RATES OF ADVERTISING Schedule of advertising rates will be promptly urnished on application to the business office.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. No notice can be taken of anonymous com vanications. Whatever's intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot under-ske to return rejected communications.

TO SUBSCRIBERS IN CHATHAM. on will confer a favor by reporting arregular tryice by telephone No. 53 A. The complaint will receive prompt attention.

TO SUBSCRIFERS CUTSIDE OF CHATHAM If your paper fails to arrive regularly, or if you list suggest a better connection, or a better route, slease communicate with the circulation depart-

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22.

AN ATTACK ON SANTA CLAUS.

The Woodstock Express quotes the following from an esteemed church

Just eleven months ago we protested against the cult of Santa Claus. In former generations Santa Claus was passed over indulgently as a fairy tale from the old Dutch people York State. But has been found that parents actually speak of, and the children believe in Sanata Claus as a real god. When children grow up and find they have been deceived, the shock is too great, and they believe in nothing that their senses refuse to verify. Let us this year in advance of Christbeg parents to be honest, and to tell the truth to thechildren.

It is a sorry day, indeed, when it s necessary to take up arms in defence of Santa Claus. But this is an age of disillus bumen. The mythdescroyer is abroad and he spares no have fallen before him. Noah and the Flood are but reminders of the bylon. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob name of a school of poetry. Romulus and Remus are myths; the story of Shakespeare is but another name for Bicon. And now Santa Claus must

And why? Because he is becoming a god? Well, supposing he is, who has a better right to become god? We have a god of "war, a terrible fellow that delights in the indiscrim nate slaughter of foolish and unfortunate mortals. | Nobody tries to dethrone him. Even the churches assist in the sacrificial offerings to him with hymns of praise. Does anybody, even in this myth-destroying age, rise up and say that the god of war is a myth? History would laugh him down. If the older folks must have their god of war, why shall the children not be allowed to have their god of love?

Parents must tell the children the truth, indeed! But what is the truth? That there is no spirit of kindliness in the world which may be personified and given a mame? We hope that is not the truth; and if it were the truth, it is to be hoped that the children would not believe it. Scientists tell us that the history of the race is 'repeated in epitome in the history of each individual. When the race is in its infancy it lives in a world of wonders. The air is filled with mysterious spirits; the woods and fields and hedges are alive with strange forms. As the race grows older it enters into a new world. Its ghosts and its gods and its fairies are relegated to the department of mythology. The reign of natural law, is ushered in and it becomes a mark of old fogyism to believe in anything that cannot be proven by the rule of three, the microscope or the stock quotations. As it is with the race, so it is with the individual. There is the period of youth when the whole world is a fairyland; budding manhood succeeds, with its spirit of enquiry; then succeeds the period when nothing satisfies but the demonstrations of exact science; a still later period follows, when exact science fails to demonstrate anything except that nothing can be demonstrated, and lastly comes the period of senescence or decay, when the individual may believe everything or no-

Now, the point is this, that any one of these periods in the life of the race or the individual is just as real as any other period. It used to be held that the gods and other wonder-workers of the ancients, were invented by the priests for the purpose of frightening the people into submission; but that idea is now discarded. The priests were clever people, no doubt, but they were not clever enough to invent the wonderful stories of which the mythology of the world is made. Nobody could have invented those stories. You might as well credit the school-

### Catarrh

The cause exists in the blood, in what causes inflammation of the mucous membrane.

It is therefore impossible to cure the disease by local applications.

It is positively dangerous to neglect it, because it always affects the stomach and deranges the general health, and is likely to develop into consumption.

Many have been radically and permanently cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. It cleanses the blood and has a peculiar alterative and tonic effect. M. J. McDonald, Trenton, Ont., writes: "I had catarrh, my system was weak. blood was bad, and my liver torpid and inactive. tried many medicines without benefit until I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. This medicine has completely cured me and I highly recommend it to all sufferers.'

### Hood's Sarsaparilla Promises to cure and keeps the promise. It is better not to put off

treatment-buy Hood's today.

master with having invented the beech rod, with which he keeps his classes in order. Mythology grew up naturally, just as the beech rod did, and all the priests did was to make a cunning use of it, just as the schoolmaster makes use of the rod. Nobody invented Santa Claus. Nobody could have invented him. He grew up according to a law of nature, to satisfy an imperative need in child-life. He is as real to the child as gravity on ether or substance is to the scientist, and just as capable of proof. Had there been no Santa Claus it would have been necessary to invent one, which would have been very unfortunate for the children, for human inventions are very clumsy things compared with the products of nature's own workshop. But Santa Claus was not invented; he grew up by a natural law of evolution, because it was necessary for the welfare of childhood that he should grow up. Not having been invented he cannot be destroyed. He may die a 'natural death, as the heroes of antiquity appear to have died, but when he does die, it will be a sorrowful day for the world. It will mean that there is no more work in short that there is no more childhood in the world. That that time is, coming, indications are not wantout it could probably be proven that

the period of childhood is not much

When a great general goes into battle he holds back part of his army for reserve to use in case of need at any point where the fighting line weakens and the enemy threatens to break through.

In the same way a thoroughly healthy human body always has a certain amount of reserve strength at command in case of emergency.

What Scott's Emulsion does is to build up reserve strength and vital force which the body can use to repair or defend any weak part in the entire system.

Everybody who needs good red blood, physical vigor, high spirits and plenty of reserve force should take Scott's Emulsion. It is not a mere stimulant, extract or so-called wine of cod-liver oil, but is rich in actual nourishment for the blood, the tissues and the nerve cells. Scott's Emulsion contains the whole oil perfectly emulsified and blended with hypophosphites of lime and soda in a combination which is a genuine and perfect food-medicine.

We will send a sample free to anyone on request.

SCOTT & BOWNE. 55 Frent St., W., Toronto.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* The Bad results from excesses of eating or drinking are minimized by

MAGI CALEDONIA WATERS

Sold by Best Dealers everywhere. J. J. McLaughlin, Sole Agent, Toronto.

## 

Xmas, just a few daysto make your

selection. MEYNELL'S IS THE PLACE.

Until then you will have a chance at our

### Great Holiday Sale...

Never before have tailor-made Men's Suits, Overcoats, Reefers, Boys' and Children's Clothing been offered at such low prices.



### SPECIAL VALUES IN ALL DEPARTME: TS.

Your Christmas dinner will taste the sweeter if you sit down to the table knowing that you have saved from \$3.00 to \$5,00 on your new suit or overcoat.

Z.....

A pair of Embroidery Suspenders in fancy Box, 25c. A pair of Gloves. Initial Handkerchiefs. A Silk Square Muffler.

A Stylish Hat. A Dozen exclusive Pattern Ties See our Special Ties at 25c., 50c. House Coat

The New Hankerchiefs, Silk, with Children's Gau t'ets. Clothing and Furnishings. Mufflers for Ladies.

Perpetual Motion.

When George Stephenson was asked, "Do you believe in perpetual

motion?" he replied, "Yes, if you lift yourself by the waist-band of

the trousers, and carry yourself

would be kept in perpetual motion

trying to do with common soap

what she could so easily do with

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Theatrical

JOHN GRIFFITH IN MACBETH.

Mr. John Griffith, the eminent

on Friday evening, Dec. 26th, is be-

yond any doubt the very best legiti-

mate actor at present before the Am-

erican public. He is tall, angular,

strongly featured face, and a rich

and powerful voice. In these es-

sentials he is, perhaps, without a liv-ing peer, and his youth is not the

least valuable of his possessions. Be-

fore him lies a straight path to the highest professional honors that any

actor could desire, for it leads through the fields of legitimacy to

goal of fame that shall be as en-

during as that wen by Forrest, Booth,

McCullough, Barrett, Keene and the

other mighty masters of stagecraft

Could Scarcely Walk, and Sleep and

Sha Were Strangers.

Kidney Complaint Was The Trouble

Dodd's Kidney Pills Cured it and

Now She Can Both Sleep and Walk

Bear River, Digby Co., N. S., Dec

22.—(Special).—Of peculiar interest to aged people is the statement made by Mrs. Elizabeth Berry of this place.
Mrs. Berry is sixty-five years of age

and for over eight years she was troubled with Chronic Kidney Com-

plaint: She was so bad that she

could scarcely walk from one room

to another, she could not sleep and

she required assistance even to dress

herself. Dodd's Kidney Pills cured

undress myself and could scarcely

time. Then I resolved to give Dodd's

took five boxes and they proved such

a success I took seven more boxes.

Now I can sleep much better and am

completely cured of Kidney Trouble.

"When I started taking Dodd's Kidney Pills I could only walk from

one room to another. Now I can

slump in Wall Street. Ditto New

What would be nicer for a Christ-

set? For sale at The Planet Of-

walk a mile."

feel young again.

sleep more than five minutes at

who have gone before.

with a clean cut figure, a mobile,

Sunlight Soap-Octagon Bar.

three times round the room.

Market, King St., CHATHAM.

Way's Mufflers, 25c. to 75c.

Fine Night Shirts, \$1.00

more than half as long as it was, say a hundred years ago. The average boy or girl of nine or ten, smiles with pity at the superstitions that were the sacred creeds of our grandfathers and grandmothers; and the boy of fifteen to whom the wisdom of his parents is not folly is becoming as rare as sincerity among politicians.

Santa Claus may die of old age of for want of a welcome; but he cannot for him, no more welcome for him- be killed by parents "telling the truth." Parents did not invent him; parents are too stupid to invent such a fine character. Nobody could have ing. We have no statistics at hand, invented him but the children themselves, and even they did not invent as he has a part to play, so long as childhood lives in fairyland-that is, long as there is childhood-Santa Claus will be king. When Santa Claus ceases to be there will no longer be any love, any mystery, any wonder, any simplicity, any children in

> There are some men in municipal life who hold on because they appeal to the public sense of humor.-London Advertiser.

> Wonder if the 'Tizer has been hearing about some of Chatham's industrial committee's industrial claims

Our contemporary, the St. Thomas Times, published a pleasing Christmas supplement on Friday last with several Yuletide pictures and holiday tales. And it was kind of the St. Thomas paper to lend the plates and cuts to our local contemporary, the Banner, for use second-hand, to make up their "Christmas edition" on Saturday.

Our contemporary, the Berlin News-Record, has turned out an exceedingly fine Christmas number, which is also a momento of the silver jubilee of the paper. The Planet congratulates the News-Record on its evident prosperity and heartily wishes for it a liberal continuance of the success which has characterized the past 25 years.

A New York paper publishes a long ist of answers from men and women, mostly eminent, to the question, what is the most important problem of the her. Here's what she says herself;

"A friend advised me to take Dodd's day? Most of the answers are interesting; some of them are unexpected. For instance, Admiral Dew- any more for three years. I at last ey thinks that the great problem is got so that I could not dress or how to make brighter and happier the lives of childre . Joaquin Miller, the poet of the Sorras, wants universal Kidney Pills a thorough trial. peace, which is a good thing for an old poet to want; but he wants to secure it by means of a fleet strong enough to silence the British fortress at Esquimaul. He is like the man who wants another drink in order to sober up. The answer of Captain Dreyfus, the hero of Devil's Island, is the shortest on the list. Here it is in full: "The need of the day is to lead people to be sincere, truthful and just. The world will be worth living in when these virtues dominate it." How much more could he have said had his answer covered columns?

Every rural school in Sweden possesses a garden, in which the scholars receive practical instruction in VonGunten Bros. are selling at \$14.75 horticulture.

GREAT DOLL BARGAINSngs and slippers-

> Size 15 inch at each 25c. Size 16 inch at each 40c. Size 20 inch at each 50c. Size 21 inch at each 75c.

At each 25c, 35c, 40c and 50c. With China heads, 13 inches high,

DOLL SOLDIERS-Gaily dressed, at each 10c and 15c

INDIAN DOLLS-Full costume, at each 35c.

BEAUTIFUL MEDALLIONS-In gilt and fancy frames, choice

50c, 60c, 75c and WORKBOXES-

Assorted styles, at each 25c, 40c

THE BUSY STORE

THE NORTHWAY COMPANY Ltd.

# Store OPEN Evenings

From now until Xmas this store will be open evenings to accommodate those who cannot conveniently come in day time. Every dollar's worth of Holiday Goods must be cleared during the next two days. We do not carry any lines over from one season to another. Here are prices that should make a quick clearance of the entire holiday goods.

Kid body dolls, natural hair, stock-Size 12 inch at each 20c.

BEAUTIFUL DRESSED DOLLS-

RUBBER DOLLS-Various styles, at each 25c and

GILT METAL PICTURE FRAMES-Very pretty styles, with glass, special at each 15c, 25c and 50c.

subjects, richly colored, at each 25c

CHILDREN'S CHINA TEASETS-

Special, the full set in box, 25c and WEDGEWOOD PLAQUES-

Very pretty designs and assorted figures, special each 15c, 25c, 50c, 75c

PICTURE BOOKS-

Illustrated with colored plates, large assortment, at each 5c, 10c,

PERFUMES-

Imported French perfumes, in boxes and fancy baskets, at each 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c, 35e and

BOY'S SLEIGHS-Hard wood, strongly built, steel plated runners, nicely painted, special each

BOY'S SLEIGHS-High frames, bent runners, steel bound, plated runners, nicely decorat-

\$1.00. WHITE LAWN APRONS-

Very prettily trimmed, fine Swiss insertion, embroidery and lace, deep hem on bottom, special value at 75c, 65c, 50c, 40c, 35c and

Fine wool, chenille and silk, in fancy weaves, colors pink, sky, cream, helio and white, special each 50c, 60c,

DRESSING SACQUES-

In eider and fine knitted wool, choice styles and colorings, prettily trimmed, at each \$1.25, \$1.50 \$2.00 and

LADIES BATH ROBES-

Pure knitted wool, prettily trimmed, colors pink and white, and sky and white. Special at

LADIES' RAIN COATS-Fine pure wool materials, in plain and herringbone weaves, colors black navy, fawn, grey and brown, made in latest style, full back and sleeves,

worth \$10. Special at

LADIES' WATERPROOF COATS-Guaranteed to keep out rain; cut in latest styles, colors fawn, navy and black, three specials at each \$5 \$3.90 and

MEN'S RAIN COATS-

Guaranteed, fine heavy cloths, at each \$4.00, \$5, \$\$6.50 and

### STRICTLY THE NORTHWAY COMPANY, Ltd. ONE LOWEST

Just so, and a woman would just Teacher-Johnny Stokes, how many as soon believe that she has not to make a million pay dearly for common premium Johnny-Very few on dis earth soaps, in the low quality of soap, in ruined hands and clothes. She

HOW'S THIS? We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh

F. J. CHENEY & CO., We, the undersigned, have known F. I. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations

made by their firm. West & Truax, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Walding, Kinnan & Marvin, Whole sale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Love is a virtue for heroes; and immortal as every great soul is that struggles, endures and fulfils.

MEDICAL DR. HALL & RELL.

R. Hall, M. D. Chas, C. Bell, M.A., M.B.,
Residence, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Eng.
L.M., Dublin.
Tel Residence 287.

e—Sixth St., next Office Hours: Office-Sixth St., next 9 to 12 a.m., 2 to 4 p.m. 7 to 8 p.m.

· LEGAL.

J. B. RANKIN, K. C.-Barrister, Notary Public, etc., Victoria Block, W. F. SMITH - Barrister, Solicitor, etc. Office, King Street, west of the Market. Money to loan on

Morgages. J. B. O'FLYNN-Barrister, Solicitor etc., Conveyancer, Notary Pablic, Office, King street, opposite Merchant's Bank. Chatham, Ont.

MITH & GOSNELL-Barristers, So licitors, etc., Harrison, Hall, Chat-ham; Herbert D. Smith, County Crown Attorney; R. L. Gosnell,

WILSON, PIKE & GUNDY-Barris tors, Solicitors of the Supreme Court, Notaries Public, etc. Money to loan on Mortgages, at lowest rates. Offices, Fifth Street. Mat-thew Wilson, K. C., W. E. Gundy,

HOUSTON, STONE & SCANE-Barristers, Solicitors, Conveyancers, sutaries Public etc. Private and loan at lowest current rat-Scane's Block, King street. M. HOUSTON, FRED STONE, w. W.

Trust and Private

Funds to Loan

On farm and city property. Terms to suit borrowers. Apply or write to

THOMAS SOULLARD Dodd's Kidney Pills make the old Room 26, Victoria Block. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Toronto was hit hard by the recent

TAXES

Pay your taxes on or before Dec. 31 and save the percentage to be added

WILLIAM RANRIE, Tax Collector. WHEN YOU WANT

25c.

**\*** 

ALL PATTERNS AND SIZES,

## Cutlery

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

## SHELF Hardware Goods.

GO TO QUINN & PATTER-SON, KING STREET .... 3 Doors East of the Market.

They have the Best Assortment of these goods in the city They are all New and Up-to-Date, and the prices are no higher than you have to pay for the common cheap

## Quinn & Patterson.

<del></del>

><del></del>

## A Glance :: Through Our Store

Offers many suggestions to parents and friends for the remembrances so appropriate for Christ-

The Bethrothal Ring, so interesting, should hold a gem of the "first water." None other should be given on this occasion. If selected at our establishment it carries the assurance.

Our prices are low as is consistent with good quality and we are always anxious to please

Come in and test our Merits.

A. JORDAN

SIGN OF BIG CLOCK. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*