quantities of goods supplied. If the goods are not paid for they ought to be on the retailer's shelf or in his cellar, but they should not be acattered in indiscriminate creditfall over the city. It is all very well to sell on credit to a certain extent to families or men in receipt of regular and steady incomes, but retail merchants would do well to keep in mind that such contingencies as loss of employment, loss of health and death may occur, in which case the loss is generally sure to come. It is noteworthy, in this connection, that the outstanding debts of last year's retail tailures have not realized on the average over 10c on the dollar.

Grocers seem to have been much more culpable in this matter than the dry goods men. These sees to have been more coary of giving credit, and it is well for them that they have acted in this way. Unpaid lines of goods fro better on the shelves than in the hands of consumers at long credit. Even if these goods are Slaughte red they will usually bring from 50 per cent. to 60 per cent., and, as a consequence, The wholesale man is immeasurably better prodected and paid than by attempting to gather up the fragments of an estate scattered among consumers and incapable of realizing one-tenth

of the original valuation.

The lesson to be learned comes home at a Special time It is true that "Christmas comes That once a year, and when it comes it brings good cheer," and while we would like to see all Jour homes bright, and the children made happy, t would be well for the retailer to consider how far he is justified in parting with unpaid goods on credit, and it would be well for the consumer to confine his Christmas Extras just Sinside the line he is able to pay for.

With excuse for trespassing thus far on your aluable space,

I am, etc.,

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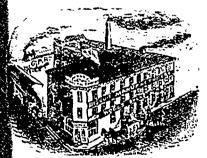
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