

# Ye olde tyme tailor



The productions of 'ye olde tyme tailor,' wouldn't be 'a patch' on fine tailoring now, but—Custom tailors of to-day are as far behind the spirit of the times and "Semi-ready" as the old tailor of nearly a century ago was behind present day custom tailors.

He—the old chap—and his 'prentice-boy, took as long as they liked and charged as much as they'd get. They have past and gone.

Most custom-tailors to-day take as long as you will let them, and charge nearly twice as much as you pay for equal tailoring in "Semi-ready." They have to.

Semi-ready's delivery is the same to all—day ordered. Semi-ready's prices are the same to all—based on cost of production.

It's all because of the new way it is done.

Always equal to best custom-tailoring—often better. Suits and overcoats, \$12 to \$25. Trowsers, \$7.50 and \$5.00. If dissatisfied—trade back.

# Semi-ready

CLODE & CO., Sole Agents  
145 Dundas St., LONDON

HEARTILY WELCOMED EVERYWHERE

## Canada's Soldiers From South Africa Get a Grand Reception

From Their Thousands of Friends at Toronto, Woodstock, Windsor, Chatham, St. Thomas and Many Other Points.

**AT TORONTO.**  
Toronto, Dec. 25.—Col. Otter, Capt. Mason, Lieut. Temple and some 40 men of C Company, R. C. R., and invalids of other corps arrived home this morning, and were given a very hearty welcome by the civic and military authorities. At the Union station a big crowd had gathered, and the city regiments were formed up on parade to welcome the colonel and his men. Col. and Mrs. Otter, with the mayor and aldermen, entered carriages in waiting, and the men were conveyed in two tally-hos to the armories by way of the principal down town streets, which were pretty well filled with spectators. On their arrival at the armories, the city regiments lined the streets on both sides, and amid great cheering the gallant little band passed into the armories, where the formal welcome took place. Replying to the civic address, and that of the Queen's Own reserve, Col. Otter said he had had the unique experience of having thrice been welcomed back from the front by the citizens of Toronto—in 1860, after the Fenian raid; in 1885, after the Northwest rebellion, and on the present occasion. The colonel paid a splendid tribute to the Royal Canadians. So fully imbued, he said, were they with the necessity for maintaining and upholding the honor of Canada, that there was nothing that could be imposed upon them, no work which they were asked to do, which they were not only glad, but anxious to accomplish, to meet the wishes of those in authority. The Royal Canadians were united with only one object, and that was to do their duty and to gain credit and honor for Canada, and there was no one in that battalion but would readily and willingly again enroll for service against any cause that threatens

**ABSOLUTE SECURITY.**  
Genuine Carter's Little Liver Pills.  
Must Bear Signature of *Dr. Wood*  
See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

FOR HEADACHE. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SLOW BOWEL. FOR THE COMPLEXION. CURE SICK HEADACHE.

the honor and integrity of this country, or of any part of the British Empire. Tonight a number of the principal buildings are illuminated in honor of the colonel's return. The huge transparency, on the parliament buildings, "Welcome home, heroes of Paardeberg," can be seen a mile off in the snowstorm.

**WOODSTOCK'S THREE.**  
Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 25.—The train carrying the Woodstock section of returning soldiers arrived here at 10:35. The Woodstock boys numbered only three. They were Ptes. Victor and Garnet Odium and Harry Lane. It being a holiday, there was an immense crowd at the station to meet the returning soldiers, and they were given a royal reception. The reception plans had all been mapped out, and as soon as the boys alighted from the train they were escorted to a conveyance, under a guard of honor, and a procession was formed. Hacks were provided for the parents of the boys, and others in the procession were a portion of the militia, the 22nd Band, the fire department, the bugle band and citizens on foot and in carriages. The route of the procession was through the principal streets of the town, winding up in front of the market square, where each of the returning soldiers was presented with a gold watch and an address. The town was beautifully decorated with flags, and bunting, and thousands of people turned out to receive the boys.

### The St. Thomas Men.

St. Thomas, Ont., Dec. 25.—Shortly after four the big bell in the city hall tower pealed forth the welcome news that the St. Thomas contingent of South African heroes had left London, and would be in their native city at 4:45. The shivering crowds became good-natured and waited patiently, but nevertheless eagerly. When the train loomed in sight the crowd had increased to great proportions. The engine was appropriately decorated with flags, and as the train slowly passed the Lake Erie depot and Talbot street crossing without stopping, the immense concourse of people who had collected at these points made a mad rush for the Michigan Central depot. When the train was turning into the station, it was greeted with wild cheering, issuing from the throng of about 10,000 people. When the gallant heroes of Paardeberg stepped from the train, a wild scramble was made by thousands of men, women and children to get a glimpse of their long-absent idols. Each man was seized by friends, and carried on their shoulders through the surging, crushing and wildly cheering mass of humanity to Talbot street, where the 25th Battalion, headed by their band, and followed by one solid phalanx of enthusiastic citizens, escorted the boys to the regimental club rooms. All along the line of march hundreds of people lined the sidewalks, and when the brave boys tripped along to the tune of "See the Conquering Heroes Come" ladies waved their kerchiefs frantically, and the men cheered vociferously. The boys marched like veterans, their step firm and easy, carriage erect, eyes bright and appearance soldierly. The procession was accompanied by the city council and officials. At the club rooms each of the five men appeared at a window, and in a few appropriate words modestly thanked everyone for the kind reception given to them, and said they were glad to be home again. They all speak very highly of the treatment shown them by the regular regiments in the field, and are perfectly satisfied with the experience. They are also grateful for the kindness they received while in England, and say everything possible was done to give them a royal time. The names of the men who arrived are: Ptes. Green, Westaway, Southern, Stanbury and Stacey. The latter is a son of Col. Stacey, D.S.O., London. After some handshaking and renewal of old acquaintances, the boys were led away by admirers and friends. Every man is in perfect health and appears to be none the worse of his adventure. The reception being a purely informal one, was indeed a great mark of appreciation by the citizens of the gallantry and valor of the Canadian soldiers, and reflects great credit on the Railway City. The formal demonstration will take place tomorrow afternoon, and a half-holiday has been proclaimed by the mayor. The men will be then officially welcomed home

and presented with a purse. They will also be banqueted at the Grand Central Hotel at night.

### Sarnia's Contingent.

Sarnia, Ont., Dec. 25.—Sarnia's South African heroes—Sergeant Fred Gorman and Ptes. D. B. Richards, Ken Johnston and John Pardee—arrived home at half-past 1 o'clock this afternoon. The streets of the Tunnel Town were promptly and daily decorated for the occasion, and despite the very cold weather, a tremendous throng of people assembled to do honor to these returning boys and give them a hearty welcome. The Lehigh express, on which the boys, accompanied by Dr. Johnston, M.P., and Dr. Gorman, was brought from London, was about twenty minutes late in arriving, but the crowd waited good-naturedly at the tunnel station. Through the kindness of G. T. R. Agent John Boyd, a special train was in waiting to convey the party to the Cromwell street depot. The engine was decorated with flags and bunting, and was in charge of Engineer J. B. Wilson. When the train pulled into Front street, the cheering was deafening by the blowing of whistles, the ringing of bells and the cheers of the people, announcing the arrival of the boys, was almost deafening, and it was with difficulty the band, playing "Home, Sweet Home," could be heard. Nos. 5 and 7 companies of the Lehigh regiment, under command of Major O'Neill and Capt. Towers, formed a guard of honor from the steps of the special car to the carriages of the boys. The young men who were being honored by the citizens. As soon as the quartet set foot on Front street, the assistance of Professor Fenwick and a male choir and the Sarnia Band, sang "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow." This was conducted by the Rev. J. H. Chapman, of the 27th Regiment, offered a short prayer of thankfulness to the Almighty for the safe return of our citizen soldiers.

The boys then entered the carriages, and the procession, headed by Mayor F. E. Watson, chairman of the reception committee; Wm. F. Lawrence, chairman of the Sarnia Band, the members of the reception committee, and the militia, under command of Lieut.-Col. Charles S. Ellis, was given the order to march by the major and adjutant. Robert Macdonald, chief marshal for the day. The procession comprised the above-mentioned, after which came the members of the Sarnia Band from the war," with about twenty young men as a guard of honor, followed by carriages containing the relatives of the boys. The band was headed by the Sarnia Brigade, under command of Capt. Nesbitt; Sarnia fire department, members of the board of education, life and drum band and O. L. members, Sons of Society, headed by two pipers in costume; Canadian Order of Foresters and citizens in carriages. Carrying the boys to the station, the procession wound its way to Victoria Square, where Mayor Wilson, on behalf of the citizens, delivered a short address of welcome. The boys were given an address to the heroes of the day, after which Mr. W. F. Lawrence, on behalf of the citizens, presented the boys with a gold watch and a handsome gold watch suitably inscribed, accompanied by a gold chain. "God Save the Queen" was sung, after which the boys were given an opportunity of passing before the boys and giving them a hearty hand-shake—a privilege which the boys had never enjoyed before. Shortly after 3 o'clock the boys re-entered the carriages with their relatives, amid cheers from thousands of spectators. A grand and joyous reunion awaited each one.

### At Other Points.

**CHATHAM.**  
Chatham, Ont., Dec. 25.—Three Chatham soldiers returning from South Africa arrived at 1:30 p.m., and were given an enthusiastic welcome.

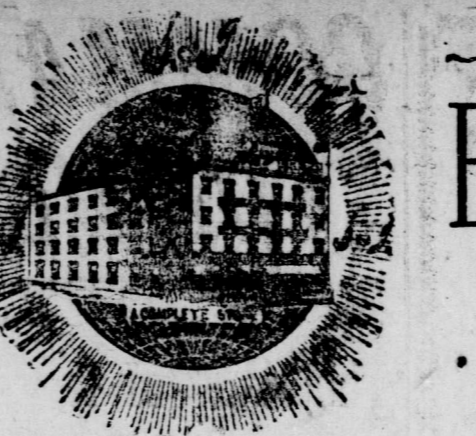
**KINGSTON.**  
Kingston, Ont., Dec. 25.—Pte. Eaton, a battery, was welcomed home this morning from South Africa. Several Belleville men also stayed here, to go home to a reception at 11 o'clock.

**BELLEVILLE.**  
Belleville, Ont., Dec. 25.—Sergeant Mills and Pte. Austin, of the R. C. R., reached home today from South Africa at 11 a.m. They received the same hearty welcome that was given to the other returning volunteers.

**GAITHERBOROUGH.**  
Gait, Ont., Dec. 25.—Pte. W. H. Footo, one of the Gait soldiers who returned from South Africa on the Lake Champlain, arrived home tonight, and was met at the station by a very large gathering of citizens. A procession escorted Footo to the town hall, where two presentations were made, one by the citizens generally and the other from his late fellow-workmen in MacGregor, Gourlay & Co.'s factory.

**ST. CATHARINES.**  
St. Catharines, Ont., Dec. 25.—The members of the 25th Battalion, who returned from South Africa, turned out in full strength at 7:30 this evening and marched to the Grand Trunk depot to meet Pte. McCalla on his return from South Africa. Although the weather was raw and cold, the streets were crowded with people, after parading some of the principal streets, an adjournment was made to the opera house, where a grand reception was tendered to Pte. McCalla.

**BRAMPTON.**  
Brampton, Ont., Dec. 25.—Tonight, by the 5 o'clock train, S. Nixon, Brampton's contribution to the soldiers of the Queen, arrived from South Africa. He was met at the depot by a large and enthusiastic crowd of citizens, the Mechanics' Band and an escort of volunteers from his own regiment, which, on their way, were escorted to the town hall, and an address of welcome was presented to him, together with a gold watch and chain, suitably engraved. Mr. Nixon made a characteristic reply, expressing his gratitude to the citizens for the ovation given him, modestly claiming to have only done his duty to the Queen and country he represented.



# EVERYBODY SATISFIED

We sincerely trust that our many customers thoroughly enjoyed the holiday. We have the proud satisfaction of knowing that all who received gifts selected from our splendid stock enjoyed them, if for no other reason than that they were the best to be had. Not only at Christmas time, but at all other seasons, we spare no pains to provide for our large patronage the most desirable, the most fashionable, and the most inexpensive (the best is the cheapest) merchandise to be procured from the world's chief centers of production. Our Mr. Ingram will leave in about a week for the English and continental markets, where he will spend some weeks in gathering together goods suitable for the seasons to come. This is one of the many ways we have of winning the trade of the ladies hereabouts, and when once we win customers our next endeavor is to hold them. This we are constantly doing, and this is why we do such a great business.

Did you overlook anybody in your giving? If so, there's New Year's yet.

In the great hurry and excitement of Christmas preparations someone is bound to be overlooked. You didn't intend it, of course, and want to do the next best thing. Remember, then, that New Year's gifts are quite in order, and here you will find a splendid assortment of articles suitable for the occasion. The few remaining Toys in stock are going at bargain prices. We only sell toys at Christmas time, and will not put any away if we can help it. This is a special chance for those who have Christmas tree entertainments yet to come on.

## Ladies' Wrappers

- In assorted and dark shades of warm Flannelette, lined to waist, neatly finished, full width. Price ..... \$1 00
- Of heavy Wrapperette Cloth, in gray and black, white and black, also black ground with small colored sprays; lined to waist, finished with narrow braid. Price ..... \$1 50
- Of Heavy Wrapperette in a great range of nice colorings; lined to waist; epaulettes, collar, yoke and cuffs trimmed with black satin ribbon. Price ..... \$2 00
- Of good Black Satteen, lined to waist; neatly trimmed; good full width. Prices ..... \$2 00 and \$2 50

## Corsets

CLIMAX CORSETS—You have heard about this make before. We have just received another shipment of the improved short make. They are strongly made of American Jean, with single straps, good steel filing, double waist band, and trimmed with lace and ribbon. This Corset would be good value at 75c, but you can buy them here (and only here) for 50c. Heilyett French C. P. a la Sirene Corsets, in white or gray; made of French Coutil; perfect fitting; lace and ribbon trim. Were 90c pair, reduced to ..... 75c

# SMALLMAN & INGRAM

149, 151 and 153 DUNDAS STREET.

**Pa On the Christmas Toy Business.**  
Our teacher told us to rite some Christmas compositions last week, so I spoke to paw about it and ast him what I better rite.  
"Well," he says, "rite say that if it wouldn't of been for Spain America mite n't of ever got discovered, and if it wouldn't of been for Germunny the man that invented Christmas mite of Got discovered becoz he couldn't find the rite kind of Baking. Spain furnished the Capite for Columbus and Germunny put up the first chimney for Santa Claus."  
"What a bewtife thing it is to think how the Germans have always made the merry Yuletide merrier yet. It's the greatest day of all the year over there. That's when the German hart is full of song. There's where the first man ever got tripped on the end of his blanket and fell down stairs when he was playing Santa Claus. So that's the reason Kris Kringle and Santa are both German dissent."  
After he waited awhile and Looked at maw kind of sad for a minute he says:  
"Of corse they are no use in Ennybuddy trying to pierce a hole thru the Gloom hanging over this Fambly with a joke. Yes, it's a bewtife thot. I can almost seem to see the little German children gathered around the Home surkle over there in Fatherland, all bizzzy stamping Toys and things as fast as they can with stamps that say 'Made in Germunny' and sending them away to Far Off Climbs where people are so bizzzy killing hours and Billing youngsters that they mite Forget all about the Dear old Sentiment if they didn't begin along a Month ahead of Time to Fill the store windows with things That got made in Germunny the summer before. No wonder the Germans luv Christmas. They need it in their bizzness. The Germans say 'We Care not who makes the world's Locomotives and Steel rails if we can make it's Christmas toys.' So that's where Germunny got the Bulge on Spain."  
"In what way?" maw ast.  
"Well, you see," paw says, "Spain staked Columbus, but got squeezed out of the plant he started up over here. Germunny opened the first account with Santa Claus and still has him on the Books. That shows it's always a Good thing to mix a little Thrift in with your Sentiment if you can Do it without Lettin' on. But God bless Germunny, enny way. If

**EMILE ZOLA**  
The well-known French writer, specially famous in the "Dreyfus Case."

Emile Zola writes—  
"Vin Mariani—The Elixir of Life, which combats human debility, the one real cause of every ill—a veritable scientific fountain of youth, which gives vigor, health and energy to the would create an entirely new and superior race."  
EMILE ZOLA

**VIN MARIANI**  
Vin Mariani is endorsed by the Medical Faculty all over the world.

Unequalled preventive, hastens convalescence. Written endorsements from more than 300 physicians in Canada and the United States. It is particularly recommended for: Nervous Troubles, Indigestion, Coughs and Colds, Bronchitis, Stomach Complaints, Dyspepsia, Throat and Lung Troubles, Consumption, Weakness from whatever cause, Lassitude, Wasting Diseases and General Debility.  
Vin Mariani prevents loss of voice and has the remarkable effect of strengthening and maintaining its tone.

At all Druggists. Beware of "Just as good."  
Agents for Canada, **LAWRENCE A. WILSON & CO., MONTREAL.**

**FIFTY TONS OF CANDY**  
Have Been Sent to the Soldiers in the Philippine Islands by the Government.

Fifty tons of candy have been sent to the soldiers in the Philippine Islands by the commissary department of the army during the last three months and large amounts to the soldiers in Cuba and Puerto Rico. This is a grand and noble act of the medical officers of the army, because it is a physiological fact that a moderate consumption of confectionery promotes health and satisfies a natural craving of the stomach.

Candy was never furnished to the United States army before, although it has commonly been used as a ration by the French and British troops in the tropics.

This explodes another old-fashioned theory that sweets were injurious to the digestive organs, while a moderate use of sweets is actually beneficial.

"Very few things are injurious, and the food cranks who advocate the use of a few grains and vegetables and decry the use of sweets and meats are in error, as a wholesome variety of diet in all climates is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the highest condition of health.

The best rule to follow is to eat what the appetite craves, and if there is any discomfort or trouble in digesting meat and sweets, the difficulty can be readily overcome by the regular use after meals of some safe digestive composed of pepsin and dicalcium phosphate. This is accomplished by increasing the flow of gastric juice and furnish the natural peptone lacking in weak stomachs.

The best preparation of this kind is probably Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, which may be found at all drug stores.

Years of use have demonstrated the value and effectiveness of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets in all cases of impaired digestion.

**OLD HIGHLAND SCOTCH WHISKY**  
Distilled by the well-known firm of  
**JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.,**  
GLASGOW, LEITH, LONDON, GLENLIVET

Selected by the British Parliament as the brand "par excellence." Now the popular brand throughout the whole British Empire. Pronounced by the Royal Commission ABSOLUTELY PURE. Ask for "BUCHANAN'S."

L. A. WILSON & CO., Canadian Agents, Montreal

**SOTHERN IN HAMLET.**  
St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 25.—E. H. Sothern, the actor, who for some time was laid up with an accident that necessitated the cancellation of dates all over the country, made his first appearance last night since the accident, presenting "Hamlet" at the Olympia Theater before a crowded house.

**CANNOT BE BEAT.**—Mr. D. Steinbach, Zurich, writes:—"I have used Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil in my family for a number of years, and I can safely say that it cannot be beat for the cure of croup, fresh cuts and sprains. My little boy has had attacks of croup several times, and one dose of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil was sufficient for a perfect cure. I take great pleasure in recommending it as a family medicine, and I would not be without a bottle in my house."

We had to Make Our own toys over here sumbuddy mite want a Subsidy to help Out.

**A Woman's Awful Peril.**  
There is only one chance to save your life, and that is through an operation. The startling words heard by Mrs. I. B. Hunt, of Lime Ridge, Wis., from her doctor after he had vainly tried to cure her of a frightful case of stomach trouble and yellow jaundice. Gall stones had formed, and they constantly grew worse. Then she began to use Electric Bitters, which wholly cured her. It's a wonderful Stomach, Liver and Kidney remedy. Cures Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, Try it. Only 50c. Guaranteed. For sale by W. T. Strong & Co. There should be fewer crimes and more criminals committed.