

LOCAL MATTERS.

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 24

For this section rain, probably clearing Friday morning, slightly cooler, winds shifting to westerly.

CHRISTMAS.—The small boys' horns, the occasional discharge of a cannon cracker, the tempting displays of the confectioners, grocers and others, the innumerable articles displayed in the windows of the different dealers, the loads of evergreens on the country wagons and a thousand and one other things noticeable during the week have indicated that Christmas was "in the air," and by midnight it will be "upon us."

The preparations heretofore have been fully as elaborate as usual, and housekeepers have been "up and at it" for the past two or three weeks preparing the innumerable delicacies to be served at this time, while the interiors of houses have been "topsy-turvy" in decorating and decorating in order to impart a Christmas appearance to everything. Most of the churches, too, have been decorated with evergreens, &c., and a season of enjoyment is earnestly anticipated. Let us hope so one will be disappointed, and may nothing occur to mar the sacredness or the innocent enjoyment of the day.

To-night, the young as their brains are steeped in forgetfulness will probably experience pleasant dreams of that mythical nondescript, Kris Kringle, saddled with every imaginable article that tends to afford juvenile rapture, while the minds of the more mature may go back to the beginning of the Christian era, when "Peace on earth, good will to men," was being sung by heavenly beings over Judea's plain; when the God-mas was a babe crowded out of the inn, and nesting in a manger. During this season the best feeling should prevail, none losing sight of the fact that the day is not to be spent in riotous banqueting, but in honor of Him who has foisted the forecast of old and risen as the "Sun of Righteousness with healing in His wings." We extend the compliments of the season to our readers, and wish one and all a merry Christmas.

A PLUVIAL CHRISTMAS EVE.—The cloudy weather which had prevailed for about forty eight hours culminated this morning in a heavy downpour of rain, which seriously interfered with outdoor business, and rendered it so dark indoors that in many instances light had to be burned. During the early portion of the hour numbers of people were out, especially on King street, which presented a lively appearance, but when the rain began to descend there was a stampede for places of shelter, and for several hours a cannon shot could have traversed most any thoroughfare without hitting anyone. Shortly before twelve o'clock the rain descended in torrents, flooding the streets and overflowing the gutters, but about an hour later the wind veered from the rain quarter (southeast), the clouds parted and the sun shone brightly. During the evening the usual Christmas Eve animation prevailed. The indications are that the weather will be fair and cooler to-morrow.

CHRISTMAS MARKET.—The market to day was well supplied with everything to make up a good Christmas dinner. Many of the benches in the country market were filled up with evergreens, Christmas trees, wreaths, &c., which gave a decidedly pleasing appearance. There was a good supply of poultry and country produce and prices, which started rather high, soon dropped to reasonable figures. The butchers' stands were also well supplied with all kinds of fresh meats and sold at figures which have ruled for some time past. Turkey sold at 13 1/2 per lb., chickens at 35 1/2 a piece, ducks 35 1/2 a piece, geese 75 a \$1.00 a piece, butter 25 1/2 per lb., eggs 27 1/2 per dozen, celery 5 1/2 per bunch, celery 4 1/2 per bunch, cabbage 10 per head, &c.

TO-MORROW, CHRISTMAS will be a general holiday in this city; indeed, it is the holiday which is most generally observed in the South. No one will work who can help doing so and the day will be given up to pleasure and jollification—it is a hard, however, not to excess. All the schools began their holiday yesterday; to-morrow the banks, public offices, railroad offices and most of the stores will be closed; there will be no meeting of 'Change and every employee who can be spared from work will be given the day. The social clubs will keep "open house" and this custom will prevail at the private residences of many of the citizens.

CHURCH SERVICES.—Christmas services will be held in this city to-morrow as follows: St. Mary's at 5 and 10 a. m., M. E. South 6 a. m., Grace 7 and 11 a. m., Christ 11 a. m., St. Paul's 11 a. m., German Lutheran 11 a. m., Methodist Protestant 6 a. m. While there will be no elaborate music in the churches to-morrow, in many of them it will be a feature of the services, as the choirs have been practicing for the occasion for some time past.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—One of the dynamos at the electric light works was gotten in order yesterday evening and the northern circuit of the city was lighted last night, but the other dynamo could not be gotten to run or the connections could not be properly made, so the northern part of the city was again in total darkness, causing much inconvenience and some annoyance. It is thought this evening that the works will be in running order for to night.

POLICE REPORT.—Last night was mild and cloudy with rain about 2 o'clock. There were two prisoners and three lodgers at the station house. The Mayor this morning disposed of the following case: A colored man and a colored woman charged with being drunk and disorderly, were dismissed.

PROPERTY SALES.—J. H. Seaboltz has sold to Mrs. Sarah F. Slaymaker a business lot on the west side of Patrick street, between Cameron and King, for \$1050. W. H. Smith has sold to H. Green a lot on the north side of Princess street, between Pitt and Royal, for \$150.

PERSONAL.—M. J. H. W. Newby is spending his holiday in this city. W. G. Lennon, of Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, arrived here Wednesday to spend his vacation with his brother, Dr. C. G. Lennon.

It would be in Every House. J. B. Wilson, 371 Clay St., Sharpsburg, Pa., says he will not be without Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, that it cured his wife who was threatened with pneumonia after an attack of La Grippe, when various other remedies and several physicians had failed to do good. Robert Barber, of Coombs' court, Pa., claims Dr. King's New Discovery has done him more good than anything he ever used for Lung Trouble. Nothing like it. Try it. Free trial bottles at E. S. Leadbeater and Bro's, drug store. Large bottles 50c and \$1.00.

False Economy Is practiced by many people, who buy inferior articles of food because cheaper than standard goods. Surely infants are entitled to the best food obtainable. It is a fact that the Gail Borden "Eagle" Brand Condensed Milk is the best infant food. Your grocer and druggist keep it.

LOCAL BREVITIES

The GAZETTE will not be published tomorrow—Christmas.

There will be no meeting of 'Change 1. M. a.

The Sunday school of Grace Church will hold its Christmas celebration at 7 o'clock to-night.

Mrs. F. Price, of Washington, while shopping yesterday fell down in Rice's shoe store on G street in that city.

Many of the Mid and railroad employees in this city have been given holiday till Monday Jan 4 proximo.

The pupils of the Potomac Academy gave the principal yesterday a handsome revolving book-case as a Christmas present.

The mails have been unusually large during the past few days and the postoffice clerks here are kept busy sending off and receiving Christmas packages. The express companies are also doing a heavy business.

The Postoffice will observe the following hours on Christmas day, to wit: Open at 8 a. m. and close at 10 a. m. The carriers will make a delivery at 8 a. m. and collections at 6:30 and 10 a. m. and 5 p. m.

At Linden, on the Manassas road, yesterday, a man named Corden stabbed another named Snipes in the abdomen with a dagger, it is reported fatally. He says he had the weapon in his hand and that Snipes pushed himself against it.

The teachers of several of the public schools here yesterday the recipients of pretty Christmas presents from their pupils.

A horse belonging to Mr. R. W. Ballenger dropped dead under King street yesterday.

BROWN'S IRON BITTERS ALMANAC For 1892 Contains One Hundred Recipes for making delicious Candy cheaply and quickly at home. This book is given away at drug and general stores.

Away up North in regions cold The rich and poor, the young and old all use Stonebreaker's Liniment. Price, 25 cts.

I SUFFERED from acute inflammation in my nose and head—for a week at a time I could not see. I used Ely's Cream Balm and in a few days I was cured. It is wonderful how quick it helped me.—Mrs. George S. Judson, Hartford, Conn.

FOR THREE weeks I was suffering from a severe cold in my head, accompanied by a pain in the temples. Ely's Cream Balm was recommended to me. After only six applications of the Balm every trace of my cold was removed.—Henry C. Clark, New York, Appraiser's Office.

Sample Chocolate Free. A postal card addressed to MENIER, New York, will secure you samples of their delicious imported chocolate with directions for using.

Pure breeds of all kinds of stock are at a premium. That is all right; else why should anyone make it his special business to keep them pure? And what would become of progress and improvement? The breeders of pure stock all use Stonebreaker's Horse and Cattle Powder. The U. S. Government says it is the best for horses and cattle. Price, 25 cents.

If you feel weak and all worn out take BROWN'S IRON BITTERS

THE annual meeting of the stockholders of the COLUMBIA NATIONAL BLDGING COMPANY will be held at its principal office, 210 1/2 South Washington street, Alexandria, Va., on the second THURSDAY of JANUARY, 1892, (being January 14, 1892) at 12:30 p. m., for the election of officers for the ensuing year, and the transaction of other important business.

By order of CHARLES B. PFARSON, President. JAMES M. MILLER, Secretary. dec24 w3w

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY. Exchange at Alexandria, Va., Dec 24, 1891. Subscribers will please take notice that the exchange will on to-morrow, Xmas Day, observe Sunday hours. The office, therefore, will be closed from 10 a. m. to 11 p. m.

It P. H. SULLIVAN, Mngsr.

DIVIDENDS. CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK OF ALEXANDRIA, VA., December 24, 1891.

The Board of Directors of this bank have declared a SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND of three and one-half per cent, payable on and after January 4th, 1892. WM. H. LAMBERT, Cashier. dec24 3

AMUSEMENTS. "PROTECTION TO ALL." SECOND GRAND BALL OF THE 1774-Friendship Fire Company-1891

AT McBURNEY'S HALL, December 31, 1891. Committee of Arrangements. E. E. Downham, Edgar Padgett, Wm. H. Smith, Geo. W. Crump, C. O. Sipple, Louis Shuman, Jas. T. Clark, Sid. Hammerstein, N. A. Britz, P. F. Gorman

Master of Ceremonies—Capt. Jas. F. Webster. Capt. Jas. F. Webster, Wm. H. Smith, Sid. Hammerstein, Geo. W. Crump. Floor Managers

On the part of the Columbia, Samuel T. Jenkins; Hydrantion, Thomas Ballenger; Relief Hook and Ladder, R. M. Latham; Friendship, Sid. Hammerstein and N. A. Britz. dec10 d

EDGAR PADGETT, Chairman. AUCTION SALES. TRUSTEE'S SALE.

BAR ROOM, fixtures and contents, including several nice Counters and Ice Box, Chairs and other necessary articles for bar and lunch rooms, at No. 1 King street, opposite the steamboat wharf, at 10 o'clock a. m. on TUESDAY, the 29th of December. I. C. O'NEAL, Trustee. This property can be purchased at private sale. dec22 1d

[Established 1856.] THOMAS L. MONROE, HOUSE & SIGN PAINTER, Pitt street, between King and Prince.

The business of the above will be continued by the undersigned, under the management of Jos. M. Monroe, with W. A. Tomlin, as foreman. Thanking the public for past patronage, she solicits a share of the work in this line. dec14 1m

JULIA A. MONROE. FOR SALE.—BUILDING LOTS. 2 Lots on Queen, between Payne and West. 1 Lot on West, between Queen and Princess. 1 Lot N. E. corner Queen and West. Electric light and water near. Apply to BOBT. J. THOMAS, dec22 1m\* 316 north Washington street.

CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK, Alexandria, Va., December 9, 1891. The annual election for DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking house on TUESDAY, January 12, 1892, from 11 a. m. to 12 o'clock m. WM. H. LAMBERT, Cashier. dec9 wtd

FINE POTATOES.—NORTHERN BUREBANK POTATOES, in store and for sale by W. A. JOHNSON & CO. dec19 1w

XMAS GOODS AT J. D. H. LUNT'S. A GREAT VARIETY OF FANCY ARTICLES very cheap at MOS R. SLAYMAKER'S, dec17 No. 429 King st., Alexandria, Va.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

The week has been an active one in business generally, the Christmas trade keeping many of the merchants busy filling orders for both their city and country customers. In monetary affairs there is nothing special doing, which is usually the case during the holidays. As heretofore stated, the bank failures in Warrenton, Grdonsville and in the Valley had no effect in shaking circles here. The rates for money continue unchanged, and the banks supply all business demands. In New York yesterday money on call was easy, ranging from 2 1/2 to 3, last loan at 3, and closing offered at 3. Prime mercantile paper 4 1/2 to 6. In Baltimore money was unchanged at 4 1/2 to 5 per cent. There is little doing in local shares, and prices are about unchanged.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The stock market opened rather tame and at irregular changes from last night's prices, though the declines were more numerous, the changes extending to 1/2 per cent. either way. Richmond and West Point were active, which resulted in advancing the whole list. The improvement was confined, as usual, to small fractions in the general list, and the later trading brought no change in the temper of the dealings, though there was less animation, but at 11 o'clock the market was still active and strong as the best prices reached.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—Virginia consols—do 10-40 36 bid; do 3s 72 1/2 74.

Wholesale Prices of Produce in Alexandria

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price per unit, and Price per unit. Items include Flour, Superfine, Extra, Family, Fancy brands, Wheat, Longberry, Fails, Mixed, Fair Wheat, Dam and tough, Corn, white, Yellow, Mixed, Corn Meal, Bye, Butter, Virginia prime, Common to middling, Eggs, Dressed Hogs, Turkeys, live, Dressed Turkeys, Drawn, Live Chickens, Veal Calves, Lamb, Irish Potatoes, Onions, Apples, Dried Peaches, Cherries, Apples, Bacon—Hams, country, Best sugar cured Hams, Butcher's Hams, Breakfast Bacon, Sugar-cured Shoulders, Bulk shoulders, Fat, sides, fat backs, Ham, Bacon Shoulders, Sides, Lard, Smoked Beef, Sugars—Brown, Coffee—Standard A, Granulated, Oatmeal—Rio, Java, Molasses—B, C, B, New Orleans, Porto Rico, Sugar Syrup, Herring, Eastern, per bbl., Potomac No. 1, Plaster, ground, per ton, Ground in bags, Lump, Pot. Family Roe, Do, 1/2 half barrel, Do, 1/4 half barrel, Potomac Shell, Mackerel, small, per bbl., No. 3, medium, No. 3, large fat, No. 2, Clover Seed, Timothy, Old Process Lined Meal, Salt-G, Fine, Turk's Island, Wool—Long unwashed, Washed, Merino, unwashed, Do, Washed, Hams, Cut do, Wheat Bran, Brown Middlings, White Middlings, Cotton Seed Meal.

The effect of the holiday season is shown in the Flour and grain markets, prices for the latter are easy and sales light. Wheat receipts are small, and range at 85 to 98 for common to good, and 70 to 85 for damaged. Corn 46 to 52. Rye 70 to 85. Oats 40 to 43. Eggs are declining and dull at 23 to 25. Butter 15 to 23. Pork 4 1/2 to 5 1/2. Dressed Turkeys 12 to 13. Chickens 9 to 11. Potatoes, Apples, Onions and other produce are in liberal supply and without practical change. Hay is steady. Straw is hard to sell. Millfeed is active at quotations.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat strong; No 2 red spot 04a 10 1/2; Dec 10 1/2 10 1/4; Jan 10 1/2 10 1/2; Feb 10 1/2 10 1/2; Mar 10 1/2 10 1/2; Apr 10 1/2 10 1/2; May 10 1/2 10 1/2; Jun 10 1/2 10 1/2; Jul 10 1/2 10 1/2; Aug 10 1/2 10 1/2; Sep 10 1/2 10 1/2; Oct 10 1/2 10 1/2; Nov 10 1/2 10 1/2; Dec 10 1/2 10 1/2.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—10-45 a. m.—Wheat—Dec 91; May 97. Corn—Jan 42 1/2; May 43 1/2. Oats—Jan 31 1/2; May 32 1/2. Pork—Jan 50 1/2; May 51 1/2. Lard—Jan 23 1/2; May 24 1/2. Short ribs—Jan 22 1/2; May 23 1/2.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Cotton quiet; uplands 7 15-16; Orleans 8 5-16; futures steady. Flour 4 1/2 to 5 1/2. Wheat quiet and firm. Corn dull and firm. Pork quiet and steady at 49 25a 10 25. Lard quiet and steady at 36 35.

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET, Dec. 23.—Cattle—market lower; native steers \$3 70a5 per 100 lbs, and bulls and cows \$1 60a3.70. (a vees—market steady; veals \$5a8 50. Buttermilk \$2 50a3.25 steady; per 100 lbs. Sheep and lambs—market steady; per 100 lbs. Hogs—market steady at \$3.60a4 per 100 lbs.

CHICAGO CATTLE MARKET, Dec. 23.—Cattle—market higher; prime export and shipping steers \$4 50a5.50; heavy \$3.50a4.50; cows, bulls and heifers \$2.70a3.80; stockers \$1.70a2.75 per 100 lbs. Hops—market lower; rough and common \$3.50a3.65; mixed and packers \$3.70a3.75; prime heavy and butchers' weights \$3.75a3.85, and light \$3.80 per 100 lbs. Sheep—market active; native \$3.40a3.25, and Western \$4.75a4.85 per 100 lbs. Lambs \$3.75a6 per 100 lbs.

RICHMOND MARKET, Dec. 23.—The market is dull and prices are dropping. We quote: Flour \$3 50a5 75 for fine to patent; Wheat 90a 102; Corn 50a53; Rye 90a93, and Oats 33a39.

LYNCHBURG MARKET, Dec. 23.—There is little doing in Flour or grain and prices are a shade off. We quote: Flour \$3 50a5 75 for fine to patent family brands; Wheat 85a98; Corn 45a52; Rye 70a 85; Oats 35a42.

FREDERICKSBURG MARKET, Dec. 23.—Prices are off from last week and the cereals are light. We quote: Flour \$3 50a5 75 for fine to patent family brands; Wheat 85a98; Corn 45a52; Rye 60a65; Oats 30a40.

DRY GOODS.

Woodward & Lothrop, 10th, 11th, and F Streets, n. w. Open this Evening until 10. Closed all day to-morrow, Christmas.

WHAT SHALL THE PRESENT BE? We'll just give you some suggestions of things suitable for anybody—man, woman or child.

DOLL DEPARTMENT. Dolls of every description from 5c to \$35. Don't forget the little book, "This Little Pig Went to Market," we are giving with every doll. (Fourth floor, 10th-st. building.)

TOY DEPARTMENT. We have sold out of some of the popular—price! Toys, and in order to keep up the assortment we have made the following reductions: Woden Kitchen Utensils. Reduced to 15c 25c and 50c. Children's 21-piece Tea Sets. Reduced to \$1 a set. PUNCH AND JUDY SHOWS. \$2 a set. Reduced to \$1.50. \$3.50 size. Reduced to \$2.50.

SKIN AND WOOL-COVERED BATH MATS. 75c, \$1, and \$1.15 sizes, Reduced to 50c. \$1.25 and \$1.50 sizes. Reduced to 75c.

SOLDIER SETS. \$1 quality reduced to 75c. 75c quality reduced to 50c. 45 and 60c quality reduced to 35c. (Fifth floor, 10th st. building.)

HANDKERCHIEF DEPARTMENT. Ladies' Embroidered Japanese Silk Handkerchiefs, 25c. Ladies' Mouseline de Soie Handkerchiefs, 50c to \$1.50. Ladies' White Linen Handkerchiefs, 50c to \$1.50. (First floor, 10th st. building.)

DRESS GOODS DEPARTMENT. Ladies' Cloth, \$2.50. All-wool Scotch Plaids, Dress Flannel, Camel's Hair Plaids and Mixtures, \$3. All-wool Serge Plaids, Scotch Cheviot Plaids and Mixtures \$4. (First floor, 10th-st. building.)

LEATHER GOODS DEPARTMENT. Real Seal and Morocco Pocketbooks, 50c to \$3.50. Card Cases with sterling silver corners \$2.50 to \$3. (First floor, 11th st. building.)

MEN'S DEPARTMENT. Umbrellas, \$1.25 to \$13. Cane, 75c to \$7. Bath Wraps \$2.75 to \$12. (First Floor, 1st annex.)

GOODS DELIVERED IN ALEXANDRIA. WOODWARD & LOTHROP, CORNER 11th and F STREETS S. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

FANCY GROCERIES. RAISINS. FANCY CLUSTERS in boxes, quarter boxes and cartons. FINE LONDON LAYERS in boxes, halves and quarters. FANCY SULTANAS. CHOICE MUSCATELS.

NUTS. PAPER SHELL and TERRAGONA ALMONDS. FANCY ENGLISH WALNUTS. LARGE PEANES. JUMBO PALM NUTS. SICILY FILBERTS.

G. W. M. RAMSAY. 700 LBS. Nice Soft Figs. 2000 LBS. French & American Candy.

FRENCH PRUNES. In Jar. CANTON GINGER. DUNDEE MARMALADE. GUAVA JELLY. FINE DATES. QUEEN OLIVES. C. & B. PICKLES.

G. W. M. RAMSAY. CHEAP Extra Fancy New Citron. 25 cents. BEST MIXED NUTS, 15c. VERY GOOD NEW CALIFORNIA RAISINS 8c vta.

Fancy Malaga Grapes, FINE CLUSTERS. Fine Florida Oranges, VERY CHEAP. G. W. M. RAMSAY. FANCY Cape Cod Cranberries, AT MORE'S Best Mince Meat AND R. & R. Plum Puddings. G. W. M. RAMSAY.

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CHRISTMAS IS COMING. TRA-LA, TRA-LA!

And with its advent the multifarious wants ingeniously and incessantly made known by the little ones and the big ones. What to give, how much to pay and where to buy are questions agitating amateur Santa Claus about this time of year. Don't puzzle your brain a moment longer. Trust to the discriminating taste and good judgment of

ISAAC EICHBERG

And his efficient employees. More CLOTHING this year than ever and prettier novelties, ready to make up to suit than ever shown in this city. How would it do to select an ALBUM, TOILET SET, MAKE-UP SET or SHAVING SET? Then we have OIL PAINTINGS, CLOCKS, LOOKING GLASSES and almost anything you can mention which is suitable for a holiday present. You cannot expect us to mention them all, but if you will call you can see them all.

Elegant and Desirable Holiday Gifts

FRENCH'S! 417 & 419 KING STREET.

Make no mistake; do not lay out a dollar in presents until you have seen my

SPLENDID STOCK, Comprising the greatest variety of novelties in

DESIRABLE PRESENTS, Varying in design, quality and price, and adapted to the needs of all

DON'T WAIT! THE BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY IS READY. Novelties, New Ideas, Barters, Oddities, Pretty Conceits, Unique Conceptions, Original Designs, Useful Things.

A GREAT ASSORTMENT, Consisting of White Metal and Silver-plated Toilet Cases, Manicure Sets, Work Boxes, Shaving Cases, Smokers' Sets, Jewel Boxes, Collar and Cuff Sets, Mirrors, Clocks, Jewelry Boxes, Music Boxes, Frames, Novelty Thermo, Fine Pocket Knives, Fountain Pens, Writing Desks, Music Boxes, Frames, Inkstands in wood, glass and metal, Bronz, Goods and Fine Decorative China, Fancy Baskets, Polished Wood Cases, Cologne and Oor Bottles.

FANCY LEATHER GOODS, Pocket Books, Bill Books, Card Cases, Letter Cases, Purses, Chatelaine and Hand Bags, Writing Tablets, &c., Art Calendars, Christmas Cards and Booklets.

FINE GIFT BOOKS, an elegant assortment. All the leading Novels and Standard Works in sale cheaper than ever.

Games, Blocks and Toys, an Endless Variety. It is impossible to tell all I have; you must see the display to appreciate the multitude of appropriate presents for young and old. Our beautiful new stock is all bright, clean and fresh, and consists wholly of the latest and most popular designs, and our prices make these elegant goods irresistible. Anything and everything the heart could desire for a beautiful Christmas Token can be found at the Book and stationary establishment of

ROBERT W. FRENCH.