear of the crossbar when th' college course is through. Ye may not come home with th' block Y on your sweater; but, no matter, ye'll have won your honors on th' real college gridiron, and what's more, I'll give ye half interest in th' block Y on doin' business."—Judge.

Early Rising.

Farmer Brown and Farmer Jones were near neighbors, and many a dispute took place as to who was the earlier riser. Both maintained that each excelled the other.
One day Farmer Brown determined to put the subject to the test. Rising very early one morning, about 2 a. m., he proceeded to visit his friend. Great was his astonishment when he saw Mrs. Jones hanging out the clothes in the garden.
"Awful-early about?" he asked.
"Well," replied the lady, "he was the first part of the mornin', but I dunno where he be now."—Weekly Telegraph.

Family Trait.

"How old are you, my little boy?" asked the conductor.
"Five years old, sir," was the reply.
"But you look much older than that."
"Very likely, sir. It runs in the family. You see, mother says she's only twenty-eight, but she looks a heap older than that."—Yorker Statesman.

Handicapped.

"You say that you won your husband through wearing a two dollar graduating gown?"
"I did."
"How romantic! I suppose you are very happy?"
"Oh, yes. But that two dollar gown was an awful bad precedent to establish, I've found."—Kansas City Journal.

A Disturber.

Little Willie—Mamma, did God being the baby?
Willie's Mamma—Yes, dear.
Little Willie—Well, I don't wonder he wanted to get rid of him if that kid made as much noise up in heaven as he does down here.—Philadelphia Record.

A Natural Conclusion.

Tom—She offers me every encouragement, you know.
Dick—Who's the other fellow?
Tom—What other fellow?
Dick—Why, the one she's trying to make jealous.—Judge.

The Immortal William.

"Do you know Shakespeare's works?"
"No. Where is his factory?"—London Telegraph.

Before and After.

See how straight home like this and stay!
I was on deck for joy rides or whatever else was a week and had a jumpy Ma.

LEGAL NOTICES.

of the Circuit Court of Prince William County, in vacation, the 15th day of December, 1908.
Henry F. Lyon, next.

Walter Holmes Robertson, Plaintiff, vs. Henry F. Lyon, next. The general object of the above styled suit is to make sale of the real estate of said Henry F. Lyon, deceased, consisting of 28 1/2 acres of which Henry Fairfax died seized and possessed in part, and in which Martha Lindsay Robertson had a life estate, and one acre of land in Town of James and S. B. Stonnett, as set forth in a contract of sale and purchase, bearing date of November 17, 1899, between the heirs at law of said Henry F. Robertson and the said Henry F. Robertson and S. B. Stonnett. And it appearing by affidavit filed according to law that Henry F. Robertson and Francis E. Robertson, his wife, Margaret E. Robertson and Margaret E. Robertson, his wife, John W. Robertson and Carrie E. Robertson, his wife, Mercer L. Robertson and Edna G. Robertson, his wife, Mary B. Robertson, a single person, and John F. Dowling, the above named defendants, are not residents of this State, it is therefore ordered that the said Henry F. Robertson and Francis E. Robertson, Powhatan Robertson, Margaret E. Robertson, John W. Robertson, Carrie E. Robertson, Mercer L. Robertson, Edna G. Robertson, Thomas L. Robertson, Clarinda Robertson, Mary E. Robertson, and John F. Dowling, do appear within fifteen days after due publication of this order in the clerk's office of our said Circuit Court, and do what is necessary to protect their interest. And it is further ordered that this order be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Manassas Democrat, a newspaper published and circulating in the county of Prince William, Virginia, and no newspaper being prescribed by our said Circuit Court, the newspaper hereby directed.

IN CHANCERY.

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THE HYNSON STORES

Alive With Christmas Shoppers!

Christmas China and Glassware is being sold at One-Half Off Marked Prices. To begin with the prices were never but a little over wholesale prices as the entire lot were "Samples."

The Biggest and Best 10c Articles
in China and Glassware Ever Sold in County.

SENSIBLE GIFTS

Possibly "She" Would Like

A Coat, Suit or Furs
Pair "Queen Quality" Shoes
Gloves or Silk Underskirt
Handkerchiefs or Fancy Collar
Rug for the Parlor
Lace Curtains
Sofa Pillow or Umbrella
Chinaware or Napkins
Hat Pins or Fur Hat
Counterpane
Blanket
Tablecloth

Possibly "He" Would Like

A Hart, Shaffner & Marx Suit or Overcoat
Hawes or Stetson Hat
Pair Walk-Over Shoes
Pair Fowns' Gloves
4 Pairs "Interwoven" Gloves
Fur Gloves or Cap
Necktie or Handkerchiefs
Suspenders or Slippers
Umbrella or Dress Suit Case
Silk Muffler or Coat Sweater
Underwear or Night Shirts
Pajamas or Cane

THE STORES ARE ALIVE WITH SENSIBLE GIVERS OF THE SENSIBLE GIFTS

HYNSON'S

The Quality Shop

Manassas, Virginia

The Manassas Democrat,

PUBLISHED BY

The Manassas Democrat

Issued Weekly by The Virginia Publishing Company, Inc.

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FRANK E. GARRISON

LOUIS E. SLINGERLAND

GARRISON & SLINGERLAND,
EDITORS AND MANAGERS.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One year (in advance) \$1.00
Six Months .50
Three Months .25

Advertising rates made known upon application to this office.

MANASSAS, VA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1909.

Merry Christmas

THE publishers of THE DEMOCRAT wish you a very Merry Christmas. May the glorious festival bring to you all its blessings of joy and peace and may these priceless boons ever be your portion. We most sincerely trust that this may be the very happiest Christmas you have ever had, and that not the faintest trace of sorrow shall tinge your recollections of the day. We trust that all your expectations of Christmas may be fulfilled and that all your hopes may be realized. THE DEMOCRAT greets you upon this Christmas dawn as a friend, newly formed, it is true, but none the less sincere. The bonds of mutual appreciation and good-will have within the three weeks of its advent, united THE DEMOCRAT and the people of Manassas and Prince-William county in lasting friendship, which we regard as the very best Christmas gift we have ever received.

FRANK E. GARRISON.

LOUIS E. SLINGERLAND.

Christendom Rejoices

ALL Christendom is rejoicing in celebration of the coming of the Savior. The message of peace and good will, borne on the wings of faith, is singing in the souls of men, from prince to pauper, ringing alike through palace and hovel in the joyous peal of Christmas chimes and the gladsome music of Christmas carols. The spirit of brotherly love prevails in contemplation of the lessons of the Cross. In spite of all that man may do, in spite of all that he may say, deep down in his soul shines a jewel he cannot besmirch, upon the altar of that sanctuary burns bright and clear a fire he cannot extinguish—an abiding faith in the Infinite and of salvation through Christ. Deny Him as it will humanify instinctively turns to Him when it falls in the fight, for He alone can heal its wounds. Upon this faith is based all the hope of humanity, for without it the struggle would not be worth while. There is no human being so crude but through whom flashes some manifestation of the Divine, there is no barbarian so idolatrous but when led to the Light of the Cross, sees his false gods fade away before the Glory of the Transfiguration. And so upon this glorious Christmas dawn all Christendom rejoices for the birth of the Savior Who gave the promise that no matter how far they may go astray, the Father some day will call His wandering children home.

Probe Ballinger-Pinchot Feud

THE phases of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy are so many and varied, and characterized by attacks so bitter and virulent, the dispute has assumed the proportions of a personal feud. Amster Pinchot is held by the Administration responsible for the attack against Secretary Ballinger in the conduct of the public lands. Secretary Ballinger has asked that the probe of investigation be plunged into the affairs of the Department of the Interior and Senator Jones, of Washington, the Secretary's home state, announced upon the floor of the Senate that shortly after Christmas he will introduce a resolution for the investigation of the affair. It is inevitable that the vindication of Ballinger will result in the dismissal of Pinchot. But aside from all grievances, or from all differences, administrative or personal, existing between Ballinger and Pinchot, it is imperative the dispute be settled without delay by a most exhaustive investigation of the affairs of the department. For accusations of corruption in any public trust, particularly a trust vitally affecting the conduct of the public domain, are not to be lightly set aside. They should be met with an investigation that shall result in the vindication or the dismissal of the persons with whom the trust is placed.

World's Worst Faker

DR. FREDERICK A. COOK has been repudiated by the consistory of the University of Copenhagen, in a verdict branding as worthless his claims to the discovery of the North pole. The consistory decided the records were insufficient to prove even that Cook had penetrated the Arctic region for any great distance. An investigation of Cook's career is to be made by the National Geographic society. While an adverse verdict was not wholly unexpected, it has nevertheless, proved a severe shock to Cook's friends. They demand that Commodore Robert E. Peary submit his data to the Danish tribunal to decide the legitimacy of his claim to the discovery. The majority of people accept the Danish verdict. Confidence in Cook had been shaken by disclosures on his Mount McKinley trip, and subsequent disappearance when his records were under investigation. Cook stands disgraced and ostracized, branded as a faker of the most despicable type. By a peculiar coincidence, the duty of exposing Cook as the world's greatest faker devolved upon the nation first to accept him as the world's greatest explorer.

Sentimental Values

A PHILADELPHIA millionaire has purchased his wife a Christmas gift of a string of pearls valued at \$750,000. The token is a beautiful testament of his affection, a splendid symbol of his devotion. But worthy of note and in vivid, pathetic contrast, are the simple gifts of the poor, utterly lacking ostentatious display, therefore, to many, devoid of interest. However praiseworthy may be the motive of the millionaire's magnificent gift it possesses no more actual sentimental value than a cheap ribbon a poor laborer gives his wife as a token of his love. The intrinsic value of the gift represents nothing in sentimental standards. The spirit in which it is tendered is alone of real worth.

Drive Out Usurers

THE tide of public sentiment finally has turned against the Shylocks who prey upon the adversities of the unfortunate. In no city is this more forcibly illustrated than in Washington, where public sentiment expressed in indignant terms at numerous mass meetings is bringing pressure to bear for the passage of remedial legislation against the usurers. Mercy is a quality unknown to the loan sharks, and in their extermination there is but one regret—that they cannot be given a taste of the misery they have inflicted upon their victims. Washington has set an example in striking at the loan shark evil that may well be followed by other cities. There should be no halt in the crusade until the usurers are driven from pursuits of destroyers to those of producers.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

PEACE on earth, good will unto men.

AND on Christmas let us pray with Tiny Tim, "God bless us, every one of us."

Buy Red Cross Christmas stamps and help the State Anti-tuberculosis association fight the dread white plague.

DESPITE the fact that the circus season is over, it is reported that three-fourths of the peanut crop is marketed.

TURKEYS are rejoicing in the protection of an advancing market. They are soaring so high as to be almost out of reach.

INSPIRED, no doubt, by the title of the latest operetta, some misogynist suggests marriage as the most effective "Love Cure."

THAT a man is only as old as he feels is proved in the case of Gottlieb Most, aged ninety years, who walked eighteen miles into Camden to respond to a grand jury summons.

CHARITY may never be more graciously bestowed than during the Christmas season. Let us make real in some longing lives the Christmas spirit of good will unto our fellowmen.

ACCORDING to astronomical calculations the moon will be full on Sunday, December 26, affording an opportunity for the periodical pun on the back-slasher prophecies of the satellite in a prohibition era.

THE water wagon is being overhauled for its annual cruise beginning January 1. There are many applications for places on the front seat, most of them from those who fell off during the rough trip of the last year.

ACCORDING to reports, the regular army of Nicaragua has met disastrous defeat by the revolutionary forces under General Estrada. In any event downfall is inevitable for Zelaya. His doom was sealed the moment his reign began.

THE Christmas stores in Manassas can supply all your gift purchases, be they modest or elegant. Remember that every dollar you spend in Manassas goes just that far in building up the town. Money spent with foreign stores is forever lost to local circulation.

SMILING skies and brilliant sunshine, an ideal setting for a summer's day, ushered in the first day of winter yesterday. Autumn faded away leaving only a suggestion of its presence in the cool, bracing air, more like a welcome to spring than a surrender to winter. It was the shortest day of the year. With predictions for continued fair weather, Christmas promises to dawn bright and clear.

GRIEF immediately befell a Baltimore child when she lost faith in Santa Claus. Fearing that she would not receive a doll on Christmas, she took money from her mother's purse and bought the toy. When the gravity of the offense dawned upon her she attempted suicide by hanging. A tragedy was prevented by the timely arrival of her mother upon the scene.

CITIZENS of a community should respond generously and unhesitatingly to any call by a fire department for financial assistance. The services of firemen, in the protection of life and property, are of vital value to each individual in a town. Members of the Manassas fire department are circulating a subscription paper to raise funds for the purchase of uniforms. The entire amount required should be secured with but little effort, as an expression of appreciation by citizens of the gratuitous services of the volunteer firemen.

The National Bank

OF MANASSAS

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits
\$74,323.93

MANAGEMENT

The management of this bank is under the control and direction of a Board of Directors of representative and business men, each of whom represents broad experience and intimate knowledge in some special field of commercial or financial activity.

It is the bank's policy to conduct its business in a careful, safe and conservative manner, and at the same time to extend to its patrons every facility and advantage consistent therewith.

Quality and Price

are the main points to be considered when purchasing supplies for your table. Naturally, Quality is first consideration, and thrifty housewives know that we are supplying them with the very best the market affords at the very lowest prices. We call your attention to our splendid assortment of delicacies, as well as necessities for the Christmas feast.

Juicy, tender Meats, Choice Groceries and Fresh Vegetables

are offered in abundance and variety to satisfy the most discriminating taste. We handle the famous Purity and Family Flour, and the Best Corn Meal in town.

We are in the market to buy Fat Cattle, Calves, Lambs and Hogs. Best Prices Paid.

Payne & Polen

Newman Building, opp. Old Stand

MANASSAS, VA.

ALL KINDS OF

Concrete Work and Masonry

PRICES REASONABLE AS CONSISTENT WITH FIRST CLASS WORK

GEO. MUDDIMAN

Office at Residence, North Center Street, Manassas, Va.

Better Bread than Mother Used to Bake

Is the result of using Marble Flour, milled from the finest spring wheat. Housewives who know recommend this flour above all others.

We are agents for Supreme Dairy Feed, in fact for all kinds of feed, and for Meal, Hay and Salt.

C. M. LARKIN & CO., MANASSAS, VA.

WE DO CUSTOM GRINDING

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

Real Estate Bargains

If you are planning to buy realty, you can save money by first inspecting our list of town and farm property. We have a most attractive and desirable list of farms and town lots, and can supply any demand in this respect. We have many applicants for property which will meet requirements, making it most desirable for intending sellers to list their property with us. Especially is this true of Prince William County. In case you have property to sell, write for blank, in description and return to us, and we will get satisfactory results for you.

M. I. C. Building
Manassas, Va.

Nicol & Ransdell