

ESTABLISHED 53 YEARS AGO

This is the Store For Useful Gifts...

After all what is the sense or use of giving anything that is not useful. Something to wear, something to carry, something to use, something that will be a constant reminder of the giver; that is what you will find in this store.

Umbrellas—For Ladies and Gentlemen, \$1.00 to \$5.00

Silk Waists—Black and Colored, \$3.75 to \$5.00

Blankets—For household use, \$3.00 to \$6.50

Handkerchiefs—In endless variety, 3c to \$6.00

Carpet Sweepers—To make work easy, \$2.50 to \$3.50

Kid Gloves—Every pair guaranteed, \$1.00 to \$2.00

Underskirts—Made of good Taffeta, 50c to \$6.50

Lace Curtains—Always acceptable, \$1.00 to \$10.00

Lace Collars—For ladies and girls, 50c. to \$5.00

Fancy Linens—All shapes and sizes, 10c. to \$5.00

Men's Gloves—In wool and kid, 35c. to \$2.00

Fur Ruffs and Stoles—In correct styles, \$5 to \$40.00

Fur Coats—For Ladies or Gentlemen, \$25.00 to \$140.00

Bedspreeds—Honey Comb and Marseilles, \$1.13 to \$9.00

Comforters—Pretty coverings, \$1.50 to \$8.00

Fancy Baskets—For Ladies' Boudoirs, 25c to \$1.00

Fancy Pin Cushions—For the dresser, 50c. to \$3.00

Ladies' Neckwear—Prettiest and latest, 25c. to \$3.00

THOS. STONE & SON

CHATHAM, Rugs and Curtains, ONTARIO

BUY YOUR FURS CHRISTMAS... AT THE WHOLESALE HOUSE

and save 25 per cent. on your money.

Salesroom—Scane Block, Upstairs.

AGAR & NEFF,

Furs Remodeled. Phone 472. Open Evenings



MEN'S SLIPPERS —FOR— Christmas

Of course, real solid comfort may be possible without a pair of slippers—but it's surely more like the real Simon-pure article when the slippers are there.

That opens the way toward making somebody a present that will

gladden him for a whole year or more.

Low or Opera Slippers in a variety of leathers.	75c to \$2
High-top or Romeo Slippers A draft resistor for winter.	\$1.50 to \$2
Felt and Warm Lined Slippers	65c to \$1
Carpet and Rep Slippers from	40c

GEO. W. COWAN

Not Hard To Decide

China is always pleasing and you can get so many useful things in this line at

GRAY'S CHINA HALL

That everyone can afford to buy a whole lot for a small amount of money and still not feel that they are not giving good presents.

For the Children

Cups and Saucers

5c, 10c, 15c, 20c. Children's Sets, tea-pot, sugar, cream, cups, saucers, and plates, 5c, \$1.25 and \$1.50. Porridge bowls, Mugs, Jugs, Plates, Vases, Pictures, Night Lamps, etc., 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c.

For Young Man or Young Lady

Fancy China cups and saucers 25c to \$3. Fancy bon bon dishes 25c to \$2.50. Fancy Plaques and plates, 25c to \$5.00. Shaving mugs, an elegant line, 15 to 75c. Art Ornaments and Vases, 5c to \$5. Cut Glass bon bon, and nut bowls, \$3, \$4-75.

For the Married House-keepers

A new Dinner or Tea Set wouldn't come amiss, or a Toilet Set, of which we have a new lot just opened up at special prices. Carving Sets, a special line of English Sheffield steel goods, in fancy lined cases, \$3 to \$8.

Knives and Forks

1847 Rogers goods in fancy boxes, \$5 to \$6.50 a set. Tea Spoons, \$2, \$3, \$4 a dozen. Dessert spoons, \$3, \$5, \$7 dozen. Table and Dessert Knives, white handles, securely fastened on steel blades—½ doz. in box, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

Hanging & Hall Lamps Vases and Jardinieres

A grand showing of newest goods imported for this year's Holiday trade. In odd Fancy Fruit and Salad dishes is where we excel all competition as a look after this line the whole year around, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c up to \$7.

Our open stock French China Dinner Sets are more popular than ever this year and we will sell you one piece or a whole set. A good time to begin is right now.

Have you seen our new art wares in English Pottery?

Farm Yard Scenes, Old Creek Ware, Georgian Ware, Also Royal Vienna and fine Japanese Ornaments and Vases.

Gray's China Hall KING ST.

Plum Pudding.
Fruit Cake.
Oyster Patties.
Ice Cream.

CHRISTMAS ORDERS WILL
BE PROMPTLY FILLED.

W. E. SMITH,
Somerville's Old Stand, King
Street.

Weather Strips

E. W. HAZLET, Harvey St., has secured the Local Agency for the celebrated GRAMMINS METAL STRIPS, and will give estimates for fitting in residences or public buildings. Call at residence or drop word to the P.O.

WARSHIPS LAND FORCES

Preparations to Cope With Renewal of Shanghai Riots.

Five Hundred Men Ashore From the British Cruiser Diadem—U. S. Cruiser Baltimore Also Lands Force—American State Department Has Been Informed of Further Disturbances and a Few Casualties.

Shanghai, Dec. 20.—Armed guards and patrols are maintained here everywhere to cope with a possible renewal of the disturbances. The streets are filled with rowdies. The shops are open, but looting is greatly feared. The United States cruiser, Baltimore, will land a force and the British cruiser Diadem is sending 500 men ashore. Other warships are expected and it is reported that German troops are coming here from Kiaochow.

The Chinese newspapers say the rowdies proposed to take advantage of the mixed court dispute to attack and loot the foreign settlement. A Cruiser From Japan. Tokyo, Dec. 20.—Owing to the disturbances at Shanghai the Japanese protected cruiser Tashima has been sent there from Sasebo, and the gunboat Uji has been ordered to sail from Kure for the same destination.

A Few Casualties. Washington, Dec. 20.—The American state department was informed by cable from Shanghai at the close of the day that there had been some further disturbances there and a few casualties.

EMPLOYEES MISSING.

Bad Chicago Fire in Which One Fireman Was Killed and Probably Other Persons Perished.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—One fireman was killed and several employees may have lost their lives in a fire which destroyed the enamel sign factory of the Chas. W. Schonek Co., 7 to 15 Park street last night.

Until the ruins have been searched it will not be known positively whether any of the employees were killed, either in the explosion which started the fire, or by the falling of the walls and floors, which followed soon after.

When the fire was at its height one of the walls collapsed and several firemen were precipitated in the debris. With the exception of one, who was crushed to death, all escaped with a severe shaken up. Many employees were injured in the panic soon after the fire broke out.

Forty girls and 130 men and boys were employed in the factory, and, according to the company, all but two persons have been accounted for. The police and firemen, however, declare that several of the employees who were unable to make their escape, and were in the building at the time the floors and walls collapsed.

The loss on the building is about \$250,000.

HALF A BLOCK BURNS.

Disastrous Midnight Fire at Rosthern, Saskatchewan.

Winnipeg, Dec. 20.—Half of the best business block in Rosthern, Sask., was destroyed at midnight yesterday by fire, when Lovett and Remple's stock in the McIntyre Building, McEwen's saleroom, and the Webb Bowling Alley were wiped out by the flames.

The origin of the fire is unknown. The loss will reach \$30,000, while the owners are insured for \$13,000. Wright's jewelry building was also razed, and is a total loss.

A Winnipeg Fire. Winnipeg, Dec. 20.—The warehouse of the Port Huron Thresher Co. here was burned yesterday afternoon, entailing a loss of \$40,000; insured for \$31,000.

Boys' School Burned. Washington, Dec. 20.—The Boys' Reform School of the District of Columbia, located some distance outside of Washington, caught fire early yesterday and the main building in which were housed 300 boys was totally destroyed. No lives were lost.

Swimmers Save Two Men. New York, Dec. 20.—Three daring swimmers yesterday rescued the two Italian laborers who for more than forty hours had been imprisoned in the East River tunnel of the Pennsylvania Railroad by a cave-in at the Long Island City end of the underwater bore. They were almost exhausted when the three men swam up to the platform on which they were huddled and induced the frightened men to plunge into the water. The two strongest swimmers of the three each took a man upon his back, while the third swam alongside, ready to lend assistance.

Galt School on Fire.

Galt, Dec. 20.—At Victoria School yesterday at 11:45 fire broke out in the locality of the school. The building was extinguished but badly damaged. Two divisions of the school. Loss of perhaps \$2,000, fully covered by insurance. The 200 children, used to the school fire drill, responded to the fire gong and passed out without one sustaining any hurt.

Shortie Is Insane. Kingston, Dec. 20.—Valentine Shortie, the Valleyfield murderer, recently transferred from St. Vincent De Paul to Kingston Penitentiary, is now temporarily in the insane asylum. He is quite simple-minded, yet retaining all the traits of a gentleman.

The wigmaker has the key to a good many false locks.

LITTLE FOLKS

GREET YULETIDE

Charming Christmas Exercises at the Maple City Kindergartens

Dainty Decorations Captivating Carols and Exquisite Exercises Mark Occasion

A room, gaily decorated with strings of tiny, fluttering flags and illumined with the soft light of lamps: a Christmas tree, glimmering with tiny candles and laden with gifts, the work of many dainty fingers; bright Christmas balls and holly everywhere—such was the scene which greeted the parents, who were the guests of the wee tots of McKeough School Kindergarten, yesterday afternoon. The exercise opened with "God Save the King," and from then to the close the little folk acquitted themselves in a manner creditable to their teachers and gratifying to their parents.

The program included the songs, Santa Claus, Thanksgiving Song, Jack Frost, Pigeon House, Numbering Fingers, Family, and Christmas Hymns.

After the singing the children gave an exhibition of some of their games, —Family, Toy Shop, Train, Skip-tag and Ponies. The exercise in which the children were most vitally interested was the dainty handling of the tree. Chaste Madonnas, framed in blue and gold, useful raffia mats and boxes, daintily decorated in water colors, were among the gifts to the parents this year.

The exercises were under the direction of Miss McTaggart, assisted by Miss Craft; Miss Morrison presiding at the piano.

The Central School Kindergarten presented an alluring picture on the occasion of the Christmas exercises of the morning school yesterday afternoon. The room was daintily decorated with glowing evergreens, twinkling holly and charming Christmas bells, while the happy faces of the little ones and the pleasing patronage of scores of parents completed a scene delightfully characterized by the Yuletide occasion. The large Christmas tree, standing in the centre of the room, laden with prettily dressed dolls for travellers, brownies, kiddy and the popular "queer game," was assisted by Miss Shackleton, while Miss Hoig presided at the piano.

The games included cuckoo, circle games, hide-and-seek, partners, travellers, brownies, kiddy and the popular "queer game." The gifts included painted blot-boards by Miss Green's class, photo-albums by Miss Shackleton's class, calendars by Miss Hoig's class, mats, scarves by Miss McLean's class. The songs were—Greeting to Parents, Prayer Hymn, Snow Flakes, Family, Grade Nest, Leaves in Autumn, Jack Frost, Santa Claus and Christmas Carol.

DO DAMAGE

H. S. Clements, M. P., Interviews Hon. Dr. Reaume Relative to Musk Rats on Dyking Schemes

The great amount of damage being done to dyking schemes by muskrats throughout this district has been brought to the attention of the Minister of Public Works, Hon. Dr. Reaume, by H. S. Clements, M. P., the energetic member for West Kent. Mr. Clements asked that permission be given to sell the hides of muskrats killed at these schemes as an encouragement to trappers to rid embankments of their danger.

The Minister has promised an early consideration of the request.

GOOD ATTRACTION FOR —CHRISTMAS DAY

For genuine, healthy, bright humor "The Bell Boy," which appears at the Grand, takes all honors. This charming production is without a peer in the annals of modern musical extravaganzas, and is receiving enormous success of press and public. A captivating coterie of accomplished musicians in prettiest costumes of uniform attractiveness, strains of catchy and delightful music, a show of musical merit all combine to win the many plaudits which have been bestowed on "The Bell Boy." The cast of characters are exceptionally strong, and the ever popular young comedian, Johnnie Galvin, being assigned the stellar roll with an excellent spirit. All who have seen "The Bell Boy" are enthusiastic in its praise.

A matinee will be given at three p. m. with special prices of 25, 35 and 50 cents. Prices at night are—first floor, 50c, 75c and \$1.00; second floor, 35c, 50c and 75c; gallery, 25c. Seats on sale Thursday at Briscoe's.

ONE KILLED, 40 INJURED

Queer Rear-End Collision With Trains in Mid-Air.

Heavily Crowded Passenger Trains Come Together on the Elevated Tracks of the New York Central and Hudson River Railway—Passengers Were Seized With Terror, and Some Were Seriously Injured.

New York, Dec. 20.—In one of the most extraordinary accidents known to American railroading, two heavily crowded passenger trains came together within a few minutes of each other. One was a Stamford local on the New York, New Haven and Hartford, which uses the Central tracks. The other was the Poughkeepsie express on the Central. Rushing along parallel tracks the trains came together. The local was switched from the third track on to the fourth, and in an instant the engine of the express had crashed into the day coach following the smoking-car of the local.

The tracks at this point are about 30 feet in the air. This madcap work of rescue difficult and hazardous, and lent materially to the terror of the passengers, most of whom were commuters, residing in nearby points, who had come to the city on holiday shopping tours. Fire apparatus from several stations were summoned, and many persons were rescued. Serious injuries befell most of those in the car demolished by the engine of the express.

John D. Horn, engineer of the express train, was arrested last night on the technical charge of manslaughter, and later was released on bail.

No one on the Poughkeepsie train was hurt. Townsman Dwyer said Engineer Horn of the Poughkeepsie train had disregarded a signal which was set against him, and had come on at undiminished speed.

Three Train Hands Killed. Reading, Pa., Dec. 20.—Three men were killed yesterday by the explosion of a boiler of a freight engine on the Reading Railway, near Birdsboro.

Two Killed in Train Collision. Cumberland, Md., Dec. 20.—Two freight trains on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad collided near Hedgesville, Md., yesterday, in which Engineer H. A. Haas and brakeman Gillies were killed and several train hands injured.

CRUSHED BY HUGE STONE.

Fred Northey, a Mason, Instantly Killed at London, Ont.

London, Dec. 20.—While placing a very large stone weighing over 450 pounds on the new military store building at Wolseley Barracks yesterday morning, Fred Northey, a mason, was instantly killed, and his helper, Stanley Fogg, very badly injured, though not fatally. While imbedding the stone it became unbalanced and fell to the ground, crashing through the scantlings and other props on its downfall, carrying the two unfortunate men with it.

Dynamite Explosion Maims. Montreal, Dec. 20.—An accident, which will probably result in the death of one man and the permanent disfigurement of two or three others, occurred at the quarry belonging to the city at the corner of St. Andre and Laurier streets yesterday afternoon. It appears that four men were engaged in laying a dynamite blasting charge when the foreman told them to clear out of the way. Three succeeded in getting clear, but the fourth could not get away, and was very seriously injured. His name is A. Cloutier, 43 years of age, of 33 Suzanne street. The others escaped with less severe injuries.

Four Convicts Injured. Kingston, Dec. 20.—A derrick in the Penitentiary yard broke yesterday and four convicts were badly injured, and are now in the hospital.

Three Men Blown to Bits.

New York, Dec. 20.—Three men were blown to pieces, seven others were more or less seriously hurt by an explosion of dynamite in an excavation for the new Altman building. Fragments of the bodies of the dead were scattered over an area of hundreds of feet. The explosion was caused by a workman unintentionally striking a heavy charge of dynamite, which had been placed in a drill hole in a ledge of rock, several days ago, and which defied attempts to explode it at the time. There were 60 men in the excavation at the time, Jacob Metzger, superintendent for a construction company, were arrested on a charge of criminal negligence.

A Skakeman's Bad Fall.

London, Dec. 20.—For nearly four hours last night Ralph Walker, a G. R. R. brakeman, lay unconscious alongside the track just east of the city, suffering from a fall. Just west of Woodstock he was misjudged, and the train was stopped, and after hunting all around the train proceeded to Woodstock, where notice was sent back to look for him. He has two ribs fractured and the left side is bruised. He slipped on icy piping and fell.

Lord Strathcona Better.

London, Dec. 20.—(G.A.P.)—On enquiring at Lord Strathcona's residence the G.A.P. was informed that his lordship's knee was much better and enabled him to get up, but not to go to his office, yesterday.

CRUEL FAKE NOW EXPOSED

Local Newspaper Concocted Sensational Story

Betrayed Confidence and did Injury to innocent Party—Called on to Apologise!

A very cruel and uncalculated fake publication has resulted in an indignant threatened action and demand for prompt apology, backed by the local police.

For some days past—in fact, ever since his arrival in this locality—Harry Nickle has been accused by the Banner-News of being Banwell, the absconding Toronto bank teller. Under big headlines it, day-by-day, ruthlessly pursued him to Tilbury and through the county. Not the slightest effort was made to verify the yarn which some practical joker had naughtily whispered into the credulous ears of the newspaper dispensary. Moreover, it was not content with betraying the confidence of its own readers, and ingredients of strong stuff were dispatched to the London Free Press, from "its special correspondent" in this city.

The young man, said Chief of Police Holmes this morning, referring to Mr. Nickle, "has been subjected to the most annoying and cruel experiences by reason of the contemptible fake. I cannot understand how reporters, after being warned, could keep up this kind of thing. It willfully deceives their readers and does great injury to innocent parties. The Planet showed its good sense and enterprise by promptly investigating the yarn and finding it to be a fake, leaving it alone. As it is, the police feel that the young man has reason for asking redress from the offenders."

Mr. Nickle is employed at Wm. Gray & Sons' factory, and is a very respectable citizen.

Try our 10c broken cream candy at Rhody's.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

Christmas Day

MATINEE AND NIGHT

The Hilarious Musical Comedy

"A BELL BOY"

Introducing JOHNNY GALVIN as Play the Hilarity Producer.

Priest, First Floor—50c, 75c, \$1.00
Second Floor—35c, 50c, and 75c.
Gallery—25c.
Matinee—25c, 35c, and 50c
Seats selling at Briscoe's

If You Wish To Purchase Any GIFTS of Any Kind

For Baby, Child, Youth, Maiden, Sweetheart, Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Grand Parents, Relative, Friend or Acquaintance.

Remember One Thing

There is a store in Chatham where you can get anything in the Gift or Toy line that the heart can wish for or the soul desire, so do not waste time running all over the city, but come straight to

SULMAN'S BEEHIVE

King and 6th Sts.

"The Store With the Stock."

Open every night Christmas week till 9 o'clock.

ZAKOOR'S CONFECTIONERY

Wholesale and Retail Fruit Dealer.

Next to Rankin House.

He has a large stock of Christmas Fruits and Confectionery and all kinds of Nuts.

Give him a call. See his stock.

A. ZAKOOR

THE ARK Only Three More Days

And these are the shortest days in the year, but it doesn't take long to make your selections.

Is it a Famous Stove or Range? We have them.
Is it a Dinner or Tea Set? We have them.
Is it a Lamp that will make your room as light as day? We have it.
Is it a Fancy China Dish? We have the best variety.

The 5c, 10c. and 25c. Counters
Have Extra Good Bargains
on Them.

We are OPEN EVENINGS until 9 p.m.

Come early please.

Goods Promptly Delivered.

H. MACAULAY. PHONE 159