

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N.S., DEC. 22, 1911.

The Holiday of Humanity.

Christmas is indeed the holiday of humanity and by that token no less interesting than humanity itself. The rich current of its observance has to carry all the burdens of other ages—their ideals, their hopes, their recollections, the beliefs that had won the right to live, the gracious, joyous customs which had won the same right by helping or heartening men, as well as all that our age can contribute to it from the material, artistic and spiritual side. The modern feeling has made a place, as the feeling of each age is sure to do, for the mood of carnival as well as for the mood of faith. It can weave into the fabric of holiday time the little spectacles of freedom, felicity, the affectionate pledges of friends, the cheer of the loaded family board or banquet table, the taper lights and organ music of cathedrals, the offerings of music and drama and all the noble product of the artist and artisan. In a sense Christmas takes inventory of itself at this time in each of its thousand activities.

One of the benedictions of the holiday is that it gives men the chance to do this and puts them in the mood to do it. It is the last and greatest "truce of God." The pause it imposes is not so much on war's alarm, although the din of conflict grows even fiercer the while the message of good-will unto men deepens into the deed and custom, as it is on the absorption and distractions of an age so wrapped up in its pursuits that it hardly has time to look about it. At Christmas-time men do look about them. That its atmosphere could make a bad man out of a good one or a generous one out of a selfish one is one of the paradoxes whereof perhaps we must look to the genial fiction of Dickens for complete verification. But it does make men kinder, more thoughtful more serene, than their wont.

Editorial Notes.

A scientist declares that turkey as a Christmas treat will be extinct in ten years. So far as we are concerned at the present price it is now.

Our merchants have had a most favorable week for the Christmas trade, the weather having been delightful throughout. Many of the stores present a very pretty appearance in their holiday attire.

THE ACADIAN has received an attractive calendar for 1912 from Acadia Seminary. It is most handsomely gotten up and is entitled "The Gates of the Forest," being a very fine reproduction of the painting by John MacWhirter, B. A., selected by His Majesty King Edward VII at the Royal Academy, shortly before his death, as the fairest landscape exhibited during the year. The artist will be prized by any person who is fortunate enough to secure a copy.

One of the benefits which we look for from the new government at Ottawa is the installation of a mail box at the railway station here. This convenience has been agitated for several years, but for some reason the efforts put forth by the Board of Trade and others have not been successful. The placing of a letter box at the station is a trifling matter and will not involve any very great expense, and we trust that our present representatives will see that the needs of his constituents are looked after.

Hon. Hugh John Macdonald, formerly premier of Manitoba, has just been appointed police magistrate of Winnipeg in succession to the late Hon. T. Wayne Daly. Squire Macdonald is a son of the late Sir John Macdonald, and might have been premier of Canada to-day if he had remained in Dominion politics, and followed closely in the footsteps of his father. But he chose the nearer honors offered by a provincial premier and so put himself out of the running for the post of prime minister of Canada.

In the political arena in this country there is a well recognized rule that any government employee or office holder who takes an active part in politics, risks his official life, and it will tell it so. Sir Wilfrid Laurier explained the situation when he declared on assuming office in 1896, "If any official in the service chooses to be a politician he shall be given every opportunity by this government of being a politician."

But how was this principle carried out in 1896 and after? Liberals today have no recollection of the untoward events of these former years of ruthless slaughter. Conservatives do not forget, and do their credit by it said, the late measure of justice which is being meted out to day, does not touch in numbers a tithe of the victims who fell slaughtered in 1896 and for years afterwards—without trial, without investigation and without recourse.

A return brought down to the House of Commons in 1899, a few months after the Liberal Government came into power, showed 150 officials dismissed without investigation—"fired" without an opportunity to defend themselves. In one province, Manitoba, 157 officials were dismissed in one year simply because they were Conservatives.

Public Servants.

It is a rule in England that all public servants must refrain from any interference, active or partisan, with politics. The application of that rule is absolutely essential to an efficient public service, and when such a rule is in operation in Canada in its fullest sense it will be good for our country.

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In this country Stephen Hilsley, the Collector of Customs at Berwick, one of the finest gentlemen in the county, was "fired" to make room for a narrow-minded, gruff and brother of the celebrated Yukon Capt. Norwood. Charlie Bishop, Lewis Murphy and Charlie Robinson, Fish Wardens, were dismissed to make room for some erstwhile agitators. The late Samuel Moore, a then messenger in the House of Commons, was dismissed to make room for a prominent Liberal worker. These are but samples and yet, with the craven hypocrisy for which certain of the Liberal Press are remarkable, we are led to believe that the Conservative execution is abroad with breadman's axe, doing great slaughter to the innocents.

The Borden Government is displaying a spirit of moderation and fairness in the matter of dismissals never practiced by their predecessors. Known cases of partisanship have been and will be dealt with.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Borden, has clearly stated in Parliament the course he intends to follow. He said "The desire of members of this Government is not wholesale dismissal, but certain rules have been made, both by statute and resolution of this course, and I do not see any reason why those rules should not be applied."

Civil service reform is advocated and will be enacted, and that is one thing, but to ratify and seal with approval the iniquities perpetrated by the late government is another matter. When the Liberals came into power in 1896 there began at once a hungry howling for office. Officials were hounded as if they were criminals.

On one public work there were 120 dismissals simply because those employees were appointed by a Conservative Government. A postmaster was dismissed for handling a drink of cold water to a Conservative candidate. Mrs. Copp, a postmistress, was hounded for months, no compassion being shown her on account of her being an aged widow—and one who could not possibly be accused of partisanship. She was fired to make room for a gruff heeler.

At Memramook, N. B., Mrs. Patrick, a widow, was acting postmaster. She was the support of a help as family, including an aged and sick father. She was without cause dismissed. No man in the community could be found small enough to take the office, and it was finally accepted by a woman—female. Hundreds can be named whose names were brought down to the House of Commons as being dismissed without a chance of defence, dismissed without cause.

YOUR GIFT STORE.

A Watch Would be a Good Gift

A Watch is Always Good

A Watch is a Timely Gift.
It is pleasing, practical and valuable and is always useful. There is a decidedly dainty and "quality" tone to the watches we are showing now that makes them particularly good for gifts. See these sample selections.

Women's Watches.
Bracelet watches, attached to strap, in gun metal and silver cases, \$5.00 to \$10.00.
15 Jeweled movement in highest quality gold filled case, plain or engraved, can be used with or without a bracelet \$15.00. Gun metal \$12.00 and \$15.00. Silver and gun metal case watches \$9.00 to \$10.00.

Men's Watches.
15 Jeweled movement in gold filled case \$12.00.
Same in silver case \$7.50.
17 Jeweled, adjusted to 6 positions in a 14k gold case at \$35.00 is a most acceptable watch, especially so for a presentation.

Boys' Watches.
16 size in nickel and silver cases at \$3.00, 4.00, 5.00 to \$10.00.
The Williams Dollar watch is guaranteed for one year.
Any article bought here is positively guaranteed to give satisfaction.

J. W. WILLIAMS

WOLFVILLE.

Need It In Wolfville.
A number of cities in the Canadian West are experimenting with the Single Tax plan. Does it work? Here is what some of the officials of these cities have to say about it.

Writing under date of Oct. 26th, 1911, Mayor Kilaskill, of Saskatoon, says:—"We have made the first step toward the assessment of land only this year, by reducing the assessment on improvements by 10 per cent. It is our intention to continue this reduction year by year until eventually improvements will be exempt from taxation. So far the people are very well satisfied and consider the movement a wise one."

Since Saskatoon began with an assessment on only 60 per cent. on improvements this means that in five years more Saskatoon will be a Single Tax city.

Miner's Liment used by Physicians.

You Like to make HOLIDAY Gifts, but you are so very busy.
Let us help you.
One dozen Photographs will make twelve gifts and no worry to you. The new mountings are more beautiful than ever. And our annual 10 per cent. discount is on until Nov. 30th. Don't wait for the rush.

Graham, Wolfville, N.S.

CHAMBERS' STORE NEWS

FOR Christmas, 1911

Just one week more. We have a lot of stock to move out during that time. We are making specially low prices to clear them.

- 75 prs. Fleece Blankets** from 1.00 to \$2.50 pair. Children's Crib Blankets, Teddy Bear, Carnage Blankets and Crib Blankets.
- New Comfortables.** See our special line of American Pure Cotton filled at \$1.50 each. Sheep wool filled in handsome coverings at \$4.25.
- Men's Overcoats** to only. You can have them at one-third off price. Boys' Reefers marked down to clear.
- Ladies' and Gents' Umbrellas** from 1.00 to \$4.50 each. Silver and Gold Handles, Pearl Handles, &c.
- Ladies' Coats** at 25 off Regular prices.
- Balance of Furs** at 20 per cent. off. Lot of Children's Coats at half price.
- Ladies' Sweater Coats** from 1.50 to \$5.00. Good assortment.
- Underwear** New lot of Combination Suits at 1.00 and \$1.00 each. Men's Underwear in "Standard" and "Pampan's", all sizes.
- Handkerchiefs** Nothing better for gifts. A splendid assortment in plain and fancy lotials, from 25c to 50c, each.
- Silk & Net Blouses** Some special patterns at 2.99, 3.99 up to \$6.00 each.
- Belt Buckles** Stick Pins, Hat Pins, Cuff Links, Shell Combs, some specially good in fancy cases.
- Ribbons** All widths and shades. Lot of wide Ribbons, regular 20 and 25c, quality for 15c. yd. Christmas Ribbons for Parcels.
- Parcel Seals & Labels** All purchases of small articles over 50c. boxed in Christmas Boxes.
- Fancy Aprons** with Bibs and Tea Aprons from 25c. to \$1.00 each.
- Ladies' Neckwear** Side Jabots, Bows, String Ties, Fancy Collars.
- Hand Bags** Real Seal Leather, Suede Leather and Knitted Bags.
- Dress Goods and Silks** Special Waist Lengths in Silks for Blouses. Silk Bonnets, suitable for fancy work.
- Two Bargain Tables** Novelty for presents. One at 10c. One at 25c. Don't miss these tables.

J. D. CHAMBERS.

For Christmas, 1911

We have just what you want in
Kodaks, Photographs, Fountain Pens, Manicure Sets
and a variety of other articles suitable for Christmas.
Give us a call before buying.
A. V. RAND, Phm. B. DRUGGIST.

GREAT MARK DOWN SALE!

in Winter Millinery beginning, Sat., Nov. 25

Here are a few of the prices:
\$6.00 and \$7.00 Trimmed Hats \$3.98
\$5.00 " " " \$2.98
All untrimmed Felts and Beavers at half price
The prices are for Cash Only

W. C. DEXTER & CO.

KEROSENE OIL

Direct Importation
Our Price on The Very Best American Kerosene Oil is 12 CTS.
Per Imperial Gallon, F. O. B. Port Williams Quality Guaranteed.

Evangeline Rink

WOLFVILLE

Will be open for the first this season on
XMAS NIGHT
Having installed a Power Grinder any skates left in our care will be put in best condition
PRICE 15 CENTS.

D'ALMAINE & JOHNSON PROPRIETORS.

JUST RECEIVED

Dinner Sets. Tea Sets.
A new line, attractive decorations and prices exceedingly low. Your chance to select one of these latest designs and patterns from
\$8.00 to \$35.00.
Tea Sets containing 42 pieces from \$3.00 to \$15.00.
Our stockroom department shows a beautiful assortment of fancy china and cut glass. We invite your inspection.
"WE'VE GOT 'EM ALL HERE!"
Holley & Harvey Co., Ltd.
PORT WILLIAMS, N. S.
Read "THE ACADIAN" during the year 1912.



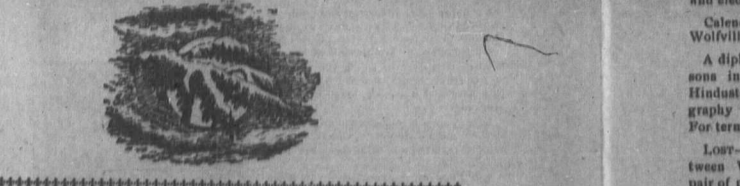
Christmas Night

By STEPHEN LEACOCK
Sometimes I think that Christmas night's the best, Before the nursery fire, when we're undressed, And all the toys are put away, except Perhaps my engine and the baby's bear, Then Mother comes away from all the rest, Down-stairs to tell our Christmas story there.

She takes the baby on her lap and we Sit round her on the hearth-rug so we see The pictures in the fire, and then she tells About how Ebenezer watched their flocks by night And what the angel said, and how the three Wise Kings came riding—and the big star's light.

And then she tells us how it showed the way To just a stable where the oxen stay. And there they found Him in His Mother's arms, A Little Baby Christ-Child—and He smiled! And that (she says) is what made Christmas-day For you and me and all—every little child.

Before the nursery fire, when we're undressed, Sometimes I think that Christmas night's the best.



CHRISTMAS MORNING

MY MAMA AND MY DADDY HAVE BOUGHT ME OH SUCH A LOT OF XMAS PRESENTS—A HORSE AND DON AND THE SWEETEST DOLL YOU EVER DID SEE.

At the you will find cards.
A change management Gaudy, the suddenly or number of Beckwith's til some made. The glad to buck at her.
Autographs and Tags
Mr. W. of the Acadia department deputy, was Christmas seating his gold water through a well qualified We congratulating a nice Wolfville.
The president's Night's D. the Y W on Friday College High audience young let Those who it's very credit to hand. The clerical New line covered. R Ever long his establishment recently he caused in the apper facilities advantage Mr. J. C. much will do at windows low of god damages Piano. A an George's held at the McKenna last week green and Meyer. burg T. of member Mr. W. Grand dress in 9. ed St. On the lodge the work refreshment enjoyable

Guests At Dule's

Noel Noel
Thus sounds each Christmas bell
Across the winter snow,
But what are the little footprints all
That mark the path from the church-
yard wall
They are those of the children waked
tonight
From sleep by the Christmas bells
and light
Ring sweetly, chimel! Soft, soft,
my rhymes!
Their beds are under the snow.

Noel Noel
Carols each Christmas bell,
What are the wreaths of mist
That gather near the window-pane
Where the winter frost all day has
lain?
They are soulless elves, who faint
would peer
Within, and laugh at our Christmas
cheer!
Ring! steeley, chimel! Swift, swift,
my rhymes!
They are made of the mocking
mist.

Noel Noel
Ceece, cease, each Christmas bell!
Under the holy bough,
Where the happy children throng and
shout,
What shadow seems to flit about?
Is it the mother, then, who died
Bere the groans were ere last Christ-
mas-tide?
Hush, falling chimel! Cease, cease,
my rhymes!
The guests are gathered now.

MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas songs at times have tried
The music and pleasure, the sunshine
and glow,
The beauty of living, the clear light
to see
The chances of life, to few only
given
"O walk 'bravely shodden' the path:
way to heaven.

When embers burn low on the hearth-
stone o' a,
And the whitening 'air speaks the
flat "his late,"
I'll pray — "Of thy 'children' tho'
poorest I be,
Dear Santa! In heaven, forget not thou
me."

ONE DAY MORE

TO BUY YOUR
XMAS PRESENTS
AT THE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

Call and have a look at our
Fancy Boxes of Note Paper, Aluminum Ware, Granite Ware, Sleds of all kinds.
We have a complete line of Hobart Blenders, Mouth Organs of all kinds.

Wolfville Decorating Co.

F. O. Godwin, Prop.