

reliable" powder, but I think their hearts are as young as ever.

Norman took Mary Rose "unto himself" some years ago. I think we were all pleased with the match; I speak for myself anyhow, I know that Norman never flitted his handkerchief to better advantage than the day he wiped my tears away.

Eliza now "shines" the stove of the "bricklayer," and no doubt boxes the ears of his offspring with grimy fingers.

Mary Rose's children come and swarm over the old house and garden. They shrilly call for "Auntie," but they never ask what a "feller" is. I suppose they know already, from the oldest down to the babe of one year just learning to toddle. The children of today are aged and worn, before they leave off their swaddling clothes.

Tonight, walking home with handsome John Adams under all the little, twinkling stars, with summer's subtle breath floating about us; the warm night-wind blowing softly, a caress in its touch, I thought of that dreadful day, now in the far past, when I worried myself and everybody else to "rags and tatters" trying to find out what a "feller" was. I told him the story as we loitered through the shadowy path.

John is an awful man to laugh, and, when he could speak again, without choking, he said, "Jen, you blessed idiot, how you must have tortured Norman. Do you think you are any wiser now?"

"Yes, indeed, John," I answered, "I guess I am."

Aunt Bet was right—A "feller" is a humbug.

The Story of the Post Office.

From Edward IV to Edward VII.

The first we know of the Post Office is the record we have handed down from Edward IV. We were then at war with Scotland, and Edward instituted a service of couriers to ride posthaste between London and the Scottish frontier. They were not allowed to ride their horses more than twenty miles at a time.

In the reign of Henry VIII. this system of couriers to carry the King's despatches was elaborated, and a Master of the Posts was appointed, with an office in London.

The First P.M.G.

In the reign of Elizabeth, the first Chief Post Master was appointed, for by that time the Master of the Posts set up by Henry had given place to several masters. By a proclamation of Charles I. it was laid down as follows: "Whereas to this time there has been no certain intercourse between the kingdoms of England and Scotland, the King now commands his Post Master of England for foreign parts to settle a running post or two to run night and day between Edinburgh and London, to go thither and come back again in six days."

The rate of payment was to be 8d. per letter over the Scottish border, but for any distance up to eighty miles the fee for carrying a communication was 2d.

Cromwell increased this service of couriers, and opened a place in London where communications could be left. This was in Lombard Street. It was laid down by Act of Parliament that the service was to "benefit commerce, to convey the public despatches, and to act as the best means to discover and prevent many dangerous, wicked designs against the Commonwealth by the inspection of correspondence."

During the period of Charles I. and Cromwell, the business of carrying letters was let by contract. The first contractor paid £18,000 to the Exchequer, and made a fortune by the service.

The First Penny Post.

It may interest a good many to know that a penny post was set up in London and the suburbs as long ago as 1681. An enterprising gentleman of the name of Murray started this service, but he was brought to the bar of the King's Bench, and it was held by the judges of that period that he had no right to conduct a service. The Government then confiscated his business.

By 1720 the postal service was much improved, although transit was very slow. Twopence was then charged for the carriage of a letter anywhere in England.

Mail coaches did not start running until 1774. Before that date all letters were carried on horseback, "post-haste."

The penny post within the United Kingdom was brought in as a result of the efforts of Rowland Hill in 1840. Since then, the alteration in the charge for postage has been constant. Originally, we were only allowed to send one half-ounce for a penny. Now we are able to send four ounces.

It will surprise you perhaps to know that two hundred years ago there existed an ocean penny postage which greatly aided trade. It used to be accomplished

in this way: Masters of ships about to sail to America and other foreign parts hung up bags in the City coffee-houses and inns. Into these bags merchants, and those wishing to communicate with such lands as these captains traded with, placed their letters and paid a fee of a penny. For this fee the captains undertook to deliver the communication to the agents or person named on the other side. It is necessary to say that a great many of these letters never reached their destination. However, it was soon known whether captains fulfilled their promises. When they earned a bad reputation, merchants would not entrust any communication to them.

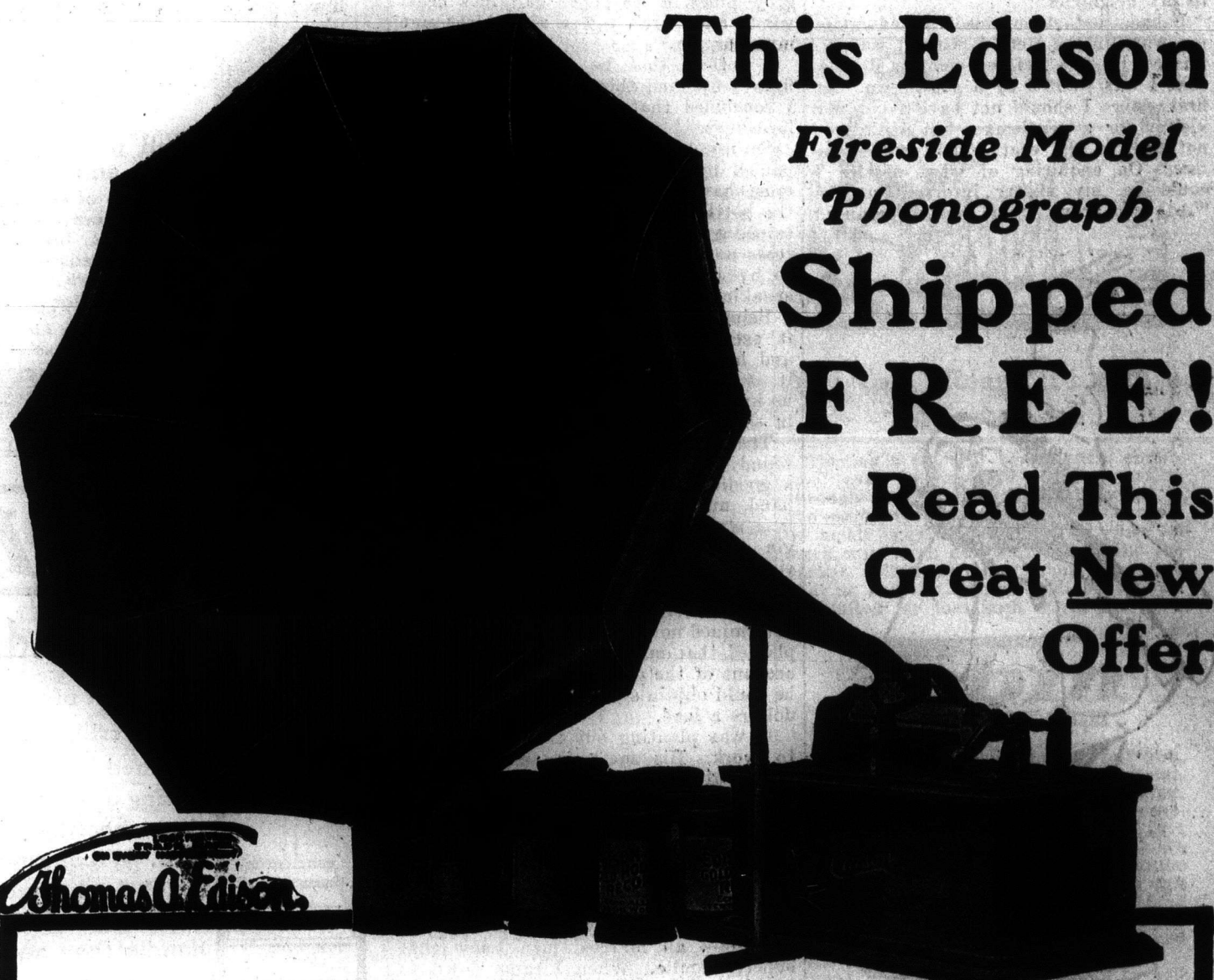
Up to 1846 London letters were collected by messengers standing at various points and ringing a bell. Previously to this, the sender of a communication

had to take his letter either to the General Post Office, Lombard Street, or to such other post offices as were from time to time established. Even up to as late as 1879 the practice of collecting letters by the ringing of a bell held good in Dublin.

Up to the year 1800 there were no house-to-house deliveries, and those expecting a communication had to call for it at the local post office.

The first steam packets carrying mails crossed the Irish Channel in 1821, and went over to France in 1824. The Post Office was removed to St. Martin's-le-Grand in 1829.

Worms cause fretfulness and rob the infant of sleep, the great nourisher. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator will clear the stomach and intestines and restore healthfulness.



**This Edison
Fireside Model
Phonograph
Shipped
FREE!
Read This
Great New
Offer**

SHIPPED FREE

The latest and greatest offer on the Genuine Edison. The most marvelous offer—the offer which eclipses all others. This offer is for everyone who has not yet heard our Edison in their own home. This offer is for YOU. For you to hear concerts and entertainments by world famous musicians—just such entertainments as the metropolitan theatres are producing.

MY OFFER:

I will send you this Genuine Edison Fireside Outfit (the newest model), complete with one dozen Edison Gold Moulded and Amberol Records, for an absolutely free trial. I don't ask any money down or in advance. There are no C.O.D. shipments; no leases or mortgages on the outfit; no papers of any sort to sign. Absolutely nothing but a plain out-and-out offer to ship you this Phonograph together with a dozen records of your own selection on a free trial so that you can hear it and play it in your own home. I can't make this offer any plainer, any clearer, any better than it is. There is no catch about it anywhere. If you will stop and think just a moment, you will realize that the high standing of this concern would absolutely prohibit anything except a straightforward offer.

WHY I WANT to Lend You This Phonograph:

I know that there are thousands and thousands of people who have never heard the Genuine Edison Phonograph. I can't tell you one-twentieth of the wonders of the Edison, nothing I can say or write will make you actually hear the grand full beauty of its tones. No wonders can begin to describe the tender, delicate sweetness with which the genuine Fireside Edison reproduces the soft, pleading notes of the flute or the thunderous, crashing harmony of a full brass band selection. And you can get the records in any language you wish. The only way to make you actually realize these things for yourself is to loan you a Genuine Edison Phonograph free and let you try it.

Our Easy Payment Plan. I have decided on an easy payment plan that gives you absolute use of the phonograph while paying for it. \$2.00 a month pays for an outfit. There is absolutely no lease or mortgage of any kind, guarantee from a third party, no going before a notary public, and the payments are so very small and our terms so liberal that you never notice the payments.

If You Want to Keep It that is, if you wish to make the Phonograph your own, you may do so, but it is not compulsory. I am asking you merely to send for a free demonstration.

Owners of Edisons—New Model Equipments Now Ready! All those who already own an Edison Phonograph can wonderfully improve their old machines, making them almost like the new style machines, and can also get the SUPERB new Edison Amberol records, the loudest, clearest, most beautiful records ever made, playing TWICE AS LONG as any of the records heretofore made. Owners of Edisons—write for free circular A4, describing all this.—F. K. BABSON, Manager.

F. K. BABSON Edison Phonograph Distributors, 255 Portage Ave., Dept. 7517 Winnipeg, Can. 12 Wellington St. E., Toronto, Canada.

ALL YOU NEED DO:

All I ask you to do is to invite as many as possible of your friends to hear this wonderful Fireside Edison. You will want to do this anyway because you will be giving them genuine pleasure. I feel absolutely certain that there will be at least one and probably more who will want an Edison of their own. If they don't, if not a single one of them orders a Phonograph (and this sometimes happens) I won't blame you in the slightest. I shall feel that you have done your part when you have given these free concerts. You won't be asked to act as our agent or even assist in the sale of a single instrument.

Get the Latest Edison Catalogs

Just sign your name and address on the attached coupon now and mail it to us. I will send you our superbly illustrated Edison Phonograph Catalog, the very latest list of Edison Gold Moulded and Amberol Records (over 1500 of them in all languages) and our Free Trial Certificate entitling you to this grand offer. Sign the coupon now, get these catalogs and select your records at once. Remember the free concerts. Sign the coupon right now. Do it today. Immediately.

F. K. BABSON Edison Phonograph Distributors, 255 Portage Ave., Dept. 7517 Winnipeg, Can. 12 Wellington St. E., Toronto, Canada.