

**Aid Wanted.**  
 WILKESBARRE, Dec. 29.—The Relief Committee at Nanticoke has issued an appeal to the public for aid for the families of the twenty-six entombed miners.

**A Schooner Goes Down with All Hands.**  
 CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The consignees of the missing schooner Orphan Boy have given up all hopes of her safety. A letter was received this morning by them from a lake captain who saw the ill-fated craft on Dec. 4 about 5 p. m., abreast of Beacon Island. She either foundered in the terrific gale of that night or struck a reef in attempting to make the southern passage and went to pieces. There were eight men on board, who doubtless went down with her.

**Justifiable Homicide.**  
 VICKERSBURG, Miss., Dec. 29.—When the steamer Will B. Hayes was a short distance above Natchez last night, Floyd Hicks, a negro roustabout, made a murderous assault on John Winn, the mate, striking him twice on the head with a shovel. It was thought for a short time that Winn was dead. Capt. Floyd attempted to prevent a further assault on the mate by the negro, when the latter turned on the captain with a knife. Capt. Floyd then shot Hicks dead. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide. Winn is in a critical condition.

**A Terrible Experience at Sea.**  
 PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29.—The captain of the Cleopatra, tells the following story: We sailed from Boston on Dec. 22 with a crew of eighteen men. Everything went well until we were struck with a hurricane on Saturday. The schooner was dimasted and thrown on her beam end. When the vessel went over fourteen men were washed into the sea, and of the four that were left one was dashed on the deck and killed instantly. Eleven of the fourteen succeeded in swimming back to the vessel when she righted and were saved. The vessel was so badly wrenched that the water poured into her through many cracks, and all hands were kept busy at the pumps to keep her afloat until our signals of distress should be sighted. Each one of the crew was badly bruised. To add to our misfortunes our provisions were all water-soaked and spoiled, and I do not know what would have become of us had not our signals been seen by the Lord Gough.

**Gladstone's Birthday.**  
 LONDON, Dec. 29.—To-day is the 76th anniversary of the birth of Mr. Gladstone. During the morning he was the recipient of 400 letters congratulating him on having attained his 76th year. Mr. Gladstone left his residence at six o'clock and walked to the village church, where special services were held. Notwithstanding the sleet and snow falling, the walk did not seem to fatigue Mr. Gladstone, as he appeared quite hearty when returning home after the services.

Earthquake shocks were reported from Hartford, Conn., and Bloomington, Ill., Tuesday.

The Municipal Council of Cork has decided to loan money for the erection of 74 cottages for laborers.

Negotiations are reported to be proceeding for the sale of the Canada Atlantic Railway to the C.P.R. Co.

A committee of the Imperial Cabinet has been appointed to draft a measure of Home Rule for the whole Kingdom.

Changes introduced into the management of the G. T. R. have obliterated the Great Western as a separate division.

**SHILOH'S CATARRH REMEDY**—A positive cure for Catarrh, Diphtheria, and Canker Mouth. Sold by A. B. Petrie.

Forty-eight hours is the time in which eighteen cars of apples were transported from Toronto to Portland, Me.

A battalion of Mexican cavalry has been ordered to Mar to defend the city against a filibustering party now on the American side of the Rio Grande.

**ARE YOU MADE** miserable by Indigestion, Constipation, Dizziness, Loss of Appetite, Yellow Skin? Shiloh's Vitalizer is a positive cure. For sale by A. B. Petrie.

A by-law has been advanced to its second reading by the London Council, granting a bonus to a railway to be built to give connections with the Michigan Central Railway.

A meeting of the boatmen interested in the Erie Canal has passed resolutions demanding an improvement in the capacity and a diminution of the charges from Buffalo to New York.

**WHY WILL YOU** cough when Shiloh's Cure will give immediate relief. Price 10 cts., 50 cts., and \$1. For sale by A. B. Petrie.

The Boston Chamber of Commerce has adopted resolutions favoring the appointment of commissioners for the settlement of negotiating a reciprocity treaty with Canada.

**SPECIAL NOTICES**  
 For nice goods and low prices for Xmas and New Year's gifts Day's Bookstore is the place.

Dolls, games, toys, writing cases, sewing baskets, fancy cups and saucers and other things for Xmas and New Year's gifts. Day's bookstore leads.

Sleighs slaughtered at the City Bookstore. A good, strong, nicely painted sleigh for \$6. Get one from J. A. Nelles.

Fine Seal, Persian Lamb, Otter and Beaver caps, very choice and select assortment at Shaw & Grundy's.

Call and see what John M. Bond & Co. have in goods both ornamental and useful, suitable for the holiday season.—See adv.

Christmas goods at Nelles' City Bookstore. Our place is full of new, nice, cheap goods for the holidays. Call and see them.

New Florida, Jamaica and Valencia oranges, new figs and the choicest brands of eatables, King's & Gendler's National Brand oysters in can and bulk, at George Williams, 81 and 85 Upper Wyndham Street.

We observe the gorgeous display in the windows of the Lion—one a lovely mourning window in memoriam of the departure of 1898, in the centre of which is a lovely young lady typical of the New Year. In another window is a basket of coins, the object of which will be explained to any one visiting the Lion.

Albums, albums, albums, at Nelles' City Bookstore. They are marvellous for beauty, style and price, 25 per cent. less than last year. They sell themselves. See them.

**OUR SPECIAL LINES** for this week are Tweeds, Flannels, Yarns, Blankets, Shirts and Drawers. Having bought a large lot of these goods at less than cost of production, we are offering them at astonishing reductions. Secure some before they are all sold. A. J. Little & Co.

**CHEAP SPOONS**—A number of second hand Best Burner's (with and without covers) in good working order, will be sold cheap for cash at Heather's stove and tinware depot, Quebec Street, opposite Knox Church.

The Christmas cards at Nelles' City Bookstore are the rage. We have had to re-order several leading lines already. Come early and make your selection.

**FRESH ARRIVALS.**

**Latest Styles in Cloth and New York Hats.**  
**Latest Styles in Gent's Furnishings.**  
**Latest Styles in Fall Jersey Suits.**

Call and inspect our stock before purchasing. Workmanship and Fit Guaranteed.

**GUY & HUSBAND,**  
 Merchant Tailors.

**Silk Mufflers,**  
**Persian Lamb Caps,**  
**Silk Pocket Handk'fs,**  
**Seal Caps,**  
**New Scarfs.**

**Stewart & Co.**  
 THE SHIRT MAKERS

For cheap and Nobby

**ORDERED CLOTHING GO TO WELLS' The Military Tailor**

Choice and Nobby Worsted Suitings, Choice and Nobby Tweed Suitings, The Latest Styles and Patterns in Worsted Overcoatings, The Latest Styles and Patterns in Tweed Overcoatings, A choice lot of Fancy Striped Pantings, Always in Stock.  
 59 Upper Wyndham-st.

**Handkerchiefs**

A large assortment of  
**Plain & Fancy Bordered Handkerchiefs BEHOLD A QUALITY.**

A BEAUTIFUL LOT OF SLIPPERS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

Our stock of Wools is now complete in every shade.

Ladies wishing to select holiday gifts should call early before the choicest goods are picked out.  
**Mrs. Wright,**  
 St. George's Square.

**Mrs. R. D. Parker.**

I have just received a quantity of  
**Children's Wool Jackets,**  
**Wool Caps, Hoods, &c.**  
 Flashes in all the New Shades and colors to match.  
**Berlin, Zephyr and Flamingo Wools LOVELY SHADES.**  
**Fancy Goods always on Hand.**

**Christmas is Past. Hurrah for New Year's**

All kinds of Choice  
**Oatmeal, Cornmeal, Best Roller and Stone Flour,**  
**AT MILL PRICES**

All kinds of Grain at lowest prices. A lot of choice Poultry left over to be sold cheap. Fresh Baked Hay, Potatoes, &c., always in stock.

All goods promptly delivered. Agent for the Excelsior Horse and Cattle Spline Co., Mitchell, Ont.  
**JAS. PENELTON,**  
 Market Square

**Reliable T. T. Store.**  
 Park-y-st., Guelph.

Just opened out a large and well selected

**Stock of Groceries,**

at the lowest possible prices.  
 20 lbs Sugar for \$1.00.  
 5 lbs. Japan Tea, \$1.00

Everything low in proportion. Remember the stand opposite Primitive Methodist Church, Paisley-st.

**Wm. U. Humphries.**



**Novelty Lamp Glass Cleaner,**  
 PATENTED IN CANADA AND UNITED STATES.

Male and female agents wanted to sell this the best selling article ever handled. Sample sent by mail for 25 cents. Address, DR. DOUGLASS & CO., Sole Manufacturers and Patentees, Guelph, Ont.

Agents can make from \$5 to \$5 per day. Agents' prices sent with sample. send in THIS WEEKLY MERCURY is only \$1.50 a year in advance, and contains all the latest news and telegraph news.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**

**Our Great Special Discount Sale**

Will be stopped on

**Saturday, January 2nd,**

as it has already accomplished the object for which it was started, viz:

The Reduction of our STOCK to a REQUIRED AMOUNT

After this date (January 2nd), goods will be sold at

**REGULAR PRICES**

and no discount will be allowed.

**FINAL NOTICE!**

Any Accounts in our Books remaining unpaid after January 2nd, except those with whom special arrangements have been made, will be handed into Court for collection.

**DAVID N. HOGG & CO.**

**Xmas and New Years Presents.**

**DRESSING GOWNS**

Dressing Gowns,  
 Very Choice Silk Handkerchiefs,  
 Fur Topped Gloves and Mitts,

And a Variety of Fine Goods Suitable for Holiday Presents.

**Shaw & Grundy,**  
 MERCHANT TAILORS

**THE BEST YET!**

**PRICES PARALYZED**

**PROFITS ABANDONED.**

During the Holiday Season we propose giving the Public a

**GRAND BENEFIT**

By placing before them our new and attractive stock of

**Staple and Fancy Dry Goods,**

**Millinery, Mantles, Furs, &c.,**

at prices away below all others.

**DON'T BE DECEIVED.**

But come and satisfy yourself by comparing quality, style and prices, at

**77 Upper Wyndham Street,**

**A. J. LITTLE & Co.**

**For Christmas**

Nice Thin Cases of Sissors, Ladies' Combs, Pink Knives, &c. Ivory Handled Knives, Plated Knives and Forks, Silver and Plated Spoons, Rodgers' Celebrated Cutlery, Razors, Safety Razors, Electro-plated Ware in great profusion, Agate and other Stones, Blights, Sleigh Bells, Gongs and Chimes, Lamps and Lamp Goods in great variety Coffee and Tea Sets in Agate and Plated, Revolvers, Guns and Sporting Goods, Carpet Sweepers, Wringers, Washer Plate Baskets, Wool and Cocoa Mats, Meat Cutters, Must Cutlery, Pardonnais and Scuttles,

And a large assortment of Goods, Ornaments and Useful for the

**Holiday Season**

**J. M. Bond & Co**  
 GUELPH.

**Xmas Boxes**

**STOCK LARGER**

Select your Xmas Boxes Early  
**MORE VARIED**

Do not wait till the Last Day  
**THIS YEAR**

Larger Stock than Ever.  
**THAN EVER**

**B. SAVAGE.**

**Scorched, not Destroyed**

**J. Elmslie**

Has opened out again in the Store next to Myers' Clear Factory, opposite the Old Stand, Gordon-st., where he will keep on hand and supply at

**LOWEST RATES**

a First-class Stock of  
**Flour, Barley, Peas, Oats, Chopped stuff, &c., &c.**  
 A call solicited.

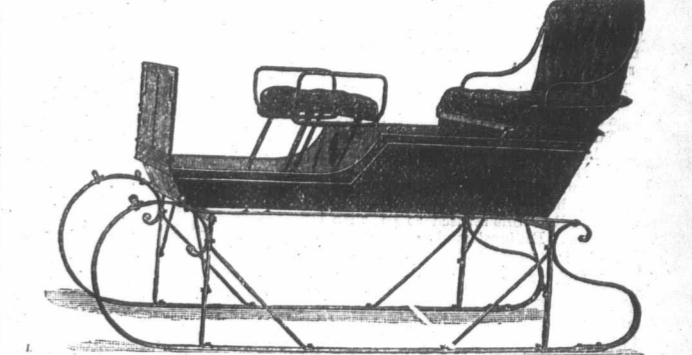
**HARDWARE.**

**Bargains in Christmas Goods**

Lamps,  
 Lamp Goods,  
 Plated Ware,  
 Cutlery,  
 Skates,  
 Snow Shoes,  
 Toboggans etc.

**HARVEY & Co.,**  
 Successors to A. McBean & Co.,  
 23 Lower Wyndham Street.

**Armstrong's Tempered Steel Cutter Gear,**  
 With "Jump Seat" Body.

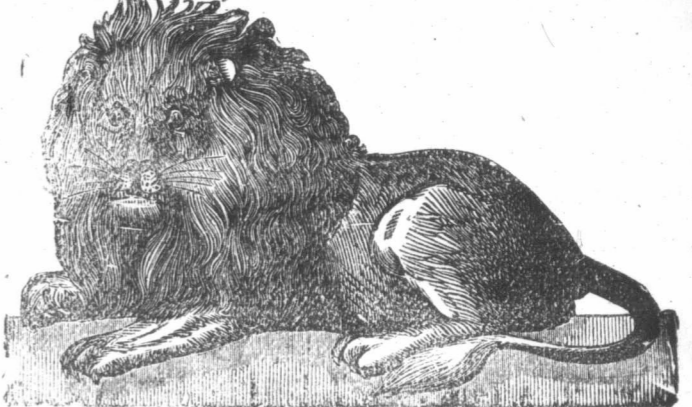


As a Four Passenger Cutter.

The lightest, most durable, and most stylish cutter made, and can be changed from a two-passenger cutter to a four passenger pleasure sleigh in less than a minute. The public endorse them as a long needed and very suitable invention, and the large demand we are having from sections where introduced shows that they are giving complete satisfaction.

Price of "Jump Seat" Cutter, furnished complete, \$30 00  
 Running Gears to which any body can be attached, furnished separately for \$10 00  
 All the leading carriage makers handle them. Samples can be seen and purchased at our works. Catalogue and full information freely furnished to carriage builders and others.

J. B. ARMSTRONG Mfg. Co. Limited,  
 Guelph, Canada.



**THE GOLDEN LION.**

**Great Christmas Boom AT THE DRY GOODS KING**

The LION sends his greetings to his thousands of friends. The LION is happy and he is to make his Patrons happy also.

While Grit and Tory, Tory and Grit are pounding away at each other, THE LION is hard at it, early in the morning and late at night. The crowds are pressing in since the Cheap Sale began, every face beaming with pleasure. Our Mammoth Stock all fresh from the British Markets. No old Shop keepers in our house. Besides the Great Prices we offer, we have presents for everybody of every kind.

**Here follows some of the Great Bargains:**

\$1.00 Kid Gloves for 25 cents. 15 cent French Corsets, for 15 cents. \$4.00 Knives, for \$2.00. \$1.00 Fur Caps, for 75 cents. Ladies Underwear, reduced 50 per cent. 50 cent Cashmere Gloves. Now selling at 25 cents. 350 Overcoats, \$5.00 each, cannot be bought elsewhere under \$7.50. Scotch Tweed Pants, \$1.50 a pair. Suits, Shirts, Hats, to choose from and in profusion of being made. All wool for \$3.00 a suit. Men's Shirts and Drawers, 75c a set. Heavy Grey Flannel, only 17 cents worth 25c.

**500 CHOICE MANTLES**

All the leading styles to go during the festive season at half price. Our Mantle Trade this season has been something enormous. We have manufactured upwards of two hundred and fifty from the substantial Tweed at \$2.50 up to the finest Sealote at \$5.00. During the Christmas week we put out

**SILK DEPARTMENT**

In the hands of our visitors. Every piece of Silk shall be sold at net cost price. We hold upwards of Ten Thousand Dollars of value in Black and Colored Silks and Satins. Never wash an offer made to the people. Let all take advantage of it and secure a dress. These we do not job to our neighbor merchants. We intend this benefit solely for our patrons.

Gentlemen friends are asking the question, What shall I give Mary, Louisa, Nellie, &c. &c. Well, we suggest a Silk Dress, a Buff, a Fur Cap, a soft German Wool Veil of which the LION has thousands. The LION'S stock is unexcelled, no stint of variety. Every one is speaking of the large stock at the LION, that means a good choice, plenty to choose from, you have your taste gratified and at a much less price than you are charged in the retail shops. Why? Because we buy from the makers. The LION gladly welcomes his friends and hopes to see them all during the next ten days, and strangers who may come from a distance and not acquainted with the city, look for the GRAND OLD LION over the door of the Mammoth Store, Lower Wyndham Street, for the last 15 years.

**Wholesale and Retail Double Store,**

**J. D. Williamson & Co.**