

# The Union Freeman.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL.

Our Country, with its United Interests.

Newcastle, N. B., Wednesday, December 20, 1882.

EDITORS & PROPRIETORS.

WHOLE No. 789.

W. & J. ANSLAW.

VOL. XVI.—No. 9.

## HOLIDAY GOODS

NOW ARRIVING AT  
**C. E. McKEEN'S.**

Immense Stock of  
**GOLD & SILVER WATCHES,**  
CLOCKS, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, &C.,  
DETAILS OF WHICH WILL APPEAR NEXT WEEK.

BOOTS AND SHOES IN STOCK AND TO ARRIVE  
IN GREAT VARIETY.  
MEN'S LONG BOOTS IN STOCK AT \$1.35 PER PAIR.

**WAVERLY HOTEL,**  
NEWCASTLE, N. B.  
This house has lately been refurnished, and every possible arrangement made to ensure the comfort of travellers.  
**LIVERY STABLES,** with good outfit, on the premises.  
**ALEX. STEWART,**  
Proprietor.  
Newcastle, Dec. 2, 1878.

**UNITED STATES HOTEL,**  
NEWCASTLE, N. B.  
NEW BRUNSWICK.  
THIS HOTEL is very pleasantly situated, has recently been fitted up in first class style, is in close proximity to the O. Railway Station, and the wants of travellers will be attended to promptly.  
Meals prepared at any hour. Oysters served up in every style at short notice.  
**JOHN FAY, PROPRIETOR.**  
Newcastle, Oct. 5, 1877.

**CANADA HOUSE,**  
NEWCASTLE, N. B.  
**WM. JOHNSTON, Proprietor.**  
CONSIDERABLE outlay has been made on this house to make it a first class Hotel, and travellers will find it a desirable temporary residence both as regards location and comfort. It is situated within two minutes walk of the Public Wharf, and affords a fine view of the Bay of Chaleur. A large Sample Room has been placed at the disposal of Commercial travellers.  
May Good Stabling on the Premises.  
14 1/2

**CENTRAL HOUSE,**  
CARACQUA, N. B.  
**George Young, Proprietor.**  
Having at considerable expense furnished a house of the late James Young, it is now prepared to accommodate both travellers and permanent boarders.  
The house is situated within three minutes walk of the Public Wharf, and affords a fine view of the Bay of Chaleur. A large Sample Room has been placed at the disposal of Commercial travellers.  
May Good Stabling on the Premises.  
February 1, 1882.

**ROYAL HOTEL,**  
45 King Street,  
**ST. JOHN, N. B.**  
THIS SPLENDID HOTEL, the finest in the Maritime Provinces, is now open for the reception of guests, who will find here an excellent table (well served), and large, comfortable and well-ventilated rooms. The building has been thoroughly refurnished, repainted and decorated; and furnished throughout with new and elegant furniture. The proprietor, who has been so long connected with the Hotel business in St. John, has omitted nothing which his experience suggests for the comfort of his guests. The Hotel contains BATHS and all other conveniences.  
**THOS. F. RAYMOND,**  
St. John May 11, 1881.

**SEELY & McMillan,**  
BARRISTERS, &C.,  
71 PRINCE WILIAM STREET,  
ST. JOHN, N. B.  
**GEO. B. SEELY.** **T. H. McMILLAN**  
ml-17

**SPECIALTIES.**  
We have great pleasure in calling attention to our  
**New Styles of Water Overboots,**  
Ladies' Button Walking Boots, to be worn without an inside shoe. Ladies' Alpine Overboots, to be worn with slipper. Ladies' Snowflake Overboots, fleece lined. Ladies' Monitor Overboots. Gent's Monitor Overboots. All the above are high cut and waterproof.

**ESTEE, ALLWOOD & CO.,**  
Dealers in Mill Supplies and Rubber Goods.  
SAINT JOHN, N. B.

**SAMUEL THOMSON,**  
Barrister and Attorney-at-Law,  
Solicitor in Bankruptcy,  
NOTARY PUBLIC &C.  
LOANS Negotiated, Claims Promptly Collected, and Professional Business in all its branches, executed with accuracy and despatch.  
OFFICE—PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND CASTLE STREET.  
NEWCASTLE, MIRAMICHI, N. B.  
July 17, 1878.

**ADAMS & LAWLOR,**  
Barristers and Attorneys at Law,  
Law, Solicitors in Bankruptcy, Conveyancers, Notaries Public, &c., Real Estate, & Fire Insurance Agents.  
OFFICE—CLARKS BUILDING, in all parts of the Dominion.  
NEWCASTLE AND BATHURST.  
M. ADAMS. R. A. LAWLOR.  
July 18th, 1878.

**L. J. TWEEDIE,**  
ATTORNEY & BARRISTER  
AT LAW,  
NOTARY PUBLIC,  
CONVEYANCER, &c.,  
CHATHAM, N. B.  
OFFICE—Old Bank of Montreal.  
**A. H. JOHNSON,**  
BARRISTER AT LAW,  
Solicitor, Notary Public,  
&c., &c.,  
CHATHAM, N. B.  
July 10, 1877.

**R. B. ADAMS,**  
Attorney at Law  
Notary Public &c.  
OFFICE—ST. PATRICK'S BUILDING,  
Water Street, Chatham.  
July 31-1877.

**DESBRISAY & DESBRISAY,**  
Barristers, Attorneys, Notaries,  
Conveyancers, &c.  
OFFICES—  
ST. PATRICK'S BUILDING, BATHURST, N. B.  
Thompson Desbrisay, Q. C. T. Swaghey Desbrisay  
May 5, 1879.

**JOHN McALISTER,**  
Barrister & Attorney-at-Law,  
NOTARY PUBLIC,  
CONVEYANCER, &c.,  
CAMPBELLTON, N. B.  
May 5, 1879.

**WILLIAM MURRAY,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
NOTARY PUBLIC,  
CAMPBELLTON, N. B.  
OFFICE—MURRAY'S BUILDING,  
Water Street.  
May 1, 1882.

**HUMPHREY GILBERT,**  
BARRISTER,  
ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, NOTARY PUBLIC, &c.  
OFFICE—Near Railway Crossing,  
MAIN STREET,  
MONCTON, N. B.  
May 3, 1882.

**J. J. FORREST,**  
Attorney-at-Law,  
CONVEYANCER, &c.  
Collecting promptly attended to.  
OFFICE—Chubb's Corner, St. John, N. B.  
April 27, 1881.

**RICHARDSON & McINERNEY,**  
BARRISTERS,  
NOTARIES PUBLIC, &c.  
OFFICES AT RICHMOND AND NEW CASTLE.  
C. RICHARDSON. GEO. V. McINERNEY, LL.B.  
Sept. 13, 1882.

**DR. McDONALD,**  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.  
OFFICE AND RESIDENCE  
IN DESMOND'S BUILDING,  
LOWER WATER STREET.  
CHATHAM, N. B.  
CHATHAM, June 22, 1881.

**R. McLEARN, M.D.,**  
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,  
Graduate of University Medical College, New York.  
OFFICE—In Dr. Freeman's Building,  
Newcastle, July 12, 1880.

**DR. H. A. FISH,**  
Physician and Surgeon.  
Office—Residence of James Fish, Esq.  
Hours 10 to 12, 1 to 4, 6 to 9.  
Newcastle, March 1, 1881.

**H. LUNAM, B.A., M.D.,**  
GRADUATE OF UNIVERSITY OF MONTREAL COLLEGE, MONTREAL.  
Successor to Dr. Balcom.  
OFFICE AT MR. ROBERT SINCLAIR'S  
RESIDENCE,  
CAMPBELLTON, N. B.  
October 15, 1881.

**WILLIAM WYSE,**  
GENERAL DEALER,  
Auctioneer & Commission Merchant,  
CHATHAM MIRAMICHI, N. B.  
Merchandise and Produce received on Commission.  
Liberal Advances made on Consignments.  
NO CHARGE FOR STORAGE.  
AUCTION SALES, and all Business in connection with the same, attended to promptly.  
**EDWARD B. ROWE,**  
BOSTON, MASS.  
GENERAL MERCHANDISE FORWARDING.  
PARTICULAR ATTENTION GIVEN TO  
FORWARDING FRESH FISH.  
RE-ICEING, &c.,  
at low rates. Address  
E. B. ROWE,  
BOSTON.  
May 16, 1882.

**WIRAMICHI MARBLE WORKS,**  
WATER ST., CHATHAM.  
**WILLIAM LAWLER,**  
Importer of Marble & Manufacturer of MONUMENTS, TABLES, HEADSTONES, MANTELS, TABLE TOPS, &c.  
A GOOD STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND.  
GRANITE MONUMENTS made to order. CUPS and SILLIS for windows supplied at short notice. FREESTONE WORK in all its branches attended to, and satisfaction given.  
January 24, 1878.

**MOWING MACHINE REPAIRS,**  
ETC.  
PARTIES having MOWING MACHINES out of order can have them repaired in a prompt and satisfactory manner at my shop. I am also prepared to STEEL AXES and other Edge Tools, and am well fitted up for  
**JOHN BUCKLEY.**  
Newcastle, July 18.

**DECKER BROS. AND FISCHER'S**  
PIANOS.  
—AND—  
Mason and Hamlin Organs,  
—AT—  
**HALL'S BOOK STORE,**  
FREDERICTON.  
SCHOOL BOOKS,  
COLLEGE BOOKS,  
SABBATH SCHOOL LIBRARIES,  
BIBLES AND TESTAMENTS,  
DAY BOOKS,  
JOURNALS,  
AND LEDGERS.  
BLANK BOOKS OF ALL KINDS,  
ROOM PAPER, WALL PAPER,  
SHEET MUSIC, MUSIC BOOKS,  
NOTE PAPER,  
FOOLSCAP,  
PRINTING PAPER,  
ENVELOPES.

**FRENCH BOOKS of all kinds.**  
EVERYTHING TO BE FOUND IN A  
FIRST-CLASS  
BOOK AND MUSIC STORE  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. **M. S. Hall,**  
FREDERICTON, April 12th, 1882.

Expected to-day—a large variety of  
**SATIN AND PLUSH HATS,**  
Hats and Bonnets in Straw, (all styles), a fine assortment of Fashionable Dress Buttons, a number of Ladies' Work Aprons and other goods.  
Just received, an extensive assortment of Trimmings, in  
CHENILLE FLOWERS, PLUMES, NATIVE, TWEETS, FLOWERS, HALL, SPANISH AND JET LACE, JET CROWN, NASH HIBBONS and many other goods, all prices, from 50 cents up.  
In Berlin, Zephyr, Victoria, Peacock, Andalusian and Crevel, as well as a stock of  
**WOOL GOODS,**  
In Fancy Wool Hoods, Children's Jackets, Fancy Mittens, etc.  
Ladies' Linen and Lace Collars and Handkerchiefs, together with other goods usually found in a well-kept Millinery Establishment.  
**HATS AND BONNETS TRIMMED**  
in the latest and most fashionable styles. In stock—STATIONERY of all kinds.  
Newcastle, Sept. 25, 1882.

**Leather & Shoe Findings.**  
THE Subscriber returns thanks to his numerous customers for past favors, and would say to all that he keeps constantly on hand a full supply of the best quality of goods to be had and at lowest rates for cash. Also, S. R. Foster & Son's Nails and Tacks of all sizes, and Clarke & Son's Boot Trees, Lasts, &c. English Toys as well as home made Toys to order, of the best material. Wholesale and retail.  
J. J. CHRISTIE & CO.,  
No. 66 King St., St. John, N. B.  
April 29, 1879.

**HARNESS.**  
The subscriber is prepared to make up  
**Driving & Working HARNESS,**  
of every description, in a workmanlike manner, and at favorable prices.  
On hand, a quantity of  
**HEAVY WORK HARNESS AND COLLARS,**  
which will be sold at reasonable prices.  
**REPAIRING**  
promptly attended to.  
**FRANK MORRISSEY.**  
Newcastle, Sept. 5, 1882.

**FEED. FEED.**  
JUST RECEIVED  
**ONE CAR LOAD SHORTS.**  
SOLD LOW FOR CASH AT  
**P. HENNESSY'S**  
Newcastle, Nov. 20.

A NOTED BUT UNTILTED WOMAN.

(From the Boston Globe)



Many, many—

The above is a good likeness of Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., who showed all other human beings may be truthfully called the "Dear Friend of Woman," as some of her correspondents have written to her. She is a life-long devotee to her work, which is the outcome of a life-long study, and is obliged to keep six lady assistants, to help her answer the large correspondence which daily pours in upon her, each bearing its special burden of suffering, or joy at release from it. Her Vegetable Compound is a medicine for good and not evil purposes. It has personally investigated it and an analysis of the truth of this.

On account of its proven merits, it is recommended and prescribed by the best physicians in the country. One says: "It works like a charm and saves much pain. It will cure entirely the worst form of falling of the uterus, Leucorrhoea, irregular and painful menstruation, all ovarian troubles, inflammation and ulceration, flooding, all displacements and the consequent spinal weakness, and is especially adapted to the change of life."

It permeates every portion of the system, and gives new life and vigor. It removes fatness, fatty liver, restores all craving for stimulants, and relieves weakness of the stomach. It cures Bloating, Headaches, Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Displacement, Depression and Indigestion. That feeling of bearing down, cutting pain, weight and backache, is always permanently cured by its use. It will at all times, and under all circumstances, be in harmony with the law that governs the female system.

It costs only \$1 per bottle or six for \$5, and is sold by druggists. Any advice required as to special cases, and the names of many who have been restored to perfect health by the use of the Vegetable Compound, can be obtained by addressing Mrs. P., with stamp for reply, at her home in Lynn, Mass.

For Kidney Complaints of either sex this compound is unsurpassed as abundant testimonials show. "Mrs. Pinkham's Liver Pills," says one, "have cured me of the worst form of Constipation, Biliousness and Torpidity of the liver. Her Blood Purifier works wonders in the special line and has led me to equal the Compound in its popularity. All must respect her as an Angel of Mercy whose sole mission is to do good to the human race."

Factory at Standford P. Q.—Trade supplied by Wholesale Druggists.

**KIDNEY-WORT**

THE GREAT CURE

FOR

**RHEUMATISM**

**KIDNEYS, LIVER AND BOWELS.**

It cures the most distressing suffering which only the most skillful physicians can relieve.

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Varieties.

A Christmas Thought.

The sweet Christ-month, the month that

Love was born,

That ever was an alien until now,

What though the blossoms hang not on the

bough,

What though the earth of beauty's place be

short?

L! In the woods, beneath the frost-kissed

hill,

The holy lights the path—December's

rose—

And underneath the scarlet berry grows,

As if to tell us Love is living still:

With the glad glory of the year be past,

With frost and death Love lingers to the

last.

And in Love's breast, her blossom never

dies.

'Tis nursed with thoughts that come with

Christmas chime—

That "gracious time" when Love and

Peace are crowned,

When the world's woes in one great joy are

drowned;

The summer of the soul is Christmas-

time.

Is it but fancy? On the midnight air

For ever sound those wild harmonious

melodies

Through vacant vales and long-deserted

dells

Mysterious anthems echo everywhere.

In deepest solitude the Christian's soul

Stirs to a thrill of some strange touch

divine:

Apart from shrines, he heeds the sacred

anything of the kind?

Thus holds the world in Love's sublime

control.

—A. T. L., in Harper's Magazine for Jan.

**The Spot on Venus.**

HOW IT WAS DISCOVERED BY PROF.

LANGLEY.

PITTSBURGH, Penn., Dec. 8.—Prof. S.

P. Langley, who has discovered during

the recent transit of Venus a "re-

markable and heretofore unobserved

spot on the body of that planet has

awakened such general interest in

scientific circles, was interviewed by

your correspondent to-night. "Have

you completed your calculations upon

the results achieved by the observa-

tions of the transit?" enquired the

writer.

"No, sir, we have not," replied the

Professor. "Many months will

elapse before the work can be ac-

complished. The full results of the re-

cent transit will not be known definitely

for years."

"What achievements were especial-

ly anticipated by scientists in their ob-

servations on the recent transit?"

"Quite a number. One was to cor-

rect the total error of previous ob-

servations as to the distance of the

sun. This was about equal to plac-

ing an average human hair at a distance

of 180 yards and trying to measure its

thickness. That about represents the

deficiency of our knowledge in the ques-

tion. The whole thing turns on a

Arabi Exiled.

Arabi will shortly leave for Ceylon,

his future exile home, and he will be

accompanied by some of his comrades

in arms.

Six of those who will be

deported stood in the same category

with their chief. Toulba Pasha was

only less conspicuous than Arabi dur-

ing the progress of hostilities. He com-

manded the main army at Kair-el-

Dwar, and was associated with Arabi

in the surrender to Gen. Drury Lowe

at Cairo the day after the battle of

Tel-el-Kubir. Abdelal Pasha com-

manded the Northern Egyptian army

at Damietta, and was the last of the







**New Advertisements.**  
1882. 1883  
**INTERNATIONAL S. S. COY.**  
**WINTER ARRANGEMENT.**  
**TWO TRIPS A WEEK.**  
ON and after MONDAY, DEC. 4th, and until further notice, the splendid new going Steamer of the Line will make **TWO TRIPS A WEEK**, leaving Reed's Point Wharf **EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY** mornings at eight o'clock, for Eastport, Portland and Boston, connecting to 4 ways at Eastport with steamer Charles A. Houghton for St. Andrew's, St. Stephen and Calais.  
Returning will leave Commercial Wharf, Boston, every Monday and Thursday Mornings, at 8.30 o'clock, and Portland at 6 o'clock, p. m., for Eastport and St. John. Through Tickets can be procured at this office and at H. CURTIS, Co.'s, to all points of Canada and the United States.  
No claims for allowance after goods leave the warehouse.  
Freight received Wednesdays and Saturdays only up to 6 o'clock, p. m.  
H. W. CHISHOLM, Agent.

**WISE** people are always on the lookout for chances to increase their earnings, and in time become wealthy; those who do not improve their opportunities remain in poverty. We offer a great chance to make money. We want many, many, women, boys and girls to work for us right in their own localities. We can do the work properly from the first start. The business will pay more than ten times ordinary wages. Expensive outfit furnished free. No one who engages fails to make money rapidly. You can devote your whole time to the work, or only your spare moments. Full information and all that is needed sent free. Address: **ERNEST & CO., Portland, Maine.**

**STEAM AND HOT WATER HEATING APPARATUS.**  
WISDOM & FISH furnish and set up Low Pressure Steam Heating Apparatus, with all the latest improvements in Stores, Public Buildings, etc., etc., at as low price as will purchase first-class work.  
Economy, durability, safety and efficiency, we claim, are combined in our apparatus.  
Hot Water Heating Apparatus, for residences, a specialty, set up by competent workmen, and guaranteed satisfactory.  
Specifications, plans and estimates furnished promptly and on application. References if required.  
WISDOM & FISH,  
Dec. 14, 41 Dock St., St. John, N. B.

**RAISINS.**  
**100 BOXES LAYERS:**  
200 boxes London Layers,  
100 Boxes Valencia.  
Lately received by  
**JARDINE & CO.,**  
Wholesale Grocers,  
St. John, December 18.



PERSONS IN SEARCH OF

**Holiday Presents,**  
will find an excellent stock of

Fancy and Useful Articles,  
—AT—

**J. W. DAVIDSON'S,**

COMPRISING

**Japanese Goods,**

in Wall and Letter Brackets, Trays,  
Collar, Cuff and Fancy Boxes,  
etc.,

**FANCY TOILET CASES AND SETS,**

Glove and Handkerchief Boxes,  
Bon-Bon Boxes,  
Jewel Stands,  
Fancy Pin Cushions,  
Whisk Markers,  
Fruit Baskets,  
Smokers' Sets,  
Ash Trays &  
Tobacco Jars,  
Cigar Cases,

**FANCY MATCH SETS,**

Ladies' and Gentlemen's

**DRESSING CASES,**

**PICTURE FRAMES,**

assorted sizes for small and Cabinet Photos, Photograph Albums and Music Rolls, Vases, Individual Cups and Saucers, and Sets of Cup, Saucer and Plate.

Gentlemen's Suspenders in boxes, specially for the Christmas Trade, Fancy Slippers, Silk Handkerchiefs, and Ties, etc.

Ladies' Fancy and Plain Handkerchiefs, in boxes. A few Hand Fire Screens and handsome Fans, Satin Collars and Silk Ties, Gloves, Purses, Wallets, etc.

Also a lot of POULTRY, and the usual stock of CHRISTMAS GROCERIES, spices, etc.

Newcastle, Dec. 12, 1882. 4w.

**PARTIES**  
Buying Christmas Groceries etc., will find at

**M. M. SARGEANT'S**  
A choice stock of

**RAISINS,**  
CURRANTS,  
SPICES of all kinds,  
CITRUS,  
LEMON and ORANGE PEEL,  
ESSENCES in Peppermint,  
LEMON & VANILLA,  
TEA,  
MOLASSES,  
COFFEES,  
etc.,

**NEWMAN'S**  
**PURE GOLD BAKING POWDER,**  
a splendid article of which housekeepers should always have a supply.

Also a stock of the well known **ADAMS CLUB SKATES,** all sizes, cheap for cash.

M. M. SARGEANT,  
Newcastle, Dec. 11, 1882.

**'82 X'MAS!**  
**'83 NEW YEAR!**

*Christmas comes but once a year,  
Before it comes the Cards appear.*

I HAVE JUST RECEIVED

**300 Dozen Cards**

which for Design and Variety surpass anything ever before shown.

**GOLD GOODS!**

**SILVER GOODS!**

Also, a great many other articles suitable for a

**NICE PRESENT**

**CLOTHS! CLOTHS!**

For LADIES' ULSTERS and JACKETS, GENTS' OVERCOATS and SUITINGS, cheaper than ever.

**Clothing! Clothing!**

Men's and Boy's OVERCOATS and ULSTERS, REEFING JACKETS, SUITS, SHIRTS, DRAWERS and LINDERS, GUERNSEYS, etc.

**The Largest, Cheapest and Best Stock in Miramichi.**

JUST TO HAND:—  
200 Pieces GREY and WHITE COTTONS, 75 Pieces Winceys, 25 Pieces DRESS GOODS, 50 SHAWLS, 75 Pairs BLANKETS, 70 Pairs DR. WARNER'S HEALTH CORSETS.  
My stock of

**STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS,**  
will be found complete, and Prices Low for the Class of Goods.

**FURS. FURS. FURS.**

MUFFS and BOAS, Ladies', Misses' and Gents' CAPS, MITTS and GLOVES, TRUNKS and VALISES, BOOTS, OVERSHOES and RUBBERS, the largest stock in town.

**CHOICE GROCERIES, GUNS & REVOLVERS.**

**CHEAP CASH STORE.**  
Highest Cash Price paid for RAW FURS.  
Newcastle, Dec. 12, 1882. 4w. **JAMES BROWN.**

**JUST RECEIVED**

—AT—

**Dr. R. McLearn's**

**DRUG STORE.**

**NEWCASTLE DISPENSARY.**

A Choice selection of

**HOLIDAY PRESENTS,**

consisting of a few Ladies' Handsome

**Dressing Cases,**

in Plush and Russia Leather,  
**Odor Cases, Toilet Bottles, Toilet Sets,**

Paper Weights, Jewel Boxes, Fancy Boxes, Hand Mirrors, Shaving Mugs, Brushes.

**WALKING CANES,**

Also—A fine and well selected stock of

**PERFUMERY.**

in Fancy Boxes, comprising Lubin's and Lubin's Perfumes, Rimmel's Lavender Water, Piver's Lavender Water, Lubin's Eau de Vie, Florida Water, HOYT'S GERMAN COLOGNE and PERFUMERY IN BULK.

Also, additions to the general stock, consisting of a fresh supply of

Puttner's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil,  
Robinson's do.,  
Cod Liver Oil (plain),  
Cod Liver Oil (Skrei Brand),  
Two cases Quinine Wine,  
Cases Liebig's Extract of Beef,  
Beef, Iron and Wine.

**Lyman's Concentrated Extract of Coffee,**  
Lactopeptine, all kinds of Liniments,

**SOAPS,**

in Cashmere, Bouquets, Jockey Club, Vaseline, Tar, Oatmeal, Savon au Reseda, Castile, White and Mottled, Pear's Glycerine, Pear's Shaving Sticks.

A very superior lot of

**BRUSHES.**  
Dr. Scott's Electric Hair Brushes, Dr. Scott's Electric Flesh Brushes, Infants' Brushes, Clothes and Tooth Brushes, etc.

A few of

**Dr. Gray's Supporters,**  
with many other articles to be found in a druggist's establishment.

STAND—Near the Waverley Hotel.  
**NO CARDS!**  
Newcastle, December 12, 1882. 4w

**HOLIDAY PRESENTS.**

1882--1883.

Just received and opened at the

**Newcastle Drug Store,**

the best assortment of

**FANCY GOODS & X'MAS CARDS**

for the holiday season ever seen in Newcastle, consisting in part of

JAPANESE TEA TRAYS, CARD BOXES, TOBACCO BOXES, CALENDARS, CARD RECEIVERS, BRACKETS, BLOTTERS, PAPER WEIGHTS & INK STANDS.

**Fancy Cups and Saucers,**

Ladies' and Gents' Dressing Cases, Perfumery Cases, Plush Stand Mirrors, Card Cases, Jewel Cases,

**Photograph and Autograph Albums,**

**Plaques, Writing Desks and Work Boxes,**

CHECKER and BACKGAMMON BOARDS,

**Wax and China Dolls,**

Christmas Tree Ornaments, Candles and Candle Holders for Christmas Trees,

Also a splendid line of

**GAMES**

such as Bamboozle, Tivoli, Round the World, Parlor Croquet, Cliffraker Game of Life, American Toy Village, Circus, Agricultural Fairs, Creedmoor Target Gun, Loves and Likes, Popular Authors, Visit to the Gipsies, Madam

Morrow's Fortune Teller, Squids, Old Maid, Dr. Fusby, Pinafore, Golden Egg, Words and Sentences, Little Housekeeper, Dominoes, Checkers, and numerous others.

**Christmas & New Year's Cards,**

ranging in price from

**TWO CENTS to ONE DOLLAR each.**

Call and examine before purchasing elsewhere.

**E. LEE STREET.**  
Newcastle, December 12, 1882. 3i.

**A MERRY X'MAS**

—AND—

**A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

To my Customers, Friends, and the Public generally.

Now that the year 1882 is almost at a close, those in need of

**GOOD HARNESS,**

should throw aside the old articles, and begin the New Year with a new outfit, which they can do advantageously by calling at

**M. O. Thompson's Harness Establishment,**

and select what they need from the large stock of

**Team and Lumber Harness**

now on hand, or leave their orders for SETS or PIECES, which will be executed to their satisfaction, both as regards prices and workmanship.

**Collars! Collars!!**

On hand, or made to order, the most reliable Collar ever offered to the Public, guaranteed to fit like a glove. No sore shoulders where they are used. Over two hundred have been sold this fall, and the first complaint has yet to be heard. In stock,

**ALL KINDS OF WHIPS & THONGS,**

CURRY and MANE COMBS,

**Halters in great variety,**

Surcingle, Horse Blankets, (home made and a perfect fit,) Snaps, Interfering Boots and Rings, Horse Cards, BRUSHES of all kinds, Harness Oils, Neatsfoot do.

**Bells. BELLS. Bells.**

BACK BELLS,

SHAFT BELLS,

NECK BELLS,

SIDE BELLS,

and everything else necessary to make your horse look gay for a

**CHRISTMAS DRIVE.**

Also, Felt Sweat Pads, Zinc Collar Pads, for use in the Woods.  
Come one, come all, and give us a call.  
**Repairing attended to Promptly.**  
Orders solicited and satisfaction guaranteed.  
**M. O. Thompson.**  
Newcastle, Dec. 12. 4w

1881 JUNE. 1881

I am offering a large stock of

**READY MADE CLOTHING,**

AT VERY LOW PRICES. ALSO,

**25 Half Chests Tea,**

—AT—  
**WHOLESALE PRICES.**

**James Fish.**  
Newcastle, June 6.

**MANCHESTER,**

**ROBERTSON**

**& ALLISON,**

IMPORTERS OF

**DRY GOODS and MILLINERY**

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

**WHOLESALE and RETAIL.**

MANUFACTURERS OF

**SHIRTS OF ALL KINDS.**

27 & 29 KING ST. SAINT JOHN.  
St. John, October 18, 1881. 10-1y

**OVER SHOES**

—AND—  
**Snow Excluders.**

Just Received at the

**SALTER BRICK STORE,**

500 PAIRS

Men's, Ladies' and Children's

PLAIN AND FANCY

**Over Shoes**

—AND—  
**SNOW EXCLUDERS.**

**JOHN FERGUSON.**  
Newcastle, December 5, 1882.

**X'MAS IS COMING!**

Photographs, Ferretypes and Picture Frames. Old Pictures Copied and Enlarged.

Having secured the services of a competent operator, Mr. A. C. Woods, we are prepared to execute all work in above lines promptly and in first class style. We have on hand and to arrive a full stock of MOUNTINGS, which we will make to order at reasonable prices. Give us a call and satisfy yourself that we are able to make the best PHOTOGRAPHES and FERRETYPES ever made in Newcastle. We aim to please every time. Don't forget the place, over Mrs. Jarling's Military Establishment—opposite Public Square.

A. C. WOODS, J. Y. MERSEBAU,  
Operator, Proprietor.  
Newcastle, Dec. 5, 1882.

**IF YOU WANT**

**A REALLY**

**NICE PRESENT**

—FOR—

**A Friend,**

—GO TO—

**George Stables' VARIETY**

**Establishment,**

Where you can make your selection from a large and excellent stock of

**Useful & Fancy Articles**

Suited to the Season.

—O—  
**X'MAS & NEW YEAR**

**CARDS**

BELOW-COST.

A Splendid Stock of

**Confectionery,**

in great variety, including a

**GOOD MIXTURE**

at 15 cents per pound during the Holidays.

**Mixed Nuts**

at 12 cents per pound.

The usual stock of

**GROCERIES!**

**G. STABLES.**  
Newcastle, Dec. 13. 4w

**PARSONS' PURGATIVE PILLS**

**MAKE NEW RICH BLOOD.**

And will completely change the blood in the entire system in three months. Any person who will take 1 Pill each night from 1 to 12 weeks, may be restored to sound health, if such a thing be possible. For curing Female Complaints these Pills have no equal. Physicians use them in their practice. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail for eight letter-stamps. Send for circular. **J. S. JOHNSON & CO., BOSTON, MASS.**

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**JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT** (For Internal and External Use). CURES Chronic Rheumatism, Chronic Diarrhoea, Chronic Bronchitis, Whooping Cough, Spasms and Lame Neck. Sold everywhere. Send for pamphlet to J. S. JOHNSON & CO., BOSTON, MASS.

**MAKE HENS LAY**

**THE BEST WAY TO**

**SAVE MONEY!**

IS TO BUY YOUR

**Harness,**

**Collars, &c.,**

WHOLESALE OR RETAIL, AT

**McNAUGHTON BROS.,**

Main Street,  
Moncton, N. B.

Satisfaction guaranteed in every way.  
Moncton, December 18, 1882.

**\$40,000.00**

WORTH OF

**GENERAL DRY GOODS,**

FOR OUR FALL AND WINTER TRADE, NOW ON DISPLAY.

**EXTRAORDINARY VALUE.**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Newcastle, Sept. 26, 1882.

**SUTHERLAND & CREAGHAN.**

**OUR**

**TAILORING DEPARTMENT.**

**ON TIME! ON TIME!!**

**WITH OUR NEW FALL TWEEDS!**

JUST ARRIVED—AN ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF

SCOTCH, ENGLISH & CANADIAN TWEEDS, DOESKINS, BROADCLOTHS, DIAGONALS, OVERCOATINGS, ETC., ETC.

These goods will be made up in our usual FINE STYLE. FITS and WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED. Call and examine Goods, and see beautiful designs and NEW FASHION REPORTS—NOBBY!

We will send an exact fac-simile of our FALL and WINTER PLATE to parties ordering from a distance, and by sending us the No. of Suit we can fill their orders satisfactorily.

**W. B. NICHOLSON,**  
Manager Tailoring Department.  
Newcastle, August 18, 1882.

**AMERICAN AND CANADIAN**

**KEROSENE OILS.**

Hourly expected Via Vessels—  
**1000 Bbls. HOME LIGHT OIL,**  
**850 Bbls. WATER and PRIME OIL,**  
**420 Bbls. CANADIAN (PEARL) OIL.**

P. S.—We will make immediate shipment on arrival of the above oils, to our customers having orders booked for full delivery.

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5 and 7 Nelson, Street,  
Oct. 22, 1882. St. John, N. B.

**New Brunswick.**

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, S. S**



# **THE UNION ADVOCATE** Published for the Proprietor by J. B. CROOKER, at the "Union Advocate" Office, 210 King Street, N. B.

Reported for the Dominion, and  
 by A. Blair, Esq.

DECEMBER.

DATE.	Time.	Barometer.	Thermometer.	Maximum Thermometer.	Minimum Thermometer.
Sun.	7.46 a.m.	30.04	15.3	15.3	
	3.46 p.m.	29.94	15.3	15.3	
	11.45 a.m.	29.84	15.3	15.3	29.5
Mon.	7.46 a.m.	30.05	14.1	14.1	
	3.46 p.m.	29.95	14.5	14.5	16.0
	11.45 p.m.	29.84	14.5	14.5	
Tues.	7.46 p.m.	30.08	13.6	13.6	
	3.46 p.m.	29.98	13.6	13.6	
	11.45 p.m.	29.88	13.6	13.6	31.8
Wed.	7.46 a.m.	30.09	28.7	28.7	
	3.46 p.m.	29.99	30.9	30.9	
	11.45 p.m.	29.88	30.7	30.7	44.7
Thurs.	7.46 a.m.	30.08	23.6	23.6	
	3.46 p.m.	29.98	24.0	24.0	
	11.45 p.m.	29.88	24.4	24.4	37.5
Fri.	7.46 a.m.	30.07	11.5	11.5	
	3.46 p.m.	29.97	7.0	7.0	
	11.45 p.m.	29.87	1.5	1.5	23.4
Sat.	9.46 p.m.	30.07	0.2	0.2	
	3.46 a.m.	29.97	0.2	0.2	
	11.45 p.m.	29.86	5.0	5.0	11.9

The minus sign sign — at the left hand notes below zero, is an absolute denotation.

The column for Maximum Thermometer shows the highest temperature for every day.

The column for Minimum Thermometer shows the lowest temperature for every day.



# SUPPLEMENT

## CHRISTMAS.

Hail, Holy Season, of good will  
Forgotten now be every ill,  
That through the by-gone year,  
Brother to brother-man hath wrought,  
And be we all by Christmas taught,  
And by all feelings dear.

With all our fellows, faults to bear,  
Since their infirmities we share,  
So this our motto be,  
Both to forgive and to forget,  
And each to each example set,  
Of Christian unity.

CHRISTMAS, with all its joyous and happy associations and thoughts, comes upon us once more; and, amid the pause in the bustle and din of life, our minds turn from the solid realities of this matter-of-fact world to contemplate the brighter and warmer things of social life. To young and old, rich and poor, this most welcome and festive of all seasons of the year, brings a feeling of gladness and rejoicing, which neither time nor circumstances can control or affect. The veriest infant in the cradle, learns to lisp its welcome to old *Santa Claus*, whose advent it appreciates as one of the great events in its eventful existence; and, as the wondering senses of the eager little toddlers of more ripening years drink in the story of the "Babe in the Manger," and the "First Christmas morn on the Hills of Bethlehem," their hearts are filled anew with delight. Truly, the "tidings of great joy bring then gladdening influence to all people. The very air seems to partake of the general tone of crispness and cheerfulness, as it echoes to the merry shouts of romping school-children and pleasant salutations of those more advanced in life. Everyone seems possessed with a new vigor; and all hard thoughts and unseemly feelings, are as effectually hidden away as the dark earth beneath the glistening snow.

What a host of sweet recollections are awakened within us, on each return of this happy time, as we look backward to the scenes of years gone by; when, at home, perhaps, as boys, we gathered around the old family hearth, listening with bated breath to the hushed tones of the never-tiring story teller, or, as we joined with whole soul in the frolics of Christmas Eve under the holly and mistletoe.

How distinctly now we seem to hear once more the welcome sound of the village church bell, ringing out its summons to worshipers on the clear frosty air of Christmas morning. The church, decked with holly and evergreen, the parson, the choir, the anthem, even—all troop up before us in succession, and gazing for a moment upon them, as a child upon a broken toy, we turn away at last with a sigh.

It is our intention, with the present number, to review in a brief way, a few of the

### Customs and Observances

which are peculiar to this period of the year, and to inquire into the origin and cause of many of the associations that have linked themselves so inseparably to it. If, in doing so, we should go over some ground already familiar to our readers, we only crave their indulgence in the matter, hoping that they may still find some item of interest, or at least a reference, which may recall some of those incidents connected with the past that ever touch a tender chord in the human heart.

From time immemorial, amongst not only barbarous but even refined nations, custom has surrounded the winter solstice with many solemn and peculiar religious rites and ceremonies. Of these most noticeable in point of importance the

**Festival of the Romans, the Saturnalia,** takes the lead. About the middle of December it began and continued many days, during which time general license was given to jollity and mirth of every description.

Could we go back through the long space of intervening cycles to the time when Rome was in the zenith of her splendor and magnificence, and drop into the old city, on one of the gala days of this festival, such a sight would meet one eyes, as would baffle description. Weaving their way through the gaily decorated streets & passages, arrayed in holiday garb, the busy multitude with many a good-natured jest and friendly taunt, jostle each other in all directions as they push along toward their various destinations. Here we see a homely plebeian in his eager haste forgetful of all surroundings, his coarse tunic rubbing against the fine toga of the lofty patrician; anon a venerable senator, or a dignified consul appears, and passing is hailed with familiarity by a company of bondmen, who do not even hesitate, in some instances, to play a practical joke on him (for one of the characteristics of the festival was the utter abolition *pro tempore* of all distinctions between the usually widely separated castes). All are making for the chief centres of amusement and attraction; whether to the *forum*, where the votaries of fashion, the wealth and renown of the city gather to gossip and compare notes, or to the *circus Maximus*, or *Campus Martius*, where were held the great chariot races, the athletic contests, sham battles, &c.

As we follow them, we occasionally meet on the route—perhaps a chariotter, grotesquely dressed, with mask and wig, furiously driving a pair of gaily decorated jackasses, the sound of the chariot wheels almost drowned by the gibes of the crowd. At each turn we are confronted with some new impersonation of ridiculousness and so the fun goes on.

Such then was the *Saturnalia* held in honor of Saturn the god of Time; and thus was the waning existence of the dying year brought to a close in those "brave days of old."

Many ascribe to this the origin of our present Christmas celebration, but though partly correct in their assertion they are not absolutely so.

Long before Roman prowess sought out ancient Britannia, and Roman arms subdued it, a custom prevailed amongst the aborigines of the island in connection with a sacred anniversary held about the close of the year, which has not yet altogether lost its significance. When the important day arrived, the Britons accompanied by their priests the Druids went forth in great pomp and state to gather

### The Mistletoe.

This mystic parasite requires no description to those who have any knowledge of Christmas in the Old Land, but lest there should be those who have not been so favor-

## God Rest You, Merry Gentlemen.

His place of birth, a solemn angel tells  
To simple shepherds, keeping watch by night:  
They gladly thither haste, and by a choir  
Of squadroned angels, hear his carol sung.  
—Milton's *Paradise Regained*.



In Bethlehem, in Jewry  
This blessed babe was born,  
And laid within a manger  
Upon this blessed morn;  
The which his mother Mary  
Nothing did take in scorn.  
Oh! Tidings, &c.

From God our Heavenly Father,  
A blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds,  
Brought tidings of the same;  
How that in Bethlehem was born,  
The Son of God by name.  
Oh! Tidings, &c.

Fear not, then said the angel,  
Let nothing you alight;  
This day is born a Saviour  
Of virtue, power and might;  
So frequently to vanquish all,  
The friends of Satan quite.  
Oh! Tidings, &c.

The shepherds at those tidings,  
Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a-feeding  
In tempest, storm and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straightway,  
This blessed babe to find.  
Oh! Tidings, &c.

But when to Bethlehem they came,  
Whereas the infant lay,  
They found him in a manger  
Where oxen feed on hay,  
His mother Mary kneeling,  
Unto the Lord did pray.  
Oh! Tidings, &c.

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood,  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth deface.  
Oh! Tidings, &c.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3-16.

**Young Men's Christian Association, Toronto.**  
We extend to you a hearty invitation. Reading Rooms open free from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. every week day. Don't forget when you are in Toronto. You will be welcome. "For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In His hand are the deep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is His also; the sea is His and He made it, and His hand formed the dry land. O! come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." Psalm 95-3 to 6.

**THE BRITISH AMERICAN BUSINESS**  
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**WILKINS METALLIC BELT FASTENER**  
(Patented in Canada and United States). A new device for joining together the ends of Machinery Belting, both Leather and Rubber of all kinds. It has been thoroughly tested and is approved of in preference to lace leather, belt Hooks and all other fastenings now in use. For illustrated circular and price list or sample package, medium size, which is suitable for most belts, address JOHN WILKINS, 47 Wellington Street, East, Toronto, Ontario.

Just opened, the largest and finest assortment of English and French Instruments in nickel, polished steel and German silver, Rubber Goods, &c. Send names of Instruments required and we will give price by return mail. City Pharmacy, 274 Yonge St., Toronto. E. A. SMITH, Proprietor.

**SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS!** N.B.—Instruments required and we will give price by return mail. City Pharmacy, 274 Yonge St., Toronto. E. A. SMITH, Proprietor.

Established 1836.

**J. E. ELLIS & CO.**  
Cor. King & Yonge Sts., Toronto,  
(The oldest house in the Trade.)  
MANUFACTURING

**Jewellers & Silversmiths,**  
IMPORTERS OF

**FINE WATCHES,  
DIAMONDS,  
GOLD & SILVER JEWELLERY,  
FRENCH CLOCKS,  
STERLING SILVERWARE,  
SILVER PLATED WARE,  
PRESENTATION PLATE.**

All Goods Guaranteed. Prices lower than any house in the trade. Orders by mail promptly attended to.

**J. E. ELLIS & Co.**  
King and Yonge sts., Toronto.

able situated, a word or two might not be out of place. Amongst the dense oak forests of primitive Britain, this plant flourished in comparative luxuriance, festooning the trees with its sprightly foliage in mid-winter; and such was its abundance and rapidity of growth, in those days, that in many places, trees might be found so completely covered with it as almost to be hidden from sight.

Having reached the foot of some giant oak whereon grew the sacred plant two white bulls were immediately tied to it by stout cords. Then the chief Druid clad in white, the emblem of purity, ascending the tree, cut with a golden knife the coveted creeper, which, as it fell, was caught in the folds of sacred priest's robes. The bulls, and very often human victims, were then sacrificed and great festivities followed.

In addition to being revered as a sacred plant, the mistletoe was said to possess many healing virtues, and to bring singular favor to those wearing it. The mistletoe bore an important part in the celebrations of the middle ages, that time of all others, when the passion for plays and amusements was at its height. Although not so plentiful as in former days, large quantities of it are still cut annually and sent to London to grace the homes of rich and poor. The present custom of hanging it over the door, or over some other suitable place, under which the unwitting may pass and incur the penalty of being kissed, is already known to all. In many of the towns and hamlets of England it is kept up to such an extent that even over the windows of stores a piece is sometimes fixed, to the discomfort of those of the fair sex who may chance to stop to examine the attractions placed within the window. We shall, however, pass on to notice another very old custom.

**The Burning of the Yule Log.**  
This custom comes through our Scandinavian ancestors, who, at their feasts of *Juhl*, at the winter solstice, were in the habit of kindling huge bon-fires in honor of their god *Thor*. In many parts of England it is still maintained, although it has entirely lost its original significance. Time gradually changed the form of this observance, and in the feudal times we find it so transformed as to be scarcely recognizable. Then, a huge log was drawn from its resting place in the woods by a large company of men and boys, amidst sounds of minstrelsy and general shouts of acclamation and rejoicing. All who chanced to pass, or who met the procession on its way to its destination, gravely uncovered their heads and gave exclamation to an expression of devout reverence. Having reached the baronial hall, it was placed on the hearth of the wide chimney, where it was ignited with the charred remains of the log of the previous year; and as the flames crackled and roared, casting their ruddy glow on the massive walls and lighting up the dark corners, the sports began. The baron, for the occasion, was displaced by a humble self, who did the honors of the evening in a right royal style. All fell to with a zest, and the sports, carried over the midnight hour, lagged not until the gray dawn announced the birth of another day. And often that dawn revealed the sight of nobles, vassals, and all, heaped together in ridiculous incongruity amongst the rushes on the floor the prisoners of my Morpheus and strong all. In Devonshire, in later years, the *ashton-fagot* superseded the *yule log*. Having cut some ash sticks a few days previous, the farm hands go forth on Christmas Eve, and, gathering a bundle, haul it much after the same fashion as

## Christmas Eve in the Olden Time.

On Christmas Eve the bells were rung; On Christmas Eve the mass was sung; That only night, in all the year, Saw the staid priest the chalice rear. The damsel donned her kirtle sheen; The hall was dressed with holly green; Forth to the wood did merry men go, To gather in the mistletoe. Then opened wide the baron's hall To vassal, tenant, serf, and all; Power laid his rod of rule aside, And ceremony doffed his pride. The heir, with roses in his shoes, That night might village partner choose. The lord, undegating, sharpest tale; The vulgar game of "post and pair." All hailed, with uncontrolled delight And general voice, the happy night, That to the cottage, as the crown, Brought tidings of salvation down.

The fire, with well-dried logs supplied, Went roaring up the chimney wide; The huge hall-table's oaken face, Scrubbed till it shone, the day to grace, Bore then upon its massive board, No mark to part the squire and lord. Then was brought in the lusty brawn, By old blue-coated serving men; Then the grim boar's-head frowned on high Crested with bays and rosemary. Well can the gaily garbed ranger tell, How, when, and where the monster fell; What dogs before his death he tore, And all the baiting of the boar. The wassail round in good brown bowls, Garnished with ribbons, blithely trowls. Then the huge sirloin reeked; hard by Plum-porridge stood, and Christmas-pye: Nor failed Old Scotland to produce, At such high-tide, her savoury goose. Then came the merry masquers in, An! carols roared with blithesome din; If unmelodious was the song, It was a hearty note, and strong. Who lists may in their mummery see Traces of ancient mystery: Whiteshirts supplied the masquerade, And smutted cheeks the visors made; But oh! what tapers, richly light, Can boast of bosoms half so light! England was merry England, when Old Christmas brought his sports again. 'Twas Christmas brought the nightlight 'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale; A Christmas gambol oft could cheer, The poor man's heart through half the year Scott's "Marmion".

described above in connection with the yule log. Games, such as jumping in sacks, diving in water for apples, jumping at bread and treacle, followed—another custom peculiar to the same locality—as well as many others, consisted as follows: The farmer and his friends having partaken of hot cakes and cider, repaired to the orchard, where one having deposited a cake in the fork of the principal apple-tree, and thrown cider over the latter, retired amid the firing of guns and pistols by the men and boys, the women and girls shouting:—

Bear blue apples and pears enow,  
Barnfuls, bagfuls, sackfuls,  
Hurrah! hurrah! hurrah!

This was considered sufficient to ensure a bounteous harvest of fruit for the ensuing year, and to effectually ward off all depredations of witches, fairies, and other spirits.

### The Christmas Tree.

is of German origin, and still holds a high place in that land where Christmas is honored as a high day. The tree is arranged by the senior members of the family in the best room of the house, which is kept locked until the important evening arrives, when the door is thrown open. As the eager juveniles troop in, and behold the huge tree ablaze with many tapers, and loaded with little trinkets and presents, such as only children know how to prize, exclamations of delight break forth on every hand. The children, also, are in the habit of saving their money for weeks, in order to purchase gifts for their parents. These are concealed until Christmas morning, when they are brought forth; and gladdening is the sight of parents and children as they experience the truth of the saying, "it is more blessed to give than to receive." Our modern

### Santa Claus

a corruption, of course, of St. Nicholas, is also a German institution, although many of his characteristic features are innovations on the original introduced by the New England settlers. In the former country, the heads of families often on Christmas Eve, after selecting a present for each child as his or her character suggested, sought out some old man in the neighborhood, who, all dressed up with white robe and fur, flax wig, buskins, etc., came next morning and, to the amazement of the youngsters, presented each with "the very thing he was looking for." As we have said before, the old gentleman who performs the same work in this land, under the well-known cognomen of *Santa Nick*, has had many additions to his outfit in the shape of a handsome cutter, a team of fleet reindeers, etc., and as he goes his yearly rounds, silent and unseen, save by those who are kept awake by the effects of too hearty a supper, no person on earth is for the time being so popular. But we shall leave our friends with this jolly little old fellow without a further introduction, for we are sure there are none who do not recognize him as one of the first of their childhood's acquaintances.

### Our Modern Christmas.

We have followed, then, in a hurried way, one or two of the innumerable observances which have been kept up from time to time during this period of the year by people who knew nothing of the circumstances connected with the important event in the history of the world which occurred nearly nineteen centuries ago. We shall now speak of Christmas in the connection which gives to it its importance and significance in the eyes of the present age. Although formerly set apart as a time for fasting and prayer by the early church, it slowly assumed a different character, and now many look to it as a season for eating and drinking. And why, in consideration of the import of the message brought by the angelic host on the first Christmas morn that the world ever saw, should not the heart be merry and voice utter words of gladness?

Is it meet to clothe our words with sadness and our countenances with sorrow and gravity, and afflict our bodies when "tidings of great joy" are brought to us? At the present day in some parts of Europe, such undue solemnity, and austere gravity is given to this anniversary that the children are not allowed to indulge in anything approaching to merriment, while anything bordering on hilarity at such a time would be regarded as almost sacrilege. Is it any wonder that children born under such circumstances should lose many of the lessons which such a celebration should bring, or worse than that, grow up to despise the doctrines of One, the anniversary of whose

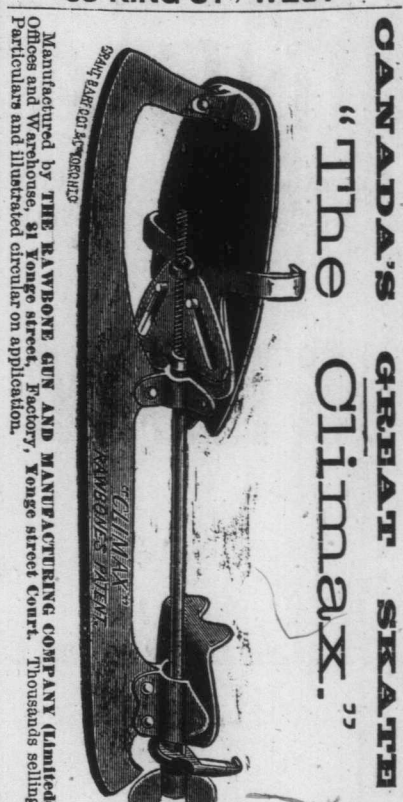
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birth brought such a calamity. May, let the heart be filled with rejoicings, let every gloomy cloud be banished, only let not licence and depravity displace sobriety, and moderation. While we manifest our sympathy with everything that would heighten the pleasure which this glad season brings, we would discountenance and decidedly frown down that which would cause it to degenerate into a period of evil carousing and debauchery of any kind, whatever. With our whole soul, then, we wish all our readers "a merry Christmas," in the very best sense of the term, and may your Christmas be made all the merrier and happier by your endeavors to make some one else glad.

## CHRISTMAS SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

Christmas-tide has ever been characterized by a large indulgence in merriment; and consequently, many have been the amusements and innovations on them introduced at different periods in the history of its observance both as a pagan and a christian festival. During the Saturnalia, for instance, many private and public games of a very interesting nature were carried on for days. We shall give a short outline, of the more noteworthy of these. The most celebrated were the

### Circensian Games.

so called, from being exhibited in the Circus Maximus, a noble building, situated between the Palatine and Aventine hills, about a mile in circumference, and capable of holding 250,000 spectators. These games consisted, first, of horse and chariot races, for which every accommodation was provided within the circus. At one extremity were openings whence the horses started; and along the middle ran a low brick wall, twelve feet broad, at the ends of which the goals round which the chariots turned. When the charioteers were ready to begin the race, the manager of the games dropped a napkin, after which the horses started; and those that outstripped their competitors for seven times in completing the course gained the prize. There were also exhibited in the circus contents in running, leaping, boxing, wrestling and throwing the discus, in which the champions engaged with great dexterity; and those who proved victorious were crowned with laurels. In a large field called the Campus Martius, young men, sometimes performed feats of dexterity on horseback, affording great amusement to the numerous spectators. Frequently the representation of a battle between two armies, the siege of a town, or a naval engagement formed part of the programme. But the most cruel diversions of the Romans were the combats between wild beasts, and often between these and captives or malefactors, in which incredible numbers of the latter perished. Besides these amusements there were others of a very sanguinary nature which disgraced the character of the Romans as a civilized people. These were the shows of

### GLADIATORS.

who were either captives or condemned criminals, but afterwards slaves or freemen who undertook that profession. The gladiators were maintained by the magistrates, and being trained to the use of arms, were on important occasions and public festivals brought to the amphitheatre, where great numbers of them fought with swords, and continued in the combat in pairs for several days. When a gladiator was wounded, he lowered his sword in token of submission, and humbly begged his life from the spectators, who, if they agreed to grant it, clenched their fists and held down their thumbs; but if not, turned them upwards, and the gladiator was slain. The victors were honored with a palm-crown adorned with ribbons, and discharged from further obligations to fight, unless they chose. We would turn from these sights, which even refined ladies, in those days, graced with their presence, to more congenial thoughts.

We will, therefore, without further ado, enter upon some of the sports peculiar to our own nation. Comparatively little is known of the particular bent into which the mirthfulness of the ancient Britons led them, or much more with regard to the subsequent invaders of their land, the early Saxons, except that they were extremely fond of hunting and other such sports. The Norman Conquest, with its introduction of the Feudal System and knighthood, was the beginning of a new era in the social life of Britain. Then were organized many of the pastimes which have since come down to posterity, not merely in connection with Christmas but many other holidays.

It was during this epoch of chivalry that the passion for religious processions and pilgrimages was at its height, and then was initiated the movement which eventually culminated in the famous crusades of the fourteenth century. Mingled with the observances already recorded as peculiar to the ancient Britons, many games of a varied nature were introduced, one or two of which we shall describe. The

### TOURNAMENT.

or joust, comes first. It was held within an enclosed space, called the lists. Ladies and nobles sat round on raised galleries, while the lower orders thronged outside the barriers, to witness the sport. At each end of the lists, tents were pitched for the rival knights.

After the clinking of the armourer's hammers ceased, the heralds proclaimed the titles of the knights about to engage in the combat, and these presently rode into the lists on their chargers clad in heavy armour. In the centre, then, stood the challengers awaiting their adversaries. The latter, riding up, touched with their lances the shields of those with whom they chose to contend. If the shield was touched with the sharp point of the lance the combat was to be with sharp weapons, as in battle; while touching with the other end signified the more peaceful intention of using blunted weapons as a trial of skill. At the sound of the trumpet the combatants dashed at full gallop from opposite ends of the lists, and met in the centre with a terrible shock. Sometimes the lances were smashed into splinters, and the horses borne back upon their haunches; but often it happened, when some of the knights were adepts in the art, that one or more of the less skillful were hurled from their horses to the ground, where they lay stunned and bleeding. This

"sport" lasted several days, and "to the victors belonged the spoils" of the vanquished, in the shape of armour and horses.

The favorite sports of the lower classes were archery, bull baiting, and quarter staff. The latter game was rather a rough one, in which great strength of nerve and muscle was required. The staff was a pole about six feet long which those engaged in the game grasped in the middle striking, parrying and thrusting with both ends. Tilting at a wooden image, called the Quintain, in later days, absorbed great interest. This image, fixed on a pivot, held in its outstretched arm a wooden sword. The tilter going back a hundred yards or so, rode up at full speed and drove his lance at the image. If he was skillful enough to strike the centre, he passed unharm; but if the lance struck too much to one side, the image whirled round and the luckless rider received a smart blow from the wooden sword.

These outdoor sports with many others, (even horse-racing) were indulged in freely, and keenly enjoyed by all classes, from year to year, for some centuries, and in those days when gambling and betting were unknown they exercised a healthful influence over the nation. Passing over a century or two, in which time the glory of the Feudal System had become somewhat dimmed by the disestablishment of knighthood, we come to the period of Moral and Miracle Plays at which time the drama assumed a high place in the estimation of the people.

We refer particularly to the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, when the darkness of ignorance and superstition was scattering before the dawn of a new era of knowledge and enlightenment. It was then that Christmas was the day of all days; and amidst the general license, all kinds of tricks of the wildest nature were practised. We are told that "all England, from the sovereign to the beggar, went

### MUMMING

in strange dresses and masks." Some dressed themselves in the most grotesque costumes, impersonating animals and fish, and even old Satan himself might be seen "walking to and fro upon the face of the earth," with his huge tail thrown over his arm and a fiendish leer on his countenance, as he drew after him his cloven foot. Those who could not thus attire themselves blackened their faces, and clad in white, kept the nervous old spinsters of the neighborhood in constant terror. In every parish, a Lord of Misrule was chosen (after the fashion of the Roman slaves, who were allowed to select one of their number as lord during the Saturnalia) and this person, with a troop of idle fellows, in dresses of a glaring color, covered with ribbons, went about shouting and drumming, sometimes entering churches during divine service. As time sped, however, and the people became educated, these performances disappeared, and Christmas decorations, with holly, bay, rosemary and laurel took the place of these masquerading customs; and simpler and more rational games succeeded the noisy revellings of those dark ages. Our popular Christmas amusements at the present day are somewhat multiplied, and embrace still many of those introduced in the time of our fathers. We have not space to enter upon the details of "Snap-dragon," "Blindman's Buff," Charades and Pantomimes, or, in fact, any of the games so familiar to everybody in this generation of games.

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## CHRISTMAS FARE.

For a thorough idea of a Christmas Dinner, we must again fall back upon the old barons and knights of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. For a fortnight, during the Christmas holidays, the doors were thrown open to all; and eating and carousing filled the whole of the interval. Numberless were the delicacies of the times, which the well stocked larders contained at this season, and numberless was the legion of honored guests, as well as "hangers-on" that thronged the spacious halls. Charity was one of the great virtues and redeeming traits of these otherwise stern and iron-hearted old sons of Mars, whose sword was their only strength and means of support. Without indulging in any further prefatory remarks, we will unceremoniously introduce to our readers, some of the favorite dishes which graced the board of the most distinguished in the time to which we have referred. The first in order of importance, was the

### BOAR'S HEAD,

a dish, which, up to a recent date, figured prominently in many Christmas feasts.

Brought in by an ancient servitor, upon a salver of silver or gold, at the head of a procession of nobles, knights and ladies blithely singing, it was deposited at the head of the table before the host, or some guest of high rank. It was then served up in great pomp, with various condiments. Next to the Boar's Head comes the

### SAVOURY PEACOCK.

The bird having been killed, the skin, with the feathers still on, was carefully peeled off, and after roasting and when almost cool, this was skillfully sewed on again, and the beak being gilded, it was declared ready for the table. Sometimes the bird was placed in a dish after roasting, and being covered like a pie, with the exception of the breast and tail, was served up by ladies.

Often the pie thus made, was reserved for the close of the tournament, when the knightly victor was expected to show his dexterity, by striking all the joints of the bird, without any mistake in carving. After finishing the took a solemn oath to risk any peril, however great, to rescue woman from danger and oppression.

### MINCE-PIES,

had their origin to some degree, in the yule cake and were formerly made in the shape of a manger. The collection of ingredients, that so puzzle the imagination of some in these days, was supposed to represent the gifts brought to the Infant at Bethlehem. A custom long prevailed, of having set out on the table as many mince-pies as the master of the house had been married years, and often was the digestive powers of those gathered to do honor, put to a severe test. In England, at present

### ROAST BEEF AND PLUM PUDDING

are the articles that are always written in large capitals, at Christmas time; and not even Goose or Turkey, so popular with Americans and Canadians, could tempt their appetites when such cheer as this is on the bill of fare. Well, what difference does it make what direction our inclinations take in the matter of eating and drinking, so long as we combine profit with pleasure? We may sit down to the richest repast that even tempted the capricious appetite of a king, and turn away dissatisfied; whilst, on the other hand, our portion may be but a crust of bread and a little water, and yet be a banquet in which angels are the waiters, and Heaven's Lord the host. In conclusion let us remember, whilst we partake of the bounties which Providence so abundantly bestows, at this season particularly, that hundreds do not receive the bare necessities of life, and may it cause us to seize every opportunity, of sharing those bounties by which we are favored with our fellow-men.

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These self-constituted public benefactors no doubt fancied they were safe, but the Directors know them, and to-day a writ for libel has been issued against the first batch of three, who will be afforded ample opportunity to prove their slanderous statements or take the consequences. The others will have attention in due course.

This Association can afford to submit to the fullest investigation, and the directors are prepared to give good reason for any act of theirs which may be called in question.

As the statements made against the Association will be dealt with before a Court of Law, the Directors, for the present, simply state that in every essential particular the charges made by *The Insurance Times* and circulated in this country, are untrue.

J. K. MACDONALD, Managing Director C. L. A.

Toronto, December 11th, 1882.

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