

JUSTICE JOHN'S CHRISTMAS COURT

Works Every Day in the Year Except on Sunday.

THIEVES COME TO GRIEF A Faithful Dog Holds a Would-be Burglar at Bay Until a Policeman Comes—People Too Busy to Stagger.

Other people may get boozed and lock their store doors and go home or loaf around the corners Christmas day and watch the children and a lot of grown up sinners, who are in debt for their last week's grocery bill, burn powder and make a noise, but Justice John will move right along and do business at the same old stand.

He will hold Christmas day court and if anybody who has valuable presents for him can't send them to his West End mansion they can present them before the judge while the Great Dispenser is on the stage.

GAY AND FESTIVE. When Justice John mounted the throne yesterday he was in a gay humor as became the festive season, and when he turned to the Sergeant with the order to let her roll, his face beamed with health, his nose and humors.

Pat Green answered the charge of beating Eliza Wallace and the girl swore to unprovoked and cruel treatment. But Eliza couldn't show a scar and Pat denied the soft impeachment.

The Great Dispenser knows women's ways and requested that she show a mark.

Eliza's skin was as unbroken as a six months' old seal, and Pat escaped punishment.

YELLED MURDER. Healer Joseph Gerson was yelling murder in an alley at 3 A. M. and could not tell who his enemy was. She was very heavy-eyed with long indulgence in five-cent shots and went to jail for 60 days.

George Brown, alias Fred Richardson, colored, was charged with stealing an exact watch from James Grande and the watch clock was found on him. He implicated George Williams, who has an unenviable reputation in police circles and he was charged with being a suspicious character. Both negroes were held and the case continued until 10th in morning.

Wilbur Goddin, whose young life has been given over to debauchery, was back again on the old charge of being drunk upon the street. When arrested he was hatless and coatless, and so appeared in court. He went down for 60 days.

NINETY DAY CASES. Robert Meekins was charged with being a suspicious character. Robert is black and woolly headed and is young, though the military suit of a United States volunteer of the Spanish war, several times too big for him which he wore, gave him an oddish, sawed-off look.

The back door of Lena Booker's house was pried off the hinges and broken and a gold breast pin, gold eye glasses and some caps and rubbers stolen. Robert undertook to steal some of the stolen goods and was arrested. He says he came from Trevilians Station, and says he was helped in the robbery by two other boys.

HELD BY A DOG. This Section, captured a boy who recently was charged with stealing from the office of the City Engineer in the alley behind some boxes in the rear of Cottrell Watkins & Co's hardware store, where he was held at bay by a dog belonging to the establishment.

The back door of the store was open, but nothing had been disturbed.

Thomas will also spend the three winter months in jail.

The case against E. C. Hubbard, the last of the parties tried, who were charged with disorder and shooting into a traction car at Grove avenue last fall was continued to the 25th.

IN BIG LUCK. Unity Anne Lucas, colored, who has several times been in jail for robbing countrymen, was charged with stealing three dollars from James Jones, a raw colored specimen from the farm lands of Chesterfield.

The money was found on the woman when she was taken to the station and James grinned with the appreciation of the power of the law when the Court put the bills back in his fist and he left a wiser and a happier man.

Unity Anne was given 18 months' term, and received the sentence with a staid air. She has a pocket full of money and has five dollars the penalty would have been five years.

TWO BUSY TO STAGGER. Patrick Carlin got on a tear all by himself. It's a jonesome business these days. The people are all too busy to stagger and a policeman never knows when to make an arrest unless he smells a rat's breath.

But Pat laid down, and though his head had no sheets, the night's lodging cost him \$1.50.

School Reception. The reception given by the teachers and students of Central school was largely attended yesterday morning. Mrs. T. Pennington made a short talk, thanking the parents for their co-operation. Miss Kathleen Sherwood arranged the following programme.

Welcome, by Pierce Brent I. Sweet Home, sung by the school. 2. Ethel Hou, dir. 3. Poem, by E. Helen Wallerstein. 4. Mrs. S. H. Martin Snyder. 5. Lucia's Complaint. 6. Payson Bruce. The town 6. Mary Tinsley. No telephone to Heaven. 6. Aubrey Folks. The pony. 7. Song by the school. 8. Oaken Bucket. 9. Shirley Moore. 10. The Little One. 11. Shirley Snyder. 12. Mamma's Kisses. 13. Bertha Meyers. The little sonnet. 14. Song, "Don't be cross, by the choir. 15. Daisy Morgan. 16. Estie Gates. 17. Louise Cutchfield. 18. Bertha Barnes. 19. Heekaday. 20. Pierce Brent. 21. Ethel Burke. 22. Mildred Brent. 23. No. 24. The school. 25. Lucy Bell. Her name. 26. Charles Young. 27. Gordon Straus. 28. Quartette. "Because you love me, sung by Mrs. Heekaday. 29. Belle Cardozo. 30. Daisy Morgan. 31. Louise Thompson. 32. Louise Cutchfield. 33. Louise Mason. 34. Shadow on the hill. 35. Charles Walker. 36. Newsham. 37. 38. John Stubbs. Uncle Sam's Post-sum hunt. 39. Song by the school. 40. Greenfields of Va. 21. Xmas bells, sung by choir. 22. Xmas Ararat, by Gertrude Freeman. 23. Virginia Yeaman. 24. Rosa Cole. 25. Maud Wood. 26. Young, Ava Haskins. 27. Margaret Slaughter. 28. Gordon Straus. 29. Sutton. De Wit Rose. Wm. Word. Louis Phelps. Hugh Steinhilf. Warren Walthall. 30. Dear Little Stocking, by Allene McDowell. 31. Adelle Irving. 32. Xmas. 33. Louise Alton. Little stocking. 34. Ethel Yeaman. Two little stockings. 35. Ethel Harkes. 36. Before Xmas. Song by the school. 37. Old folks at home.

M. J. Carothers' Staff. The initial order issued by Major Sol Cutchins, of the Blues' Battalion, provides for his staff. The composition of the staff was announced yesterday as follows:

2. E. Hazen, adjutant, with rank of

DISCOVERED AT LAST! A QUICK AND SURE CURE FOR SICK-HEADACHE Dizziness, Malaria AND LA GRIPPE JOHNSON'S STOMACH TABLETS

WM. P. POYTHRESS & CO., W. H. SCOTT, R. E. SHINE.

captain; Dr. Clifton M. Miller, surgeon, with rank of captain; Dr. W. Branch, Jr., assistant surgeon, with rank of first lieutenant; Charles A. Rose, quartermaster, with rank of first lieutenant; Frank R. Steel, commissary, with rank of first lieutenant; D. A. Ritchie, Judge advocate, with rank of first lieutenant; Wm. Cameron, Jr., inspector rifle party, with rank of first lieutenant; A. L. Davis, sergeant-major; Henry A. Kolbe, quartermaster-sergeant; T. R. Glazebrook, commissary-sergeant; Gen. W. Hunter, hospital steward.

BUSY CITY HALL COURTS.

A Charter, Suit Cases, and Diverse Suits Were Disposed of

A charter was granted in the Circuit Court yesterday to the A. B. Clarke & Son Hardware Company, to do a wholesale and retail business. The capital stock shall not be less than \$20,000 nor more than \$50,000, and shall be divided into shares of the par value of \$100 each. The principal stockholders are G. Harvey Clarke, Carroll H. Jones, Stanhope Libby, G. W. Libby, J. B. Egan, W. Bailey Saunders, R. G. Thornton, Millard P. Cox and John Lawson Folliard. The officers are: G. H. Clarke, president; Carroll H. Jones, vice-president; Stanhope Libby, secretary and treasurer.

The case of Lewis C. Elliott against James H. Hargrove was continued for trial in the Circuit Court yesterday morning.

Notice of motion of Grayson Burruss against Lucien B. Tatum was docketed and defendant entered demurrer to notice.

The next term begins the first Monday in February. The jury has adjourned over until that date.

Judge Wellford has granted ad iudice in the case of Mrs. Alice C. McNeil against Honnie E. McNeil. It was obtained on statutory grounds.

This morning, when the Police Court adjourns, Sergeant Thomas will start a sale of confiscated goods that have been collected during the past few months. Some bargains can be secured in the shape of revolvers, jewelry, clothing and other kinds.

The following judgments were rendered in the Law and Equity Court yesterday morning: Charles E. Taylor, administrator of the estate of E. R. Taylor, deceased, against E. C. Lawson, for \$49.89 against George E. Taylor, \$49.89.

Gus Williams was granted a divorce from Ella Williams on the grounds of desertion.

Marriage licenses were granted yesterday to David L. Arnold and Miss Katherine W. Averett; Mr. James C. Selgo and Miss Mary A. Holmes.

ASSOCIATION SERVICES.

Dr. Hawthorne to Speak on a Live Topic To-Morrow.

Christmas Sunday will be a great day at the Young Men's Christian Association building. Rev. Dr. J. B. Hawthorne, pastor of the Grove Avenue Baptist church, will address the meeting, which will be held at 4 o'clock in the association auditorium, taking for its subject, "The Patriotic Duty of Every Man to Obey the Laws and Uphold the Authority of the State." Mr. Haddon S. Watkins will sing. The auditorium doors will open at 3:30, the services beginning promptly at 4.

Rev. George H. Wiley, city missionary of the Methodist church, will give two boys' Gospel army a Christmas talk, beginning promptly at 5 o'clock in the association music room. Worker's Bible training class at 5:15.

Dr. Poll will give one of his interesting talks on the International Sunday School in the association auditorium this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. These talks are not only interesting, but exceedingly helpful to teachers and superintendents.

Died in a Vacant Room.

In a vacant room at his home in Fox street, Mr. Charles R. Jones was found dead upon the floor yesterday night about 12 o'clock. He was discovered by his wife, who did not think him dead. In his weak condition he could not stand the cold weather, and he was severely chilled.

As the death occurred outside the city limits the body was turned over to the coroner, and he is retaining it about a week. A coronial inquest was held by Justice Fitzwalton, and a verdict of death from natural causes was rendered.

Mr. Jones was in his seventy-third year and was a veteran of the Confederate army. He is survived by his widow only, as they had no children.

Leonard C. King, a negro from Charles City county, who had been in the city only a few days was found dead in his bed yesterday morning at No. 124 north Eighteenth street. Coroner Taylor was summoned and viewed the remains.

Elected Officers.

The following officers were elected by the Board of Supervisors yesterday morning: Representative—Dr. G. F. Crane. Alternate—F. J. Parater. Vice-Represent—W. T. Throckmorton. Oration—W. T. Creckmur. Chaplain—N. J. Mays. Guide—G. M. Rogers. Collector—James B. Vaughan. Treasurer—S. P. Waddill. Secretary—W. J. Kerr. Trustees—J. W. Beams, R. L. Harrison and Fred H. Garber.

Special Deputy Grand Juror Harry Kemp gave a very instructive address on the good of the order.

Secretary Montague's Report.

The published proceedings of the 12th annual convention of the National Association of Officials of Bureaus of Labor Statistics are being distributed this week from the office of Labor Commissioner A. P. Montague, who is secretary-treasurer of the Association. The pamphlet, which was compiled by Mr. Montague, embraces 128 pages.

Disastrous Fire Averted.

A still alarm of fire was turned in yesterday morning for a fire at 825 east Main street, the building owned by Mr. F. C. Ebel. It was in the rooms occupied by the Chesapeake and Ohio Coal Agency. The cause of the fire was an overheated grate. But for the quick response of No. 7 Engine Company, a disastrous fire would have been the result.

HAMMOND, FLORIST,

107 East Broad St., Richmond, Va. Plant Decorations, Choice Rosebuds, Cut Flowers, Funeral Designs, &c.

REGAIN THEIR LOST LIBERTY

Penitentiary Convicts Pardoned on Eve of Christmas.

THE STORY OF THEIR CRIMES

Circumstances Related in Exonuation of the Various Offences, or as Justification of Clemency—One Woman and Three Men.

Governor Tyler on yesterday granted pardons to four persons, who regain their freedom on the eve of the Christmas. Three men and one woman are included in the list. The Governor considered a large number of applications, and from them selected as objects of clemency the quarterer, indicted to them. They are Mrs. Sarah Deckard, Marshall Owens, Walker Kean and C. E. Cox.

The woman was sentenced at the April, 1887, term of the Washington County Court to five years in the penitentiary for murder in the second degree. The woman killed her husband, but the circumstances seem to justify the act in large measure.

The testimony of the Commonwealth's attorney, who prosecuted her, is to the effect that "she killed him because his greed, and brutal treatment for twenty years forced her to believe that her only hope to live was in the attempt to take his life. The evidence showed he was a strong and brutal man, and that he had threatened to kill her only a few months before she struck the fatal blow. It seems to be known in the neighborhood where they lived that twenty years ago he whipped her with a horse-whip until the blood ran off her head as she walked along the road; and that he knocked her down for no reason, and for anything that was convenient, and that during all these twenty years she endured it."

Her petition was signed by Judge, Commonwealth's attorney, all of the jury, and officers of the court.

Charles E. Cox was sentenced at the July term of the Grayson County Court, 1886, for a term of eighteen years in the penitentiary for murder in the second degree. This man was a physician, and was in Grayson county practicing for ore property. The man whom he killed seemed to have conceived the idea that Cox was an internal revenue officer searching for illicit distillers, and thereupon determined to kill him.

A citizen of the county, on whose premises the killing took place, says: "Roberts (the man who was killed) had sworn he would kill Cox before the sun went down, and had come twelve miles to the place for the purpose of repeating the threat after meeting Cox." The same gentleman also states that "Roberts was a terror to the community."

Judge D. W. Bolen, ex-judge of that circuit, and a former representative of Carroll county in the Legislature, wrote several letters earnestly interceding for the prisoner. He says:

"I have heard most of the evidence and arguments of counsel, and I think the case, directed between justifiable homicide and manslaughter. The trial took place at a time when a number of other homicides had recently been committed, and public excitement was at a high stage, and Cox was a stranger. It was openly talked that he would be a good man to make an example of."

Cox has been an exemplary prisoner; trusted by all the authorities, and apparently desirous to return to his native State and begin life anew.

IN THE HEAT OF PASSION. Marshall Owens was convicted in the County Court of Washington county of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary.

This young man committed the crime for which he was sentenced, in the heat of passion, and acted, as stated by the judge, in the heat of passion. He was impulsive rather than malicious, and did the killing because he felt his younger brother, a mere child, had been imposed upon. He has suffered great mental anguish since, and has served nearly a year in the penitentiary. His father has spent his all in the defence of his son, and now has an opportunity to go to the State of Washington with his boy. The health of the prisoner in jail and his trouble is aggravated by confinement. He has served nearly a year of his term, and in view of all the facts of the case, the Governor thinks he has been sufficiently punished.

ABOUT TO DIE. Walker Keene, a fourth convict to receive his Christmas pardon, is slowly perishing of consumption. He is the third member of his family to be sentenced to the penitentiary. Both the others were pardoned. One died after a few months' confinement, and the other died shortly after he received his pardon.

In May, 1884, when General Grant commanded his flank movement on General Lee to capture and hold as a prisoner for nine months, Captain Frayer was exchanged under the cartel arranged between the Federal and Confederate Governments, in the exchange of the sick and disabled in Charleston harbor in December, 1864. He was with the army on the retreat, and at the surrender at Appomattox.

Returning to Richmond he embarked in newspaper work on the Whig and other papers, and was once Superintendent of Public Printing. In 1882 he established the Richmond Mercantile and Manufacturing Journal. Captain Frayer was also a member of the Richmond Bar.

During the Presidential campaign of 1868, Captain Frayer was an earnest supporter of Bryan, and won the sobriquet "Silver Dick," of which he was very proud.

Mrs. Berta Keene McCue. AFTON, Va., Dec. 22.—Special.—Mrs. Berta Keene McCue, wife of John L. McCue, died yesterday at 4 P. M. after a brief illness. She had been slightly indisposed for several weeks, but was not alarmingly ill until yesterday morning, when her mother and sisters were telegraphed.

She was a bright and intelligent woman, who endeavored herself to all with whom she came in contact. The poor widow is the mother of one of the best friends. She leaves four little children, one an infant a few months old, a loving husband, two sisters and a mother. One sister, Mrs. Dr. Barrett, of Louisa county, arrived just before the end came. The funeral services will be held at her late residence at 11 o'clock to-morrow. The interment will be in the old family burying ground at the old McCue homestead.

Thomas B. Fink. CLIPPER, Va., Dec. 22.—Special.—Thomas B. Fink, formerly of the Hotel Glasgow, Charlottesville, and more recently of the Waverly Hotel, at that place, died at the home of his father, George Fink, near Jefferson, yesterday in the forty-third year of his age, after a short illness of inflammatory rheumatism and erysipelas.

RELIEF IN SIX HOURS.—DISTRESS BELIEVED IN SIX HOURS BY "NEW GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN" PILLS.—The distressing and alarming condition of the patient in bladder, kidneys and back in male or female. Relieved in six hours. If you want quick relief and cure this is the remedy. Sold by W. H. Scott and Owens & Minor Drug Co., Richmond, Va.

Baby's coming should be a time of joy and happiness. Fear should be forgotten and pain a stranger. How often is it so? As the time approaches how often the



poor expectant mother is nerve-racked and pain-ridden—feating and almost suffering death. It isn't right. Nature never meant it to be so. If the mother were strong and well in a womanly way, as she ought to be, there would be no danger and little pain.

The time of parturition is made comfortable and safe by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is a medicine designed by a skilled physician—a specialist in the disorders and diseases of women—for the express and only purpose of putting the whole womanly system into perfect, vigorous health. It works directly on the organs involved in baby's advent and makes them strong, healthy and flexible. Taken during the whole period of gestation it insures the perfect health of both mother and child.

Mattie E. Grimes, of Flomaton, Escambia Co., Ala., writes: "I have taken three bottles of your 'Favorite Prescription' and one bottle of the 'Pelle's' and what an appetite they did give me. My baby is now three months old and weighs fifteen pounds and a half. When she was born she was the fattest little baby girl you ever saw. She was the largest one of all my babies and at the birth I had an easier and shorter time than I ever had. I am stouter and stronger than I ever was. I can eat and sleep and get my baby's food as I wish. May God bless you and your good medicine."

For obstinate constipation Dr. Pierce's Peppermint Pellets are the most perfect medicine ever devised. They give prompt, comfortable, permanent relief.

concluded yesterday and will be continued to-day.

OBITUARY. Richard E. Frayer.

After a long illness, Captain Richard E. Frayer passed away at 4:30 o'clock yesterday morning at the Retreat for the Sick. Death resulted from a complication of diseases in which Bright's disease was the most serious with which the physicians had to contend. The remains were removed to the home of the decedent yesterday morning and will be buried at 11 o'clock to-day.

The sixty-three baskets packed for the needy Confederate widows and orphans, will be left in Mr. W. H. Tatum's grocery store, on Broad street, until to-day so that any further contributions may be added. The ladies will meet to-day to distribute the baskets.

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will take place on the first Wednesday in January. Among those present were: Messdames Norman V. Randolph, J. W. White, B. A. Blenner, D. A. Brown, J. A. Small, E. J. Larmann, and Miss Isa Smith.

The engagement is announced of Miss Kate Spear to Mr. Louis White, both of Baltimore. Miss Spear has frequently visited our city and has hosts of friends here.

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Cadet-Sergeant A. Y. Waddey of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, is spending the Christmas with his parents.

A number of Southerners attended the marriage of Mr. Ralph T. Shroder and Miss Saphronia P. E. Steele in New York on the 20th. Mr. Preston Carson of this city acted as best man.

The first of the newly-organized Friday Masonic Temple was one of the most charming social functions of the season. The patronesses were Mrs. William Tallaferra, Mrs. Byrd Warwick, Mrs. Thomas Bolling, Mrs. Robert Blankenship, Mrs. Adolphus Osterloh, Mrs. W. Ben, Mrs. Carey Jones, Mrs. Frank Nally, Mrs. Austin Breckenbrough, and Mrs. H. A. Williams.

Among those present were: Messdames Leary, Sadie Sutton, Maggie Shields, Mollie McFarley, Dula Chamberlayne, William C. Waddey, H. H. Leeky, J. J. Jamieson, Mary Ball, Elizabeth and Ruth Robins, Estelle DeSaussure, Jane Wingo, and Lina Shields; Messrs. Osterloh, T. H. Leary, Daughtrey, Cardozo, Gregory, Tucker, H. Hotchkiss, Tower, White, Willis, Newton, Grant, Stearns, Boykin, E. Hotchkiss, E. R. Sutton, Lucy, Lake, Detrick, and others.

Miss Conrad, who has been the guest of the Misses Redford on west Grace street, has returned to her home in Winston, N. C.

Miss Alice Hotchkiss will give an elegant collation and reception early in January.

Misses Maria and Sara Magruder, of Edgemont, Albemarle county, are visiting their sister, Mrs. Garland B. Taylor, on Barton Heights.

Property Transfers. Richmond: James Lewis Amerson, special commissioner, to Fannie L. Loving, 15 1/2 feet on west side Adams street, 12 1/2 feet north of Cary street, \$2,500. H. C. Bisset to John B. Chamberlayne, 60 feet on west side Pine Street, 60 feet north of Spring street, subject to deed of trust for \$81, \$900. R. H. Harwood and wife to same 23 1/2 feet on north side Canal street, \$9,122.42 feet east of Jefferson, \$1,500. Walter Christian, clerk, to Joseph E. Quinn, 2 1/2 feet on east side St. Paul street between Duval and Baker streets, in name of Archibell Williams for taxes, \$8.23. Susan M. Daffron to Charles E. Hunter, 47 1/2 feet on north side Main street, 40 1/2 feet west of Fifteenth street, subject to deed of trust for \$5, \$500. R. E. Florence, special commissioner, to V. Hecker, Jr., 3 1/2 feet on north side Main street, \$2,500 and payment of \$12 per acre.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The Christmas celebration of the Westmoreland Club, given last night, well merited the distinction given it. It was an occasion peculiarly its own, in that it afforded conviviality and amusement for every one present.

Holly, running ivy, ferns, Virginia creeper and floral designs predominated throughout the building, while a string orchestra in the rear of the hallway dispensed music that blended sweetly into every ear. In the wine-room, where frolics, egg-throwing, and wine bowls frolic were the "best ingredients" of the season. Three waiters were kept busily dipping the cheering stimulants until a late hour, and it was not until the last drop had been drained that the crowd would consent to go down and punch of the elaborate appetizing dinner which awaited them.

Four large tables in the dining-room abounded in all of the delicacies and establishments of the season—such as oysters, sauce, Brunswick stew, celery, olives, pickles, oysters, ham, mashed potatoes, slaw in every style, turkey and chicken, roast beef, beef croquets, biscuits, crackers, apples, lemons, oranges, coffee, and many other things too numerous to mention.

Coming up from the tables, the members, led by Colonel C. O. B. Cowardin, filed into the reading-room with the orchestra, where musical selection and singing were given. Rag-time songs and music were selected by the guests, and the orchestra played while members of the Club sang. Mr. Hotchkiss, assisted by Colonel Cowardin, sang "Way down upon the Swanee River," "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," "Dixie," "Honey, Does You Lub You Man," "If You Ain't Got No Money, Why, You Needn't Come Around," and other songs, in which the members took part.

Parts that added greatly to the pleasure of the occasion were the recitation of the reading-room with the orchestra, where musical selection and singing were given. Rag-time songs and music were selected by the guests, and the orchestra played while members of the Club sang. Mr. Hotchkiss, assisted by Colonel Cowardin, sang "Way down upon the Swanee River," "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," "Dixie," "Honey, Does You Lub You Man," "If You Ain't Got No Money, Why, You Needn't Come Around," and other songs, in which the members took part.

The recitations by Mr. B. B. Valentine created much laughter and enjoyment. He recited "I was thinking 'Bout Christmas Time," "The Trolley Car," and "In Old Virginia." He was followed by Mr. Gibson, who recited a decidedly humorous piece entitled "Bill Says," and he was followed by Mr. Eno, who gave a selection of his own making, "An Admiral's Party." With these selections the programme ended.

Dr. and Mrs. Henry A. White will spend the holidays with their parents, Judge and Mrs. Wellford.

The Lee Camp Auxiliary met in Lee Camp Hall yesterday morning at 10 o'clock. Mrs. J. W. White presided.

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