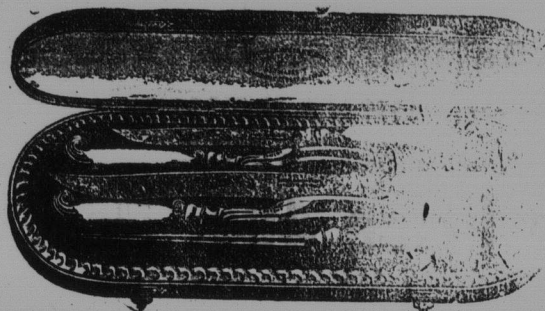
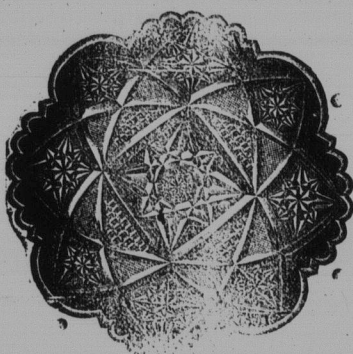


What To Buy For Christmas Gifts :



CARVERS. With or without cases. Handles of Stag, Ivory, Celluloid or Silver—3 and 5 piece sets. With case, \$2.75 to \$25. Without case, 90c. to \$3.75.

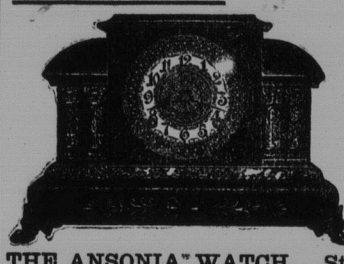


Cut Glass

Of the Highest Quality

Bowls, \$6.00 to \$25.00.
Tumblers, \$12.00 per doz. up.
Celery Dishes, \$6.50 up.
Decanters, \$9.50 to \$25
Olive Dishes, \$2.10 up.
Rose Bowls, \$1.90 to \$11

CLOCKS.



THE ANSONIA WATCH. Stem wind, stem set, \$1.75.

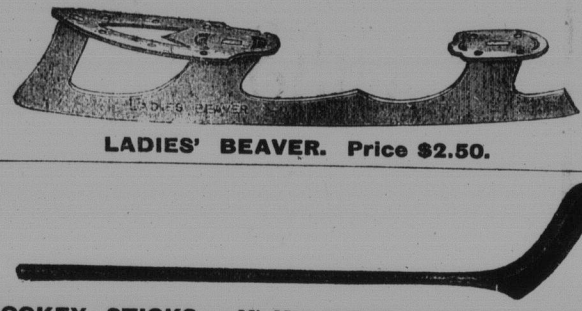
At exceptionally low prices. Gold plated, ebonized and solid metal clocks, from

\$1.95 to \$39.00.



Electro Plated Ware

Candelabra with 3 and 5 branches \$9.25 up.
Side Dishes, Soup Tureens, Bake Dishes, \$5.00 up.
Cake Baskets, \$2 up.
Biscuit Jars,
Butter Dishes,
Toast Racks,
Spoons and Forks.



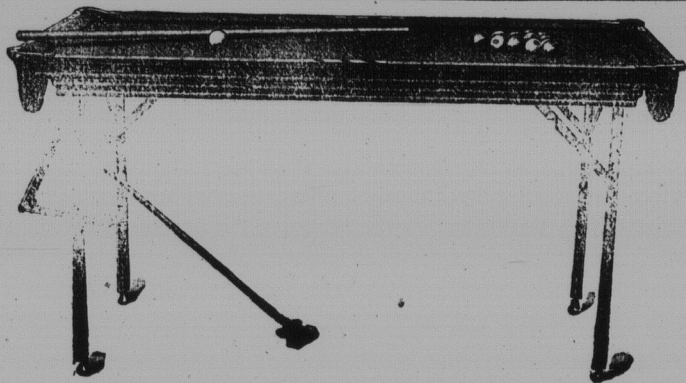
LADIES' BEAVER. Price \$2.50.

HOCKEY STICKS. Mic-Mac, Spaulding, See-Saw and Boys. Prices 15 to 50c.



Brass Hot Water Kettles.

With or without stand.
With stand, \$2.75 to \$10.
Without stand, \$2.75.



Carrroma Parlor Billiard and Pool Tables

Covered with fine green billiard broadcloth and regulation pool pockets. Genuine rubber cushions. With or without legs. Levelling and counting devices. Sizes 2 1/2 x 5 and 3 x 6 feet. Price \$18.00 to \$35.00.



22 Cal. Winchester Rifle. Price \$5.00.



Pocket Knives.

From the best English and German manufacturers. Pearl, Ivory, Stag and Metal handles

W. H. THORNE & CO., Limited, Market Square, St. John.

REV. F. F. EDDY

Puts in a Plea for the Boys and Girls,
And Takes Occasion to Talk of Other Things Besides Coasting.

The following sermon was preached at the Church of the Redeemer, Halifax, Sunday evening by the pastor, Rev. Frank F. Eddy:—
We have been having winter in grim earnest during the last week and the weary householder has been shoveling coal while the plumber rejoiced, as one result of what up in Maine would be termed a "spell of weather." We have splendid sleighing and the coasting on our steep hillsides has been too tempting to be resisted by young Halifax.

Too tempting to be resisted? And why should the boys and girls resist the temptation to coast down these long, glorious hillsides? Because there is a law against it. Nature furnished the hill and her storms covered it with a sheet of hardened snow, and I suppose nature planted the coasting instinct in the hearts of so many of us. But here is where some board of aldermen stepped in and said "thou shalt not." It is easy to see the only unnatural thing in the whole business is the law, which some city council in the past has ground out in the process of making their annual joke book of ordinances.

It is not my purpose to heap abuse on aldermen or upon makers of laws of wider power. They usually get all they deserve. But I do say that in modern society there is an excessive and unnecessary amount of law-making. This but emphasizes the fact that some of us are unhealthy and harmful specimens of humanity, but more especially that we are trying to live in unnatural situations and relations as regards each other. This is especially true of cities where we get cuddled together in mutually dependent and mutually obstructive conditions. Then we begin to have problems, and crank reformers and fool law-makers as well as some of the other kind. Then we have lawyers and policemen and courts laboriously and clumsily performing their functions and as often with injustice as justice.

The more muddled things get the more laws we get, and the less respect we have for them. Indeed it is hard to have much respect for law, if we are acquainted with the processes of its making in the usual legislative

body, and it is doubly hard to regard as worthy of reverence which emanates from the average city council. This law making activity is perhaps inevitable in our modern life, but inevitable or not it is working a deplorable result in our social conscience. We are hemmed in by a multitude of petty laws and ordinances which we habitually disregard. Other laws are winked at and misinterpreted by the courts and police department. There is our liquor law, fearfully and wonderfully made. We all know it isn't enforced and never will be in its present form. We know there are drastic laws against keeping disorderly houses, because now and then there is a spasmodic case of enforcement, but we also know scores of such houses exist undisturbed. Then there is that anti-spitting law, the existence of which is made evident by numerous and prominent placards. We read these because they are printed so large we cannot help it, but that is about all the observing it gets, and is really not worth the cost of the printing involved.

It is a fact that some laws are only enforced within certain limits, and often in such a manner as really nullify their significance. Such is the case with our liquor law and our laws against disorderly houses. Other laws like the one against spitting, are simply disregarded. There are still other petty ordinances that are enforced with quite remarkable promptness and certainty, considering the size of the police force. There are some things they do not see, but it is not the ash barrel that is left out a few hours over time; it is not the dog that wanders abroad without a tag that confirms his right to existence; it is not the unshoveled walk or the uncleared gutter, except on Sunday; it is not the merchant that cleans his windows before or after certain hours. The mulching of large numbers of citizens with fines in the court room may augment the revenues of that institution, but it does not conduce to increase the reverence for the law or respect for the wisdom of its makers.

But about the boy who would coast, and the girl, too. At present they can only do so by breaking that law. The police try to enforce the law on streets where there is the most traffic, but with little success. On the back streets they scarcely attempt to enforce it. Like the old woman who lived in the shoe, they have so many children to watch that they don't know what to do. The police force is limited in numbers, the steep streets are numerous, and so are the children. Besides there is always some urchin to cry out, "Hi, here comes the cop!"

Now it is unquestionably desirable to prevent children coasting on streets where there is much traffic, and es-

pecially where there are street-car tracks. But the proper method is not to prohibit coasting in general.

It would be wiser to select certain streets where traffic was light, say one in the south end and one in the north end of the city, and permit children to coast upon them certain hours each day that we have snow. Let them do it lawfully. Put a policeman there to keep teams on one side of the street. Give the kid and his sled the right of way. Teach him to look upon the policeman as his friend, not his enemy. Let these privileges be announced in every Sunday school, as well as in the press. Then enforce, with drastic measures, if necessary, the coasting laws on the other streets. Would this not be more sensible and feasible than to attempt to enforce laws which no boy who has spirit enough to keep him from mouldering will be able to observe, much less respect. At least, so it seems to me.

A MESSAGE.

Although today your love has flown
Send me a message sweet,
That in my dark and sad to-day
Will o'er and o'er repeat.

Whisper it, dear, in accents soft,
So none but I may hear;
Send it soon so its glad refrain
My tired heart may cheer.

Out of the trust of other days
Yield me a loving kiss—
Although today your love has flown
O'er a deep and wide abyss.

Wrap it round with loving thoughts,
Place in the charge of Love,
That flies across the waste to me
With the swiftness of a dove.

Molten the buds with shining tears,
The buds of joy and peace,
That bring to me a happy hour
And my pain sweet surcease.

Out of the love of other days
Send me a message, sweet,
That in the want of and today
My heart will gladly greet.

GUARANTEED CURE.

"Is hard cider a temperance drink?" asks the visitor of the farmer who is pouring the apples into the cider press. "It is," says the farmer, while a reminiscent smile fits across his face. "It is. I reckon that after a man sobers up off of hard cider he is fuller of remorse and ready for the pledge than after surroundin' almost any other kind of joy-producer."

A UNANIMOUS JURY.

(Law Notes.)

At an inquest on a case of suicide recently held in England, the foreman returned this remarkable verdict: "The jury are all of one mind—temporarily insane."

AS TO FESTIVALS.

Worcester May Lose Its Famous Musical Events.

Interesting Discussion on Choruses and Star Singers.

It is feared it will be found to be necessary to discontinue the Worcester, Mass., festivals because of the growing deficit. The matter is now under consideration by a committee and the managers are said to be discouraged. For several years there has been an annual loss of about \$1,500 and the fund of \$10,000 which had been accumulated has been reduced to \$1,100. If a guarantee is provided the festivals will be continued; otherwise this famous series extending over the past 45 years, will be broken off summarily. The Hartford Times says in comment: The festival has probably suffered in recent years from the tendency of so large a part of the public to imagine that it must have the soloists who at the time appear to have the greatest popularity. To provide them means to pay enormous sums, and to introduce an element foreign to the fundamental conception of choral work as the one thing which should be of absolute, conspicuous excellence in a musical festival as it used to be understood.

Choral singing ought to be the great thing in a choral society, and perhaps the Worcester chorus itself will admit that however good its work has been it has not had the phenomenal quality that of itself would draw hearers and keep them pleased and enthusiastic, day after day, for itself alone. We do not say this to find fault in any sense with the chorus. It has almost always been good, and sometimes very good, but probably not in the exceptional way that would make the only effective and costless substitute for the soloists whom so many of the audience demand and for whom the society cannot pay without losing money.

Perhaps one of the most important questions for the committee to consider is whether it is possible to develop the chorus to the point at which it will become the real central attraction. If they can do that and give works that depend a little more on feeling and a little less on science alone than some they have performed, there may be a way out even without the guarantee funds.

It may be said that this is precisely the situation in which the Hampden County Musical Association found itself, and which was the chief cause of the discontinuance of the festivals. The public had come to look more and more upon the big stars as the essential thing.

So long as a new prima donna, who had not sung here before could be provided, all was well, and the people turned out in the firm conviction that they were hearing the best thing possible. But new stars of the first magnitude cannot be provided indefinitely, and when a singer had appeared once the curiosity hunters did not care to pay high prices for a second hearing. Hence the necessity for such ruinous engagements as that of Calve at \$2,750, a heavier tax than any festival could or should pay. On the other hand if a great celebrity was not engaged to warble a few songs, the public got the idea that the festival was deteriorating.

Now to get real solidity a music festival must be built up on quite different basis from the mere exploitation of a celebrity. It must rest on a real popular interest in music and the chorus and orchestra, which are the raison d'être of a great musical gathering of this sort, must be the foundation. If Worcester cannot support seven concerts on this basis it would be far better to reduce the number to five, which was the limit of the Hampden county festivals, rather than to give up the scheme altogether.

The Hampden County Association preferred to drop the whole thing rather than try it again on a more modest scale, and that this was a mistake is now pretty clearly seen. If a shorter festival is well supported for a few years there would be no difficulty when a favorable time came in expanding again. And, first of all, a music festival should be put and kept upon a sound commercial basis.

STRATEGY.

(New York Weekly.)

Daughter—"Papa did not take the paper to the office with him this morning."

Mother—"He didn't? I bet it's got a lot of stuff showing how women can trim their own bonnets."

DISCOURAGING CONCESSIONS.

(Washington Star.)

"Do you think you could be happy with a man like me?" said Willie Washington earnestly.

"Oh! yes," answered Miss Gwynne after a pause. "I think so; but, he wasn't too much like you."

HIS BADLY CHOSEN PHRASE.

"Don't you think that young Hunker wants to marry Miss Dolyers for her money?" asked Hojack.

"I think so," replied Tomdik. "I heard him say that he loved her for all she was worth."—Judge.

ANVIL CHORUS.

Maud—"I have always thought a bel would make a good reporter. He has such a good nose for news."

The Other Girls—"Yes, and such a good mouth for putting it into circulation."—Chicago Tribune.

CALAIS BAD BOYS.

CALAIS, Dec. 18.—Five of a gang of youthful desperadoes known as the "chain gang" entered the store of the Olsson Manufacturing Company on Wednesday evening, and when the clerk turned her back stole \$25 from the till. One arrest was made and the remainder of the gang who fled to St. Stephen have returned for trial.

PRIVATE LESSONS IN

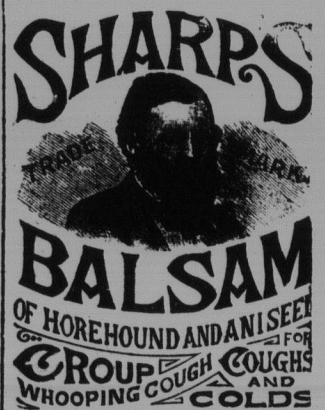
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