# CHRISTMAS IN OLD ENGLAND

Will Be Merry, Though the Metropolis is a Very Dull Spot.

The Fashionable World Has Invaded the Country Houses --- Revival of Odd Old Customs, Including the Dance in Servants' Hall---Mr. W. R. Hobbs and the Furniture Company --- Mrs. Maybrick's Case.

[Special Cable Letter.] London, Dec. 22.-There will be a merry Christmas in England, though in consequence, London is already one of the dullest spots in the United Kingdom. The fashionable world has incontinently deserted the metropolis and sought refuge in the country

REVIVAL OF CIDD CUSTOMS. There will be such a round of house parties as has been unknown for several years. They will be accompanied by the revival of the queer, old customs which, a century ago, made the season the occasion for unrestrained merry-making among rich

ROYAL GATHERINGS. At Osborne, the Queen will be surrounded by the Duke and Duchess of York, the Princess of Battenberg and several of her grandchildren. At Sandringham, the Prince Wales will entertain the Duke and Duchess of Fife and their children

with royal Christmas trees. Welbeck Alobey, Blenheim palace, Hatfield House and all the stately homes of England's aristrocracy are filling up with scores of guests prepared to make the most of Yuletide. Balis, amateur theatricals and entertainments without end have been arthe old England custom of

A DANCE IN THE SERVANTS' HALL.

At the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire's, Earl and Countess Spencer's, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry's and other places of the nobility, Christmas eve will be mark-ed by the strange spectace of buted by the strange spectace of but-lers dancing with duchesses, footmen with countesses, and grooms with the daughters of belted earls, while cooks will hang on to the arms of cabinet ministers and other male heads of illustrious lines. The ancient practice of the landowners enjoying the servants' quadrille had almost lapsed, except in the case of a few

CAUSE OF THE REVIVAL. The revival is, perhaps, no little due to the increasing necessity for pampering the British servant. The Onlooker says the householders now the comfort of their domestics as much as their own, and quotes the country house where a set of rooms is especially allotted to them for recreation, comprising a ballroom, music room, library and billiard room, in which a marker is kept for the ser-

MRS. MAYBRICK. Once again Mrs. Florence Maybrick spends an unhappy Christmas in her prison cell. In spite of the various reports her chances of liberty are no Wenderland" at the Vaudeville, Wedbrighter than last year. Secretary nesday, with Ellaline Terriss as Alice Hay has forwarded to Mr. Choate and Seymour Hicks as the Madhatter,

several private letters which will northy be presented to the new home ecretary, Mr. Ritchie, in accordance ith the custom of approaching each ew occupant of that office, but the Associated Press learns where is no possible chance of anything being done so long as Lord Halsbury is lord high chancellor. Were the cabinet to discuss the matter, as it did e crown's chief adviser, Lord Halshary, who apparently made the May-rick case the basis of a feud with the late lord chief justice, Baron Rus-

of Killowen, and cherishes it just bitterly now as before Lord Rus-I's death. When a new chancellor appointed Mrs. Maybrick will have good chance of freedom. The Duchess of Bedford, who is reported to be especially interested in Mrs. May-brick, tells the Associated Press that she only sees the celebrated prisoner the course of her regular visits to desbury prison, not especially in the erest of her case, and does not innd to express any opinion as to her

CANADIAN FURNITURE COMPANY W. R. Hobbs, head of the recently formed Canadian Furniture Combine, now in London, has decided that the Canadians have no need of the assistance or co-operation of English financiers, which was originally projected. A significant fact, showing Canada's pro-gress, is that sufficient funds are easily obtainable there, while the new law, coming into force Jan. 1, in the United Kingdom, imposes an almost prohibitony taxation on new corporations.

NEW PEERS. Another American woman is likely to e soon elevated to the British peerage, as Lord Salisbury intends to recognize the Right Hon. Arthur Hugh Smith-Barry's services to his party, by putting him in the House of Lords. Mr. Smith-Barry married the widow of Mr. Arthur Post, of New York, whose sister, Mrs. Adair, is also well-known in London society

Others mentioned for a peerage include Mr. Henry Cosmo Orme Bonsor, chairman of the Southeastern Railroad, and Mr. James Lowther, M. P. Lord Salisbury has already created 90 peers. If the present rate is kept up the Upper House will soon be in numerical superiority over the Commons.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIMES. About forty pantomimes will be produced in and around London during the holidays, "Cinderella" being the most popular production, no fewer than nine versions being presented.

Nearly all the theaters are already doing a crowded holiday business. Phyllis Rankin had a most cordial welcome on her return to the English stage, when she appeared in "Florodora," at the Lyric Theater Thursday; but she was manifestly nervous, and did not make much of the part of Lady

Frohman's production of "Alice in Wenderland" at the Vaudeville, Wed-

A GREAT HIT!

BOUGHT ON FRIDAY

Travelers' Samples!

Amounting to one thousand dollars, of the very latest Christ-

mas Novelties. These goods were bought so cheap

They include Cuff Boxes, Glove Boxes, Work Boxes,

Manicure Sets, Comb and Brush Sets, Shaving Sets and other

Celluloid Goods; also a large variety of Iron and Mechanical

. that I can sell them at

One-Quarter Regular

was not successful from the critics' was not successful.

\*\*Mr. and Mrs. Daventry" continue to attract fashionable audiences. The Prince of Wales witnessed the performance Thursday.

#### A DISASTER AT TURKEY CREEK.

Raymond Reaume Finds His Three Little Children Drowned-Fell Through a Hole in the Ice.

Windsor, Dec. 21.-Three children were drowned at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon in Turkey Creek, below Ojibway, five miles down the river from there. They were the children of Raymond Reaume, a farmer whose property is on the river front.

The little ones were playing with a hand sleigh and drawing one another on the ice in the creek. Under a bridge they ran into an air hole and

all were drowned. Mr. Reaume noticed the disappearance of the children, and finding their sleigh in the creek, he at once recov-Windsor, quickly responded to a call for aid, but the children had been in the icy water too long to make resuscitation possible. The children were Julia, aged 8; Frances, aged 6, and Eugene, aged 4.

#### CALLED AWAY

Death in England of Dean Lauder-Germany's Oldest Field Marshal Dead.

[Special to The Advertiser per C.P.R.] Ottawa, Dec. 22.- A cable was received this morning by Rev. Mr. Loucks, of Christ Church, stating that Dean Lauder died this morning at New Brighton, England. He had been ill for some time. A VETERAN GONE.

Berlin, Dec. 22.-Count Von Blumenthal, the oldest field marshal in the German army, died last evening on his estate at Quellendorf, Duchy of Anhalt. ENGINEER A. C. MUIR

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 22.-A. C. Muir, chief engineer of the Esquimalt graving dock,

#### Merely Mentioned.

pointed George R. Van Zant, of Mark-ham, governor of Toronto jail, in sucession to the late John Green. Chief of Police Powell, of Ottawa,

who recently secured control of boxing matches, says that prize fights will be no longer in order in that city. Sir James Grant, of Ottawa, has been elected president of the St. John Ambulance Association in Canada, in place of the late Sir George A. Kirkpatrick. The marriage of Rev. Donald Macdonald, principal of St. Andrew's College, Toronto, to Miss Parfitt, of London, will take place in Montreal on Vednesday, Dec. 26.

Mrs. A. Price, wife of the C. P. R. superintendent at Toronto, has disappeared, and her friends are in great distress over her absence. She has been nervous and low-spirited of late.

The Farmers' Co-operative Pork Packing Company, employing about 30 men, has commenced operations in Brantford. The factory is a magnificent one, and prospects for a busy season are exceedingly bright.

W. James Cooper, a netired real estate agent, aged 73, while crossing Sherbourne street, Toronto, at midnight Friday shipped and feld, striking his head heavily on the pavement He died before medical help could be

George S. Bliss, Windsor, agent of the Singer Sewing Machine Company here, has been arrested at the instance of the district manager of the com-pany on the charge of being short in Bliss says he has offered to pay \$200 of the shortage over to the Singer Company, and to give security for the remainder of the amount, but that this offer has been

### FIRES THAT DID MUCH DAMAGE.

Two Stores and a Dwelling Destroyed at Dorchester.

Serious Losses at Hanover and Toronto - A Baby Fatally Burned in Brooke.

Dorchester, Dec. 22.-Fire broke out yesterday in the building occupied by Mr. G. B. Birch, over the general store kept by him on the south side of the principal street. About 7 o'clock he went into the cellar and attended to the furnace, and also to the fires in the house and store, which, from all appearances, were in their usual condition. About twenty minutes afterwards the place was all abhaze, starting, it is believed from a drum in one of the rooms upstairs. So quickly did the flames spread that Mr. Birch was unable to save any furniture, and the goods in the two stores, brick and frame, one of which was underneath the Oddrellows' Hall, and the other adjoining, were all consumed. Mr. Birch's dwelling was over both stores. The door of the safe in the store was defective, and \$115 in bills in a tin box, were burned. The only thing Stock and furniture partially in-

Word of the fire was sent to Chief Roe, of the London fire brigade ask-ing for assistance, but there are no fire engines in London except those belonging to the G. T. R. car shops.

AT TORONTO. Toronto, Dec. 22.-The loss by the burning of the picture frame factory of Matthew Bros. & Co. yesterday, is estimated at about \$40,000; insurance, \$16,350. The injured, who are in the hospital, are doing well. Phose hurt were: Fred W. Hitchcock, 313 Ontario street, left arm fractured and tario street, left arm fractured and left leg dislocated; Chas. Cook, 884 Queen street west, left leg injured; Thos. McChile, 852 Dovercourt road, face and neck burned; Wm. Palk, Mimico, right hip injured; John Brady, 660 King street west, arm badly cut; John Stevens, Jeremiah Lynch, W. F. Wilson, Howard McMillan, C. Tremble, Patrick Moroney, F. Cook, Michael Mulhall, Chas. Lancaster and James Armstrong were injured less James Armstrong were injured less severely. James Davis, 61 Jersey ave-nue, had his back badly sprained, and is now at the Emergency Hospital in a serious condition. All except seven of the men were able to leave the hospital after treatment.

AT HANOVER. Hanover, Ont., Dec. 22.—The loss as a result of the fire here Thursday night is lower than at first estimated. but is still very heavy.

Knechtel Furniture Company,

building, machinery and stock, \$150,insurance \$80,000. Graff & Wepler, drygoods and groceries, loss \$5,000; insurance, \$3,500. B. F. Ahrens, hardware, \$4,000; insurance. \$3.500.

Thos. Poelman & Co., flour and feed and groceries, \$2,000; insurance, \$800. Chas. Doeple, grocery store and dwelling, \$2,700; insurance, \$1,500. Greutzner Furniture Company, retailers, \$3,500; insurance not known. E. H. Greutzner, undertaker, \$1,000;

insurance not known. H. Greutzner, electrician, \$600; insurance not known. H. Maurer, blacksmith shop and wagon shop and show rooms, \$2,000;

insurance, \$1,000.

R. G. Vincent lost a machine used for manufacturing the diamond bed spring, which he had spent ten or fifteen years in completing. Loss \$500. Other losses are F. Fovster, residence; J. Meyers, household furniture; Mrs. Heller, household furniture; Presbyterian Church; Disneg & Dou-

BABY PERISHED.

lin, chair factory.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Atthinson, west half of lot 3, con. 13, Brooke, was totaliy destroyed by fire Friday morning, together with all con-tents, and as a result one child has since died and two others are in a very critical condition. Mrs. Atchinson had gone to call on a sick neigh-bor, leaving her husband with the children. Mr. Atchinson left the three children playing together in the house and went to the barn to clean up some grain. He had only been there a few minutes when the dwelling was seen to be in flames. The flather at once ran to the building, and made several efforts to get inside, but was besten back by flames and smoke. He then ran to the bedroom and smashed in the window, and there found the three little ones huddled together in

a clothes basket, overcome by heat and smoke, the room in which they were found being ablaze. He succeeded in getting them out, but not before they were terribly burned. The children were aged five years and six months, three years and one year and seven months respectively. The baby has since died. The eldest child is not expected to recover, while the second child is reported to be improving.

#### JOTTINGS FROM NEAR-BY PLACES

Melrose Methodist Sabbath school will hold their anniversary services on Dec. 28. Rev. S. Knott, of Ailsa Craig, will preach morning (10:30), and evenring (7:30). An open session of the school will be held in the afternoon at 3 o'clock; also on Monday evening, Dec. 24, a grand concert will be given by

the school. All are welcome.

While feeding a corn-husking machine at Drew's farm, near Shetland, the other day, John McHattie, a young farmer living three miles west of Newbury, met with an accident which resulted in the loss of his left arm. A suited in the loss of his left arm. A mitt he was wearing caught in the rollto the machine, being so badly mutilated that the arm had to be amputated three inches from the shoul-

Tuesday afternoon Mr. John Healy, of the fourth line, Adelaide, next to the house of refuge, son of Councilor Healy, of Strathroy, was feeling a 5horse power cutting-box, and got his right hand in the knives, and the entire hand was cut off clean just above the wrist. Two doctors found it neces-sary to amputate the arm about halfway between the wrist and elbow.

# JOINT NOTE NOT SIGNED

Delay Due to an Objection From Washington.

Minister Conger Says That Foreign Military Control Is Worse Than Chinese Government - Emperor Said To Be En Route to Pekin.

London, Dec. 22 .- Dr. Morrison, in a long dispatch to the Times from Pekin, dated Dec. 20, gives extracts from the joint note. After a long preamble, recounting and condemning the outrages, he proceeds to quote the de-mands, which are virtually identical with the ten set forth in the dispatch to the Associated Press from Tien Tsin, dated Dec. 14.

NOTE NOT YET SIGNED. A Pekin dispatch of the 21st says Once more there is a pronounced hitch in the proceedings. The prelimnary joint note has not yet been

BLAMES WASHINGTON London, Dec. 22.-"The delay signing the preliminary joint note" says the Pekin correspondent of the Morning Post, wiring yesterday, "is saved was a day book, which was reached by means of a long pole while the phase was on fire. The building was owned by Messrs. Elliott & Marr, of London, and was insured for \$2. his government, urging a speedy settlement on the ground that foreign military control is worse than Chinese

> SICK OF SIAN FU. "Prince Ching says that Emperor Kwang Su and the empress dowager are both anxious to leave Sian Fu, as the accommodation there is poor, and their environment unfavorable. He points out that the private and government property seized in Pekin is quite equivalent in value to the indemnity demanded by the powers. Sir Robert Hart saw Prince Chang yesterday and advised him against dallying with the powers in regard to the punishment of the guilty officials. Prince Chang thought the execution of two or three possible and the lifelong imprisonment of Prince Tuan quite certain.

BOUND FOR PEKIN. A dispatch from Tien Tsin to the Frankfurter Zeitung, dated today, says: Prince Ching, interpreter, asserts that Emperor Kwang Su, unaccompanied by the Empress Dow-ager, left Sian Fu, Dec. 19, bound

SMASHING THE BOXERS. A dispatch from Field Marshal Von Waldersee dated Pekin, Dec. 19, says: Quendell's column, marching from Shan Hae Kuan, successfully encoun-tered a force of Boxers Dec. 14 at Yung Ling, near the eastern imperial tombs. Fifteen Boxers were killed. One thousand Chinese regulars, under Fang Do Ling have been driven out of Lu Tai. They fled to the moun-

Grave fears are felt regarding the health Li Hung Chang, owing to a severe cold that he caught recently. It is generally believed that the Chinese got their information as to what is done at the meetings of the envoys through some one connected with the Russian legation.

#### The Kilties' Bana.

The members of the 48th Highland-

ers' Band of Toronto must have been somewhat disappointed at the size of the audience at the Auditorium, comparing as it did with the thousands who everywhere greeted the band on its recent tour through the United States. What the audience lacked in numbers, however, it made up in appreciation, which it expressed so heartily, and which Bandmaster Slatter so graciously responded to, that the pro-gramme embraced fully double the original numbers. The performance of the band was as much a revelation to the London audience as it must have been to the citizens across the line, showing as it did that Canada possesses a musical organization that is second to very few bands on the American continent. Not only does the band particularly excel, as might be expected, in the rendition of Scottish music, but its work in the "Masaneillo" overture and the "La Benediction des Poignards' from "Des Huguenots" enables it to rank in high-class concert work with the other well-known touring bands. The Scotch dances of Pipe-Sergt. Johnston, champion Highland dancer of the world, and the pipe-playing of Pipe-Major Beaton, champion bagpiper of the world, were essentially gratify ing features of the programme to the large Scotch element in the audience while the unaccompanied male choruses by the choir of the band were as pleasing as they were unique and novel. The programme was as follows: Scotch reel in costume .... Pipe-Sergt. Johnston, Musicians Di-

neen, Garner and Clink.

Overture—"Masaniello"......Auber
Reminiscences of Sootland ..D.Godfrey 

Musician Herbert Jackson Flumerfelt.
Scotch dance—"Highland Fling" ...

Pipe-Sergt. Johnston.

Fantasie Militaire — "Die Leibgarde
Unserer Kaiserin" .... Lehnhardt
Male chorus, unaccompanied—"The
Boys of the Old Brigade," "Scots
Wha Hae," "Annie Laurie" ....

Selections on the great military Bag-Selections on the great military Bagpipes by Pipe-Major Beaton. Grand Scene des Huguenots — "La

Pipe-Sergt. Johnston. fale chorus (unaccompanied) —
"Ye Banks and Braes" .....

Benediction des Poignards" Meyerbeer

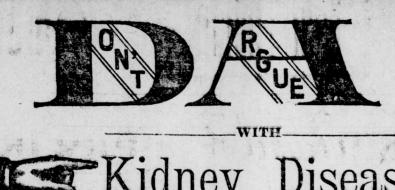
"Dixie"
"My Love, She's but a Lassie Yet"

March—"With Sword and Lance".

Descriptive piece — "A Hunting

The concert given by the band in the afternoon was well attended, and the programme rendered was equally en-joyable as the evening's. The band left this morning for Toronto, where they give a concert in Massey Hall this evening. On Jan. 3 they leave on another tour through Eastern Ontario thence to Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, down through the Atlantic seaboard states to Florida and west again as far as Kansas City.

Abuse is doubly painful when wit



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est of the century now about to close. Come in the forenoon if you can, but be sure you come. Store open Saturd ayand Monday Evenings. . .

# THE CRYSTAL HALL. W. J. Reid & Co.

ILDERTON.

Ilderton, Dec. 22.-The teachers and oupils of Grace Church, Ilderton, are ousy preparing their programme for the concert they intend giving on Christmas Eve, in the Oddfellows' Hall. A cantata entitled "The Old and he New Santa" will be rendered in upto-date style. Dialogues and recitations are included in the programme. The

most important event of the evening's entertainment will be the revealing of the secrets of the Christmas tree. All

bilation on the various New York ex-changes this afternoon. A monster floor of the Consolidated Exchange.

A bill has been prepared for intro-duction in the Georgia Legislature providing for the use of the Australian ballot at all future elections.

Toys, Dolls, Picture Books, etc.

238 Dundas