We desire to direct your attention to our new Keystone Soft and Stiff Hats. These are undoubtedly the best hats ever offered at a popular price, and our guarantee goes with every purchase. Any style at the

LOW PRICE OF \$3.00

# THE -:- 2T'S

# HOLIDAY

CAKES ... All sizes and shapes, the best money can produce.

See our window display. W. S. Richards CONFECTIONER

### \*\*\*\*\*\* G. W. CORNELL DENTIST

Corner Sixth and King Street, Over the Bee Hive.

<u></u>

PROBABILITIES. Special to The Planet.

Toronto, Dec. 31.-10 a. m.-Fresh to strong southwesterly winds, fair. Thursday, southerly winds, fair, and a little milder.

The following figures were registered to-day at seven a. m. at Turner's weather bureau:

Thermometer 10. Highest yesterday 25. Lowest yesterday 8. Direction of wind, west.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## Local Briefs

F. A. McKim, of Dresden, was Chutham visitor yesterday.

W. R. Hickey, of Bothwell, epent yesterday with his Chatham friends. Miss Ella Gosnell, of Highgate, was a guest in the Maple City yesterday Gibson's Studio, corner King and Fifth streets, will be open New Years

James Clancy, M. P., of Wallaceburg, called on his many Chatham friends yesterday.

Anson Tschirhart, of Detroit, who has been visiting in the city, return-

ed home yesterday. A Fur Ruff, owned by Miss Mabel Tillson, was lost in Blenheim last

night. The finder will kindly return to Austin's store. Mrs. F. Crosby, Princess St., had the misfortune to run a rusty nail in her hand yesterday, which may result

in blood poisoning. She is being at-tended by Dr. R. W. Rutherford. Reserve Friday night next for the

Pedro Social in St. Joseph's Hall. To conclude the social a "Comical Farce". will be presented by six young men, entitled "The Coal Heaver's Revenge." If you come you will laugh.

To-day was the last day for paying taxes before the two per cent. was added. Tax collector Wm. Rannie was very busy all day, his office being crowded from the opening. Wm. Ball was probably the largest tax payer to-day; he handed over \$600.

### FORSALE

Two houses and two lots on Grey street, each house contains parlor, dining room, two bedrooms ,kitchen and pantry down stairs, and three bedrooms and hall up-stairs. He will offer these places for one week only at the ridiculously low price of \$550

**DUNN & MERRITT,** 

1st Door from King St

CHRISTMAS TREAT

The children of Christ Church Sun day school were given a Christmas tree at the concert held in the Sunduy school hall last night. Clifford Nagle acted the part of Santa Claus very well and delighted the little folks from the infant class with a doll to each. A number of the teachers of the school, too, were the recipients of many presents, including a doll. Boxes of candies were hand-ed round to the smaller people present. The program was a very good one and thoroughly enjoyed. It was: Vocal solo-Miss Florence Step-

Gramophone selection-Harry Jor-

Guitar duett-Misses Scott. Gramophone selection-Harry Jor-

### ONLY TWO IN JAIL

There are now only two prisoners in the jail. They are Chas. Mucuck sentenced from Wallaceburg on the 20th of November for 90 days, and Alex. Paxter, remanded for four weeks on the charge of attempting to ommit suicide. The remand was made more for the purpose of giving Baxter an opportunity to straighten up. Baxter, also, was not suitably clad to endure the cold weather, and the Judge felt that he was better comfortably housed at the jail. Baxter had been dfinking some and became discouraged because he had no clothes warm enough to protect himself against the cold, One afternoon n the sitting room of the Tupperville hotel he attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat with a knife. number of workmen from the firm of George Stephens & Co., this city were in the room at the time and they prevented the man from doing himself serious injury.

### AT THE GRAND.

The first appearance in this city of the celebrated Almondbury Bell Ringers of England will be an important event to those interested in high grade entertainment. They are the champions of Great

Britain and the world in the art of bell ringing, having won the first prize three years in succession over all competitors. | England being the home of hand bell ringing, these contests which are held annually at the Zoological Gardens, Belle Vue, Manchester, are of the greatest import-ance to the English people. The rivalry is keen, the judges are musicians of the highest standing, and the work of the competing bands must be of the highest character. In the event of any band winning the first prize three years in succession, each of the members is awarded a silver medal, and the band is not allowed to compete again. Since the beginning of these events at Manchester, in 1885, when the Almondburys entered the contest they have won nine first, eight second prizes and

seven gold medals and have established themselves as the greatest company of bell ringers ever organ-This Company, having won the first

prizes in 1898, 1899 and 1900, were chosen by the old and reliable Redpath Lyceum Bureau, of Boston, Mass., for their work in America. They played for six months in the States last season with immense success, and are now filling a return engagement. As Englishmen and as past masters

of the art of bell ringing they will, we are sure, be welcomed in Canada and in our city. The original Com-pany will appear and give our patrons the finest exhibition of scientific bell ringing ever heard in the country. The reserved seat plan for the Almondburg Bell Ringers opens at the Central Drug Store Friday morning.

any Roughness of the Skin . . . .

REBELS DEFEATED BY PRESI DENT CASTRO'S FORCES.

Fierce Street Fighting-Castre to Confer With Bowen.

Caracas, Dec. 31.-Barquisimeto, cap ital of the State of Lara, and the Towns of San Carlos and Tinaquillo, which for some time past have been in the possession of the Venezuelan revolutionists. have been recaptured by Government forces. The revolutionists at Darquisimeto were under the command of Generals Solagnie and Penaloza. They evacuated the town after losing f12 men killed and 325 wounded. There was hard fighting in the streets and suburbs of Barquisimeto for two days. The Government forces were commanded by Gen. Ceferino Castillo. It transpires that President Castro's recent visit to La Victoria was for the purpose of conducting personally, by telegraph, the operations of his forces at Barquisimeto, and this victory appears to be a direct result of his initiative. It is a most severe blow for the revolution President Castro is expected to reach Caracas to-morrow (Thursday) at noon to confer with United States Minister Bowen regarding the arbitration

GENERAL SCHALKBURGHER AP-PEALS FOR THEIR REMOVAL.

Says it is Now Impossible to Live Up to the Motto "Forgive and Forget."

Cape Town, Dec. 31.-Gen. Schalkburger, former acting-President of the Orange Free State, in an open letter published in Onsland, appeals to the Government to be merciful to those who suffered as a result of their devotion to the Boer cause and to remove the grievances which now make it impossible to live up to the motto, "Forgive and forget." In conclusion, Gen. Schalkburger expresses hope that the people will show that the power of rule in South Africa lies in the Afrikander "who will remain loyal while righteousness reigns and while his rightful por tion is allotted him."

### THE CHINESE INDEMNITY

ON GOLD BASIS.

Great Fall in Price of Silver Advanced as the Reason-Ministers Will

Pekin, Dec. 31.-Confirmation was obtained here in despatches from the Consuls at Shanghai to the foreign Ministers here of the report that the Viceroy at Shanghai had refused to pay the January instalment of the indemnity on a gold basis, owing to the recent great fall in the price of silver. The Ministers will insist on the payment being made on the gold basis. London, Dec. 31.—The Foreign Office

has received no notification of the refusal of China to pay on a gold basis the semi-annual instalment of the indemnity, due January 1.

### TELEGRAPH BREVITIES.

Mrs. Amelia Coates, aged 97, the oldes roman in Terento, is dead. Rev. J. A. Macdonald has been

pointed editor of The Globe.

It is reported that a train on the Wabas Railway ran one mile in 38 seconds. Rev. T. Albert Moore of Hamilton ha been chosen Ontario Secretary of the Lord's

Day Alliance. Nominations for the Legislature too place to-day in North Grey, North Perth

and North Norfolk. Returns from Fort William increase the referendum vote to 199,077 for the act, and 108,051 against it.

Gen. Ben Viljoen has been asked to con mand the Boers who have volunteered to fight against the Mad Mullah. The crew of the Canadian schooner

Pioneer, abandoned on the Atlantic, were rescued by the liner Rotterdam. Rev. John R. K. Seilers, a Methodis minster of Guysboro', N.S., was accident

ally asphyxiated at Philadelphia. President Loubet of France has sent \$2,000 for the relief of sufferers from the earthquake at Andijan, Russian Turkestan. Rev. Dr. Gordon of Halifax, Principalelect of Queen's University, will be in Kingston next week to enter upon his

Fire did \$40,000 damage in a building at St. John, N.B. The sample rooms of John Macdonald & Co., Toronto, were in the

Particulars in the Sault Ste, Marie election protest have been filed. Several personal charges are made against Mr. A.

Mr. Marconi was lanqueted by the citizens of Sydney, C.B., last night. He said messages across the Atlantic at one cent a word might be an accomplished fact soon. Mr. Carnegle has proposed to give £10,000 to be speat in a memorial at Greenock to the Scotch engineer James Watt, or to head a movement for a larger commemorative

George W. Cottrell, bookkeeper for the Bennett Furniture Company at London, Ont., died suddenly owing to the bursting of a blood vessel in his brain.

Hon. A. G. Blair has given an order for box and freight cars amounting to \$400,000, to be divided between Messrs. Rhodes, Currie & Co. of Amherst, N.S., and the Rath-



and styles and sizes that can be found in most stores. Consequently, we are sure of being able to fit perfectly any child's foot; besides having special shoes for children who "toe in" or have weak ankles or flat feet Also shoes built on a foundation that keep the feet warm and dry. If you investigate you'll find prices are no higher than arc asked elsewhere for poorer shoes-and less kinds to choose from.

Rubbers, Plain or warm wool lined to fit all the different shaped shoes.

### Geo. W. Cowan Chatham.

FATAL SHOT

Killed a Young Hunter-Before Death he Said the Shot was an Accident.

Turnerville, Dec. 30 .- A very sag accident happened here yesterday morning. A party of young men were out hunting when the gun carried by George Crowder was accidentally discharged. Joseph Jenkins, a young man employed on the farm Samuel Shaw, was in front and re-ceived the full charge of shot. He died from his injuries. Before he died, however, he completely exhonorated Crowder from any blame whatever. An inquest was deemed un-

### MASCAGNI RELEASED

Chicago, Dec. 30. - Signor Mas cagni, the Italian composer, was ar-raigned in court to-day on a charge of embezzling \$5,000 from his former manager, Richard Heard, of Boston, After hearing both sides Sustice Hur-ley immediately dismissed the case The court room was filled with Italians, who applauded vigorously as Mascagni, thankful and smiling, left for his hotel.

### S. S. CONCERT

A very pleasing Sunday School con-cert took place last night at the All Willaim street Baptist church. the numbers were well received, and

well rendered. The hoop drill of the six girls under the able direction of Miss Surby, was excellent. After the program, the ladies of

the church presented the janitor, Mr. Dyer, with a fine pair of gloves in recognition of his services. M. Houston occupied the chair in place of Mr. Ross, who was unavoid-

ably away. The program was as follows:-Reading-John Reeve. Instrumental solo,-Miss Arnold. Recitation—Gladstone Henry.
Vocal Solo—Miss F. C. Walker.
Recitation—Gladstone Henry.
Vocal Solo—Miss Florence Stephen-

Hoop drill-Six young girls. Song-John Reeve. Distribution of prizes.

### A WISE IDEA

To get your old carpet manufactured into beautiful durable rugs, at prices that are right. Call and see samples. Factory opposits Piggott & Son's lumber office in J. & J. Oldershaw's block.

THE CHATHAM RUG FACTORY

tablets, ten cents per box. All druggists. Minard's Liniment for Sale Every-

### C. AUSTIN & ONE PRICE STORE .....

On Friday, January the 2nd, we inaugurate our great Stock Clearing Sale. This we intend will be one of the greatest trade events in our history. We have two objects in view in

First, we want to stimulate trade in this one of the quietest months of the year, and secondly, we want to reduce our immense stock before we take inventory of it at the last of

\$20,000.00 worth of Stock to be sold at special prices during the month.

Every department will furnish its quota of Bargains, the bigger the surplus stock the bigger the bargain. Come early if you can, but come when you can. You will find here many lines to profit from by purchasing now.

### Dress Goods-Beaver Cloth at \$1.00 a Yard.

1 piece each, navy, brown and myrtle beaver cloth, 54 inches wide, pure wool, fine finish, regular price \$1.50, sale price \$1.00 yard. COATING SERGE AT 25c YARD-AMARANTH SUITINGS AT 50c YD.

4 pieces Scotch Amaranth suitings, 46 inches wide, grey, brown, myrtle and fawn, guaranteed not to crack, price 25c yard.

6 pieces French coating serge, 44 inches wide, all pure wool, black, navy, cardinal, garnet, brown and grey, regular price 35c yard, sale price 25c yard.

spot or shrink, regular price 90c, sale | PLAID BACK FRIEZE AT \$1.00-2 pieces, 18 ounce grey frieze, plaid back, 54 inches wide, for unlined akirts or cloaks, pegular price \$1.25, sale price \$1.00 yard.

A Clearing Up of Odd Lines. Here are Some of Them.

8 dozen pure bleached Damask Table | fancy red borders, 18x36 inch, regu-Napkins, choice patterns, bright sat-in finish, 20x20 and 21x21 inch, regu-

500 yards 18 inch twilled Glass Tow

elling, fancy red borders, heavy quality, worth 61-2c, clearing at a yard 5 dozen only, heavy quality, all linen Table Napkins, pure linen, good assortment of patterns, 21x21 inch, regular \$1.50 value, for a dozen 1 piece 64 inch, half bleached Ta-ble Damask, heavy make, choice de-sign, extra fine finish, worth 45c, to

clear, a yard, 5 dozen Solid Huck Towels, pure 100 yards 22 inch red and blue check-(rish linen, heavy make, hemned ends,

ed Glass Cloth, heavy quality, 10c. value, for a yard 5 only, Lunch Cloths, pure biesched damask, open work centre, wide, knot-ted fringe all round, 85c. value for

Odd Sideboard Scarfs and Dresser Covers, fancy open work ends, and centres, and fringed all round, 16x50 and 16x70 inch, clearing price each

GREAT BARGAINS FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

long, trimmed with six tails, worth 33 Astrachan and Electrical seal | with tails, worth \$6.50, \$7.00 and | caperines with good large cape and .\$7.50, for quick sale price only \$5.00. storm collar, satin lined, trimmed 4 Stone Martin ruffs, 27 inches

2,000 yards 36 inch factory sheeting, spring wear, choice colorings, extra heavy quality, soft even yarn. bought especially for our January Sale, 6c value, for per yard

good quality cloth, January Sale price per yard, 7c,

500 yards special value full yard wide bleached cotton, heavy quality,

### even yarns, soft make, January sale Two cases, 50 pieces New Fancy bed spreads, assorted patterns, finishprice per yard ed ends, soft make, \$1.25 value, for Striped Shaker Flannels, for early



lar \$2.25 value, for a dozen

WOMEN'S JACKETS AND WRAPS AT DECISIVELY REDUCED PRICES. The passing of Christmas severs the bonds that hold together this

gathering of wraps. Thus far into the season we have held it intactcomplete in variety of styles and assortment of sizes. But now it is time to clear the decks before stock-taking, and, to that end, sharp reductious are the order of day throughout the stock.

Three-Quarter and Full Length Jackets all in the season's best styles and materials. Many reduced to-day for the first time.

The way some of the new prices run :double breasted, nicely lined; regular price At \$7.98—Ladies' Golf Capes in grey navy, brown and green, long length with storm collar; first price

At \$15.00-Full length Coat, semi-At \$8.00 — Three quarter length fitting, grey, black, navy and castor, select, fawn only, velvet collar, bell stitched yoke shawl collar, flounce on skirt, lined; regular price nercerized sateen; first price

At \$8.00—Ladies' Ulsters, fawn or black, of broadcloth, tight fitting, sleeve with turn-back cuff, satana

lined, stitched collar and lapels, pearl buttons; regular value

Special values in Tailored Suits. Special values in Fur Capes. Special values in Wrangers. Every Fur Jacket and Cape will

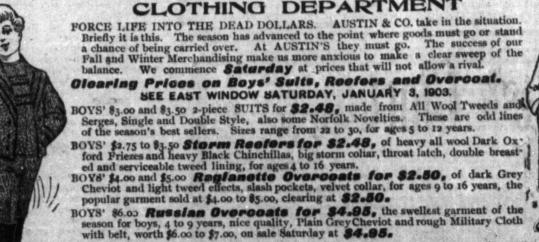
have an equally interesting Reduced Price marked on them. Remember, it always pays to buy Austin's Reli-

## STOCK TAKING SALE OF CARPETS

A careful inventory of our Carpet Stock leads us to a pruning out of all short ends. They will be offered at a handsome reduction off each piece, embracing in all about (40) forty patterns. For convenience we append the description of a few:

piece All Wool 3 ply, regular \$1.00 per yd., now 10 yds. for " filled 2 ply, reg. "Part Wool" 2

carper Depr. ON SECOND FLOCE. SNAPS. :: CARPET DEPT. ON SECOND REMEMBER OUR BIG FURNITURE STOCK. CLOTHING DEPARTMENT



C. AUSTIN & CO



**Druggists and Opticians** CHATHAM - DRESDEN

and soft. Try it. Price 25c. a bottle.

Cream of Cucumber

FOR THE TOILET A Marvelous Preparation for Chapped Hands or Face, or

THIS is a new preparation which we find is better than anything

used occasionally according to directions it will keep the skin smooth

A. I. McCall & Co'y. L't'd.

we have yet sold for the purposes for which it is intended. If