



SURPRISE SOAP
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BEST ON EARTH.



THE GREAT SELF-WASHER. TRY IT.



Everyone is looking for something that will lessen labor and expense in every department of life. SURPRISE SOAP is a great labor saver and is justly called "Best on Earth," "Queen of the Laundry," for use on wash day. No boiling, scalding or hard rubbing necessary by following the directions on the wrapper and washing clothes the "SURPRISE" way. Look out for Soaps "Just as good as SURPRISE." They are not so, but like all counterfeits lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. See that you get SURPRISE when you ask for it.

— ALSO —

"White Cross"
GRANULATED SOAP.

A Washing Powder.

THE SAINT CROIX SOAP M'FG. CO., SAINT STEPHEN, N. B.

ART IN LITERATURE.

AS ONE SEES IT AT J. & A. McMILLAN'S.

Beautiful and Useful Books and Articles suited to the Demands of the Holiday Season and Within the Reach of Almost Any Purse.

McMillan's windows just now are a standing challenge to Santa Claus. If that jolly old soul doesn't take a sleigh-load out of them, the only reason will be that earlier visitors clear everything away long before Christmas eve comes round.

The charming booklets sent out by Ward, Hawkins, Walker and Warne of London, Stokes and White & Allen of New York and Prang and others of Boston, adorn the other window. The sight of them causes one to rejoice that the evolution of the Christmas card has been in this direction. Dainty bindings, perfect paper and letter-press and illustrations which are an art-education in themselves, are characteristics of these holiday publications. They range in size from pamphlets of a dozen pages to "books that are books," but all are beyond criticism in their way—as is their price, too, for Messrs. McMillan buy direct from

the larger gift-books, of which McMillan has, as usual, the most complete assortment. Taking first rank among these is *Important New Etchings*, from original plates by Platt, Smillie, Harper, Kemble, Weldon, Bacher and Mitchell. The work of these men, as shown here, marks an epoch, and it deserves just such a sumptuous setting as the publisher has given it. Hardly less attractive in its way is *Estes & Lauriat's* large-paper edition of Keats's *Endymion*, the illustration of which, Mr. Harper, has thoroughly identified himself with the spirit of the poem. *Baby's Lullaby Book*, composed of mother-songs by Charles Stuart Pratt, water-color illustrations by W. L. Taylor, and music by G. W. Chadwick, published by Prang, is quaint, original and full of happy conceits well wrought out. From Prang also is *The Home of Shakespeare*, a beautiful volume, for which we have to thank the perfect taste of Louis K. Harlow, as manifested in a score of drawings. It would be a pleasure to describe this and the many other similar books it space would permit. One must not, however, overlook *Estes & Lauriat's* "book of the year," a (numbered) edition of *luxe* of Victor Hugo's *Notre Dame de Paris*. It is safe to say that finer work than this has never come from an American press. The illustrations, bold in design, full of insight and perfect in coloring, from water-colors by Bieler, Rossi and de Mysbach, are worthy of the romance—than which nothing more complementary can be said.

Printers and binders at least will agree that the Oxford bibles ought to be included in the art-publications. Messrs. McMillan have the largest stock in town of these perfect products of the University press—an assortment that ought to be seen by all who are in search of holiday gifts. Printed from clean type, on India paper, with silk-sewn and therefore flexible Morocco bindings, it is a delight to handle these books, and at the prices that prevail it is possible for anyone to own them.

In the list of art goods, too, Prang's Christmas cards, for which this firm are agents, have a fixed place. The old favorites are here and new and even prettier designs are not far to seek. All tastes are provided for and at all prices. The card counter will have many visitors during the next fortnight, and few will go away empty-handed.

Of the general stock which this splendid store offers for choice of useful gifts, it is quite unnecessary to speak. It has long been conceded that in its line McMillan's leads. Standard works of all kinds, sets of the novelists, the poets in choice bindings, everything that one would expect to find in a metropolitan bookstore is here. The buyer who cannot be suited by McMillan's experienced and obliging clerks must indeed be hard to please.

That when presents for older persons are being chosen the children may not be forgotten. PROGRESS desires to call special attention to a toy that is something more than a toy—a means of education. The "Anchor Stone Building boxes" are meant. These, as the name signifies, contain building material of real stones, in permanent colors and exactly formed, accompanied by instructive books, giving figures and designs that may be built with the blocks. To own one of these boxes is almost equal to taking a Kindergarten course. There is no child but would be the happier and more intelligent for such a Christmas gift.

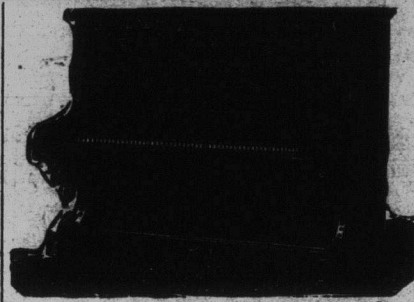
"The National," R. J. Wilkins, Proprietor No. 22 Charlotte street, has the best oysters, the best class of customers and is the best place to spend an evening.



The novel and beautiful "low tile" goods which are only to be found at this store, fill one of the windows and offer a bewildering variety of useful articles—ink-bottles, teapot stands, card receivers, whist-counters, paper-weights, letter-files, table-bells, etc.—to choose from. In all of these the design is quite as original as the use made of the material. Ornamental mountings of brass and nickel aid the artistic effect, and the tiles alone display the soft and harmonious colorings that always commend themselves to people of taste. Such persons will find pleasure in the inspection of this work and rare delight in owning examples of it.

Manufacturers. Specially neat things are the musical booklets, which not only illustrate such familiar ballads as Annie Laurie and Kathleen Mavourneen, but give the music. Estes & Lauriat are publishers of another ballad series, higher-priced, in a new binding. Stokes of New York is represented by several series of most attractive folios, *Sea Vistas*, *Land and Sea* and others, the illustrations of which are delicately suggestive as well as truthful. It is interesting to note that the best of these cost hardly any more than Christmas cards did, a few years ago, though the former are really works of permanent value.

The season's art is best represented in



JOHNSTON & CO.,

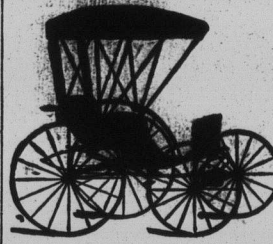
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FARM MACHINERY, of every Description,
CARRIAGES, SLEIGHS,
PIANOS and ORGANS,

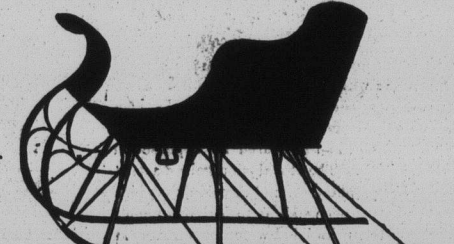
FREDERICTON (headquarters), NEWCASTLE, WOODSTOCK, MONCTON and PETITCODIAC,
N. B., and at NEW CARLISLE, P. Q., with Local and Travelling Agents in every County.

Exclusive selling Agents in New Brunswick for the GRAND SQUARE and UPRIGHT PIANOS manufactured by R. S. WILLIAMS & SON, Toronto, (established 1864), whose instruments have been bought and are recommended by QUEEN VICTORIA, the Rt. Hon. Sir CHARLES TUPPER, Bart., and many distinguished Musicians.

We have employed a competent TUNER of many years experience, who will make periodical visits to our customers, and care for all the Instruments we will sell.



ILLUSTRATED
Catalogues and Circulars
furnished upon application to us, or
to any Agency.



Johnston & Co.

St. John's Steamboat Connection.

While the connections of the various lines of steamers announced by Messrs. Schofield & Co. are all important to St. John merchants, affording as they do facilities for the speedy importation of goods from different places, probably the most important of all to St. John, is the Farness line from London. This company undertook the St. John trade on 1st July, 1884, ever since which date a regular monthly steamer has been despatched from London to St. John, according to contract with the dominion government. Besides this, without any additional aid, the company has also despatched from London to Halifax during the year and a half, over one hundred additional steamers, between the sailings of the contract boats, thus maintaining a fortnightly service all the year round, which has been very much appreciated by importers, as clearly shown by their constantly increasing patronage of the line. The steamers of the line which have visited St. John since 1st July, 1884, have also been an advantage to the port in another respect, having disbursed here about \$60,000 in cash, all of which has gone into general circulation in the city. The export trade by the line from St. John has not been at all important as yet, although a steady increase in the shipments is observable, and on the completion of the Short Line railway to Montreal a large business is expected, which will of course increase in various ways the advantages of the connection to the port.

Splendid Assortment of Silk Handkerchiefs, Silk Scarves, Cardigan Jackets at Walter Scott's. See Advertisement.

Engaged—For Two Evenings.

A good many people will be engaged next week—for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. The St. John Amateur Dramatic company, in the comedy *Engaged*, are the attractions, at Berryman's hall, on those dates. The people may expect to be amused and entertained. The ladies of the Free Public Library have been given a mortgage on the proceeds.

An Event of Next Week.

The lieutenant-governor, Mayor Thorne and Andre Cushing are among the announced attractions at the public temperance mass meeting, in Carleton City hall, next Wednesday evening. There is another attraction also—a silver collection at the door.

Give Your Wife a Christmas Present.

Each year life and endowment assurance becomes a more popular means of providing for dependent ones or for a "rainy day."

In 1877 the business done in Canada amounted to \$13,584,667. Last year it reached \$38,008,810 and the probabilities are that this year's record will surpass that of any former one. The Ontario Mutual Life company has, during the past nineteen years, done much to make life and endowment insurance popular, for it is thoroughly reliable and prompt in the settlement of its claims, while its low death rate and low rate of expense have enabled it to give satisfactory dividends to its policy-holders.

Its rates are favorable and its policies without restriction as to residence or occupation and incontestable after two years. Visitors to the city during the holiday season, or citizens wishing further information or rates will find E. M. Sipprell, the company's general agent, at his office, Chubb's building, happy to supply both.

BOVININE LIQUID FOOD.

A condensed raw food extract of BEEF and MUTTON. Retained by the weakest stomach. Palatable to the taste. Prepared from the recipe of the late Prof J. P. Bush, of Boston, Mass., for the cure and relief of

DYSPEPSIA,
Mental and Physical Exhaustion,
Weakened Energy,
Consumption,
Indigestion, Etc.

Universally recommended and prescribed by physicians of all schools. Its action will harmonize with such stimulants as are necessary to take. It is the best food known, furnishing sustenance to both brain and body.

INVIGORATING, STRENGTHENING, HEALTHFUL, STIMULATING.
Put up in 6 and 12 oz. bottles, at 60 cts. and \$1.00, and sold by all druggists throughout the world.

BERRYMAN'S HALL.

Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 18 and 19.

BENEFIT OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE SAINT JOHN AMATEUR DRAMATIC COMPANY will produce GILBERT'S SPARKING Comedy.

ENGAGED.

TICKETS 50 CENTS to all parts of the Hall. Seats may be secured in advance at Messrs. A. C. Smith & Co's.

NOTE.—The stage has been enlarged, and the Company's own scenery will be used on these occasions. Performance will begin at 8 p. m. sharp.

MISS B. E. BOWMAN,

of Boston,

Teacher in Oils, Water Colors on every kind of Material.

Also CHINA, LUSTRE and PLASTIC WORK.

Address: 4 WELLINGTON ROW, ST. JOHN, N. B.

DAVID CONNELL,
Livery and Boarding Stables, Sydney St.

Horses Boarded on reasonable terms.

Carriages and Carriages on hire. Fine Fries at short notice.

INDEX TO SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

	Page.
American Rubber Store.....	17
Agassiz, H. A., N. Y. Life Insurance Co.....	24
Armstrong & Bro., J. S.....	24
Baird & Peters.....	11
Barr & MacLachlan (engraving).....	11
Bell, T. William.....	11
Bent & Sons, Gilbert.....	14
Beverly, F. (engraving).....	2
Blake, G. & E. (Gurney heater).....	17
Brock & Paterson.....	14
Cameron & Co., Chas. K.....	24
City Market Clothing House, T. Youngclaus.....	7
Clarke, Kerr & Thorne (engraving).....	2
Coles & Parsons (engraving).....	2
Cowie & Edwards.....	14
Crockett, Thomas A.....	19
Daniel & Boyd.....	24
Doherty & Co., William (engraving).....	19
Dominion Lighting Co.....	22
Dominion Safety Fund Life Association (engraving).....	20
Dufferin Hotel.....	16
Emerson & Fisher (engraving).....	24
Estey, Alwood & Co.....	16
Fairweather, Geo. E. (engraving).....	3
Finley, Joseph (engraving).....	21
Foster & Son, S. R. (engraving).....	11, 19
Gard, W. Tremaine.....	23
Gilbert, Harold.....	22
Hall, T. H. (engraving).....	23
Harrison, Morton L.....	6
Hawker & Son, W.....	14
Hay, A. & J.....	7
Hayward & Co., S. (engraving).....	4
Holman & Butcher (engraving).....	19
Horton & Son, H. (engraving).....	11, 23
Hunter, Hamilton & McKay (engraving).....	19
Jarvis, C. E. L., Queen Ins. Co. (engraving).....	19
Jarvis, W. M., Liverpool, London & Globe Ins. Co.....	14
Jennings, D. J.....	16
Johnson, J. M.....	16
Johnson & Co., L. W.....	6
Jones, William.....	29
Kaye, J. Sidney, Royal Ins. Co.....	14
Kelly, James.....	16
Kenny, E. B. (engraving).....	21
Kerr, Hugh P.....	19
Landry & Co. (engraving).....	18
Logan, William (engraving).....	3, 22
London House, Retail (engraving).....	2
" " Wholesale (engraving).....	24
Macaulay Bros. & Co. (engraving).....	16
Magge Bros.....	6
Manchester, Robertson & Allison (engraving).....	12, 13
Manks & Co.....	14
May & Son, James S. (engraving).....	15
McAvity & Sons, T. (engraving).....	15
McDiarmid, S. (engraving).....	16
McMillan, J. & A. (engraving).....	8
Mitchell Bros.....	16
Montgomery, J. W.....	17
Nelson & Co. E. G.....	11
Page, Smalley & Ferguson.....	16
Peters, C. H.....	8
Pittfield & Co., W. C. (engraving).....	11
Powers, E. B. (engraving).....	6
Pugley Buildings (engraving).....	2, 20
Rankine & Sons, T. (engraving).....	20
Robertson & Co. (engraving).....	7
Royal Hotel (engraving).....	7
Schofield & Co., Ltd.....	23
Skinner, A. O. (engraving).....	8
St. Croix Soap Co. (engraving).....	8
Stephens & Fergusson.....	9
Stewart's Steam Soap Works.....	21
St. John Street Railway Co.....	2
Storey, John K.....	24
Taylor & Dockrill (engraving).....	24
Temple, Thos. A. (engraving).....	23
The Telegraph (engraving).....	2
Thorne Bros. (engraving).....	15
Thorne & Co., W. H. (engraving).....	2
Turnbull & Co. (engraving).....	2
Turner & Finlay (engraving).....	11
Vassie & Co., J. (engraving).....	14
Victoria Hotel (engraving).....	24
Weldon & McLean.....	12
Whitaker, E. L., Imperial Ins. Co. (engraving).....	22

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STREETS

The Great C and That some New Our Great Men are Prince Will hall, was a through the was on the Brunswick that and the small shops That was those days t

building. T delivered at KERR, on the Coffee House Bank of Mon towards which itated.

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magnitude. If prospect might But it has been patiently, and w to show for it. There is some handsome and line those street the last ten yea time when misfo people, and the uncertain. But who had faith in and they were b tures of which th They are the mo rate push, persev tell the story of While buildi and architectural