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el and toe. Black
..... 25c

VOL. L. NO. 415.

VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1910.

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR.

NO FOUNDATION FOR WAR SCARE

President Taft Makes Reassuring Speech at Banquet of Society for Judicial Settlement of Disputes

BELIEVES IN WISE MILITARY MOVES

Explains His Reasons For Recommending Fortification of Panama Canal—Much Property Involved There

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—President Taft, addressing the closing banquet of the American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes, allayed the "war scare" which has furnished headlines in newspapers in the last few days. He said: "There is not the slightest reason for such a sensation, because we are at peace with all nations of the world and are quite likely to remain so." He said his purpose in outlining the preparations of the United States for war, as a peace measure, "was to show by contrast the great worthiness of the movement for a permanent court of arbitration and of international peace. The president summarized the condition of the national defense, and urged that a policy of "military preparedness" be pursued. He emphasized the fact that the American people would never consent to the maintenance of a standing army sufficient to cope with that of the greater powers. He urged the retention of the present regular army, the improvement of the national militia, and the maintenance of a reserve force of 100,000 men.

PACK OF SALMON IN PAST SEASON

Official Statement Shows Total 762,201 Cases—Better than Usual Pack of the "Off Year"

VANCOUVER, Dec. 17.—An official statement just issued shows that the total salmon pack of British Columbia for the season of 1910 was 762,201 cases. These were divided among the principal fishing districts as follows: Fraser river, 223,143; Skeena river, 222,032; Rivers inlet, 129,393; Naas river, 39,729; outlying districts, 167,904. Total, 762,201.

WANNIPEG STRIKE

Sixty Cars Operated in Afternoon and Withdrawn at Night—Little Disorder Reported

WINNIPEG, Dec. 17.—Sixty cars were operated all afternoon by the street railway company. Windows were broken in several cars near the Grand Union hall, where strikers had congregated, but a squad of police soon quelled the disturbance.

GENERAL NAVARRO REPORTS VICTORIES

Other Despatches Describe One Encounter As Draw—Government Sending Heavy Reinforcements To Scene

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 17.—Through Colonel Garcia Cullen, chief of staff of President Diaz, the Associated Press to-day has received a copy of a telegram from General Navarro, commander of the forces of the revolution, and a copy forwarded to the war department here.

BANKS ARE SUED

Alberta Government Sues to Obtain Money for Great Waterways Railway Bonds

EDMONTON, Alta., Dec. 17.—At 10 o'clock this morning the Alberta government sued the Dominion Bank and the Royal Bank for refusing to honor the proceeds of the sale of the Alberta waterways bonds. The cheques were: for the Dominion bank, \$400,000; for the Royal bank, \$1,000,000. The cheques were presented at the local branches of the banks, where payment was refused. The cheques were then sent to protest, and the attorney-general issued writs on the banks for the respective amounts indicated.

CASUALTY LIST GROWS LONGER

Many Killed and Wounded in Recent Battles Between Mexican Federal Troops and Revolutionists

THE report reads: "In compliance with your telegram of yesterday I sent 476 men under Colonel Trucey Aubert, of the Thirteenth Cavalry, to take possession of Malpais, and protect the arrival of reinforcements from Chihuahua. The revolutionists were on the heights bordering the pass and began firing upon the troops from all sides. At the same time, other revolutionary forces began firing upon my own troops at Patzcuaro."

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FARMERS CROWD FLOOR OF HOUSE

Delegates Present to Government Memorials Agreed Upon in Conference—Several Requests Are Made

OTTAWA, Dec. 18.—The House of Commons afforded an unusual scene today. The thirty of invalid farmers assembled from various parts of the Dominion to present their memorials to the government, took possession of the chamber. On the floor, all the members of the government were crowded together when they entered. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the other members of the government were crowded together when they entered. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the other members of the government were crowded together when they entered.

SIR WILFRID'S REPLY IS DISAPPOINTING

Leaders Declare They Will Repeal Demands Until Conceded—Mr. Barnard Refers to Fishery Poachers

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HOGAN OUTPOINTS FRAYNE IN FRISCO

"One Round" Jack Secures Decision Over Well-Known Lightweight in Fast Twenty Round Mill Yesterday

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—"One round" Jack Hogan, the terror of local short distance fighters, graduated from that class today when he earned a 20-round decision over Johnny Frayne, open-weight of prestige, at Biet's arena. Hogan, who is barely 21 years of age, with little additional experience, had a serious contender among the many challengers for the lightweight crown won by Champion Al Volgan.

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PARTIES REMAIN AS THEY WERE

Government Majority in New House of Commons Will Be Same As in Last—Is Now Put Down at 126

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ONLY SIX SEATS TO BE HEARD FROM

Liberals and Unionists Have Each 272 Members—Forecasts of Courses Likely To Be Followed

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MR. HILL TAKES HOPEFUL VIEW

Thinks Business is Improving All Over United States, He Believes Conservatism is Necessary

SEATTLE, Dec. 17.—James J. Hill, chairman of the Great Northern board, who arrived here today with a party of his railroad associates, takes most hopeful view of the business outlook. He said today: "Business is improving everywhere. There is a tendency toward conservatism, but I believe this is a good thing. With all its natural resources, Washington need not fear industrial depression. The west is especially prosperous and will continue so. Oregon produces \$2,000,000 worth of livestock last year, and the apple crop in Washington has been the best in years."

DEADLOCK OVER THE CANADA CUP

DETROIT, Dec. 17.—There is a possibility that matters may be so arranged between the Rochester Yacht Club and the Royal Canadian Yacht Club that a race for the Canada Cup may be pulled off in 1912.

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MAURETANIA NOW ON RETURN TRIP

Leaves New York Thirty-Eight Hours After Her Arrival from Liverpool—Likely to Get Record

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Thirty-eight hours after she put in at her dock, the Mauretania departed for Liverpool, leaving behind her a record for the round trip from Liverpool to New York, which she established in a record of thirty-eight hours and twenty minutes. The Mauretania was the first of the Cunard line's new liners to be built in America, and she is the only one of her class to be built in the United States. She is the only one of her class to be built in the United States. She is the only one of her class to be built in the United States.

Study of Pellagra

Home Dec. 16.—A decree is published creating a commission to examine the new theory put forward as to the cause of pellagra and to formulate any changes in the existing law of protection that may be considered desirable. The commission consists of nine members, all doctors, with the exception of Prince Teano, deputy, who is chiefly instrumental in calling the attention of the Italian government to the discovery of the English commission on pellagra.

Efful Studies Aviation

PARIS, Dec. 16.—M. G. Eiffel, the well known engineer, is at present engaged in studying what he calls the scientific laws of aviation. Until now flying machines have been built and worked in the dark, as it were, without any definite mathematical knowledge of the laws of the air. He believes that careful scientific experiments and certain laws may be worked out which will no longer leave the act of flying, as it is accomplished at present, a mere acrobatic feat. The laws of the air, he believes, should be worked out in a certain amount of essence and motor power, and given angles on a given plane, should be able to calculate the resistance of the air in given circumstances, and at given angles on a given plane. He believes that a machine of certain dimensions, and with a certain amount of essence and motor power, should be able to accomplish a certain flight which could be calculated in advance, and which would no longer depend merely on the ability of the pilot. He believes that such constructed machines should be able to fly in all weather conditions, except in a hurricane, and a number of instruments should be added to guide work with mathematical precision. He has already submitted a preliminary study, which will be examined by the academy of science.

FORESTRY MATTERS WERE DISCUSSED

Premier Met Member of Dominion Conservation Commission—No Legislation at Next Session Likely

Messrs. John Henry and R. H. Alexander were among yesterday's visitors to the Capital, and during the morning spent some time in consultation with Premier McBride in respect to a variety of matters affecting the timber industry. Mr. Henry, as is well known, represents the Forestry Commission of the Dominion Conservation Commission, and yesterday's extended conference was largely in respect to certain proposals as to the conservation of the timber industry. The proposals were adopted at the forthcoming session of that body at Quebec early in January.

HONORS ACCORDED ARE INPARALLELED

Successes of Provincial Fruit in Old Country Referred to by Agent-General in Letter to Premier

A letter has just been received by Premier McBride from Mr. J. H. Turner, the Agent-General for British Columbia at the Imperial capital, in which he refers at length to the excellent showing made by the exhibition in this favored province at this season's old country fruit shows. The Agent-General gives a general survey of the successes achieved and contrasts the gratifying results obtained with those of other years. Incidentally, he also refers to the fact that the old country fruit shows have been held in the past, and that the fruit which was shown was of a high quality. He also refers to the fact that the fruit which was shown was of a high quality.

RIGHT-OF-WAY DISPUTE

Canadian Northern Moves For Dissolution of Injunction Case Arising at Langley

YANCOUVER, Dec. 15.—An application is pending in the Supreme Court to dissolve an injunction granted some time ago to restrain the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway company from trespassing on land owned by Mr. Rawlinson, a farmer of Langley. The action is one of a number arising out of right-of-way difficulties in that district. The injunction was granted on the application of Mr. Rawlinson, a farmer of Langley. The action is one of a number arising out of right-of-way difficulties in that district. The injunction was granted on the application of Mr. Rawlinson, a farmer of Langley.

FOR ARBITRATION INSTEAD OF WAR

Mr. Carnegie Supports Idea of Court of Arbitral Justice—Points to Waste in War and Armaments

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—That the worst results of arbitration are incalculably better than the best efforts of war, and that the best efforts of war are incalculably worse than the worst results of arbitration, is the opinion of Mr. Carnegie, who has just returned from a tour of the world. He has just returned from a tour of the world. He has just returned from a tour of the world.

ARGENTINIAN HIS EFFORTS

Chronicles the Exploits of Abe Slusky, of St. Louis Military Man of Great Capacity

In these days when temperance is the order of the day, it is not surprising that a man who has spent his life in the military should be a teetotaler. This is the case with Abe Slusky, of St. Louis, who has just returned from a tour of the world. He has just returned from a tour of the world. He has just returned from a tour of the world.

BURGLARS SHOOT THREE POLICEMEN

Desperadoes Tunnelling Under London Jewelry Shop Surprised by Officers—Four Deaths Result from Fight

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The death toll resulting from a fight between the police and a gang of burglars in a jewelry shop in London, has risen to four. The burglars were tunnelling under the shop, and were surprised by the police. The police were surprised by the burglars. The police were surprised by the burglars.

FARMERS LEAVE IN BAD HUMOR

Disappointed With Reply of Premier to Their Memorials Executive Committee to Confer With Ministers

OTTAWA, Dec. 17.—Most members of the farmers' delegation spent the day in the capital, visiting the experimental farm, and in the evening they left for their homes in a bad humor. They were disappointed with the reply of the Premier to their memorials. They were disappointed with the reply of the Premier to their memorials.

FRAUDULENT USE OF U.S. MAILS

Nineteen Arrests Made in Pennsylvania and New Jersey by Postal Inspectors—Several Given Hearings

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16.—Nineteen arrests were made today by postal inspectors in Pennsylvania and New Jersey in connection with the fraudulent use of U.S. mails. The postal inspectors were surprised by the fraudulent use of U.S. mails. The postal inspectors were surprised by the fraudulent use of U.S. mails.

SMALL HOPE FOR MEN

Rescue Party at Leyden Coal Mine Stopped by Gas in Great Quantity

DENVER, Dec. 16.—Bad gas and great quantities of debris from fallen roofs and walls in the Leyden coal mine, where ten men are entombed as a result of the fire which broke out on Wednesday night, checked the progress of the rescue party today, and the party covered little more than the cap of the two and a half miles of distance from the bottom of shaft No. 1 to the spot where the men were supposed to be. It is believed to be physically impossible for the rescue party to reach the men before tomorrow, if that the men will still be alive. It is believed to be physically impossible for the rescue party to reach the men before tomorrow, if that the men will still be alive.

CONTROL OF MONOPOLIES

Labor Caucus Has Prepared a Bill for Submission to Parliament

MELBOURNE, Dec. 15.—A corresponding committee of the Labor caucus has prepared a bill for submission to parliament. The bill is for the control of monopolies. The bill is for the control of monopolies.

ASK MEDIATION

Western Railroad Managers Appeal to Washington Officials for Settlement

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—The Erman Act was invoked today by sixty-one western railroads as a means of avoiding a strike threatened by employees. The railroads are appealing to Washington officials for mediation. The railroads are appealing to Washington officials for mediation.

PARTIES FEMIN AS THEY WERE

(Continued from Page 1.)

Number of new peers would refuse to pass the home rule bill. T. P. O'Connor, writing in a Sunday paper, rejoices that all indications reveal a determined attitude and prompt spirit on the part of the ministers. He says that the veto question will be faced the first night of the new session, and will be pursued to the bitter end without delay or hesitation. The Lords possibly might insert certain amendments in the veto bill, but they must be told in the plainest language that amendments are impossible, for, he adds, it is evident that general measures will not influence them; nothing will reach them but the big stick.

OLYMPIA WRECK NOW BREAKING UP

Deck is Awash and Starboard Rail Under Water at High Tide—Crew Abandons Wreck

VALDEZ, Alaska, Dec. 16.—The wrecked steamer Olympia, which went on Bligh Island reef Saturday night, is now breaking up. The deck is awash and the starboard rail is under water at high tide. The crew has abandoned the wreck. The crew has abandoned the wreck.

FOUR LIVES LOST

Small Trading Schooner Louisa is Crushed by Ice in Great Quantity

NOME, Alaska, Dec. 16.—Four lives are believed to have been lost in the wreck of the trading schooner Louisa in the ice of Bering Sea near Cape Prince of Wales. The schooner was crushed by ice in great quantity. The schooner was crushed by ice in great quantity.

PASSENGERS IN DANGER

Three Hundred on Burning Steamer Have Narrow Escape Sailing's Brave Conduct

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 15.—Fire partially destroyed the steamer Maryland, Norfolk Railroad tonight, and 300 passengers had a narrow escape from injury or death. The Maryland tonight left Norfolk for Cape Charles. Thirty hours later a deckhand discovered a fire among some bales of cotton in the hold. The fire was extinguished, but the Maryland was damaged. The Maryland was damaged.

YALE AND HARVARD REACH DESTINATION

Turbine Steamers Brought From Atlantic to Run Between San Pedro and San Francisco

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 16.—The Yale, the new big steamship of the Pacific Navigation company, tonight completed her long voyage around Cape Horn from New York. The Yale is the first of a new class of turbine steamers. The Yale is the first of a new class of turbine steamers.

PHYSICAL CULTURE

(By Richard West)

Physical training has one principal object in view, namely the symmetrical development of the body. The development of the body is the object of physical culture. The development of the body is the object of physical culture.

MEVIGH CHAMPION

TACOMA, Dec. 15.—Pete McVeigh, of Seattle, won the lightweight boxing championship of the northwest here tonight, by beating Chick Hudson in six rounds. Referee Jack Grant, of Portland, stopped the bout after McVeigh had twice driven Hudson into the ropes, and was landing hard rights and lefts to the face at will. Hudson quit.

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An Hour with the Editor

MAKING THE BEST OF IT

It is a fallacy to say that all men are born free and equal, because every person is to a certain extent bound by the environment of his birth, and scarcely any two individuals are equally well born. A healthy and honorable, right-living man marries a healthy, honorable, right-living girl. The man is called upon to put forward his best powers of mind or body, as the case may be, to make a living; the girl devotes the best qualities of her physical and mental nature to the perfecting of the home. Their children, unless by some trick of atavism they are made resemble some ancestor, who was physically, mentally or morally weak, ought to be well born; but this ideal is not reached in anything like the majority of cases, and even when it is, the handicap of environment may prevent the perfect development of the child. Hence as none of us, practically speaking, grows up in the enjoyment of the best there is, it seems to be our duty to make the best of what we have. How many of us do this? Take the case of the boy at school who learns his lessons more quickly than other boys. If he could be taught to make the best of this faculty, he might accomplish almost anything; but the chances are that he will stay just a little ahead of the plodders, going through school and college easier than they, but coming out knowing no more. Possibly he may not know so much, for it is true that what is easily learned is often easily forgotten. How many boys, who are clever at school, learn how to make the best use of their cleverness? What can we do for the lad who is so easily first in his class that he does not have to study? Every man of mature years knows that success in after life did not always follow the boys who were the most brilliant in school.

It is much easier to advise a dull boy how to make the best of his ability. We tell him to persevere, and perseverance is the stepping-stone to almost everything that is worth while. We tell him that his slowness of comprehension will have a tendency to make him more thorough, that the difficulty he has in acquiring will teach him the value of what he has and make him strive to retain it. The brilliant lad reaches results in a single dash; the other only by "painful steps and slow"; but when he gains ground he usually is able to hold it. Thus it often comes about that the lad, who is naturally quick at his lessons, falls behind slower boys in the race of life, because they make the best of what they have, while he does not make the best of what he has.

What is true in this respect of mental activity is true also of physical activity. Many men are old at fifty; but at fifty a man ought to be at his best mentally and physically. Those who make the best of their physical natures are at their best then. How many young men do you know who have satiated themselves with life before they are forty? Sometimes such young fellows will boast that they have "lived," when all that they have done is to run the gamut of vices. This is not living; it is dying, dying a lingering death, and there can be nothing much worse than to find as the years creep over us all capacity for rational pleasure becoming exhausted, to become physically soggy from having killed all the vitality in the yeast of life.

We may not be quite sure who wrote the Book of Ecclesiastes, although it purports to have been written by Solomon, but it is certainly the production of a very wise man, who set down therein the results of his observations and experiences. It closes with these words: "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil." Try to appreciate what is meant by this. It is not a prophecy of something to come, of a day of judgment, when we shall all be called upon to give an account of deeds done on this earth, and receive reward or punishment, as the case may be. It does not mean this at all. It is a statement of a law of Nature, which is as invariable as the law of gravity. Our acts are brought into judgment because we can never wholly escape the consequences of them; even though we repent of them with the deepest sorrow. Perhaps the soreness may pass away, but the scar will remain. There is no ranker folly than to say that a young man must sow his wild oats. Come, young man, who comfort yourself with this delusion, what would you think if you met your sister or your sweetheart somewhere sowing her wild oats as you are sowing them? Would you be apt to ask the latter to be your wife and the mother of your children? You would require no argument to convince you that she was not making the best of her life. By what process of reasoning, then, are you able to persuade yourself that you are making the best of yours?

Make the best of your privileges as a citizen. Here the great majority of people fall very far short of their duty. Hence it is that in very many cases the administration of those things which promote the welfare of the state or the community fall into the hands of persons unfitted to discharge them or not above using their positions for their personal advantage and the public detriment. In time of war men will strive for the honor of putting forward the best that is in them for their country. In time of peace they are content to let others discharge public duties. It seems easier to die than to live for one's country. Many a man would charge against a battery of artillery and yet shrink from running for alderman. In the sphere of national politics we permit partisanship to blind us to what our reason and patriotism would show us to be our duty, if we permitted them to have sway.

In the development of our moral nature, how many of us make the best of things? The reference is not to the doing of wrongful acts,

but to the cultivation of high ideals, of charitable opinions, of kindly thoughts. A man may keep himself free from conspicuous actual wrongdoing, and yet the better part of his nature, the part that is lasting in this life and will endure if there is a future life, may be dwarfed, twisted and roughened. We may do a mean act today and may atone for it or forget it tomorrow; but that which we call our character or our disposition remains with us and we keep on adding to it as the years pass. Here, then, is something of which we should ever strive to make the best, so that when the evening of life comes, and physical weakness forbids the achievements and enjoyments of youth and manhood, and our thoughts must be our chief source of pleasure, we may be able to gather rich bouquets from the garden of memory and breathe the fragrance of vanished years.

SCOTTISH HISTORY

Very little is known with certainty of Sir William Wallace. There is no doubt about the main facts of his career, but of his personality and the details of his life everything is uncertain. There are two Wallaces, the Wallace of the English chroniclers and the Wallace of the Scottish traditions. It is difficult to say which of them is nearer the real man. Naturally the affections of his fellow-countrymen surrounded his memory with a sort of halo, and equally naturally the people, who found him so redoubtable a foe, were inclined to attribute to him qualities far from heroic. To the one he was all that could be desired in chivalry; to the other he was a monster of cruelty. The truth probably lies between the two extremes. That he was a patriot none will venture to deny; that he loved freedom all the known facts show; that he was a splendid soldier his victories testify; but that he was not free from the vices of his times is quite probable. War is not a parlor game today; and it certainly was everything else in the days when the first Edward was king of England.

The exact date of the birth of Wallace is not known, but it was about the year 1274. His father is said to have been a Scottish knight. Tradition has endowed him with extraordinary physical qualities, gigantic stature and enormous strength being among them; but there are no historical reasons for believing that in these respects he was greatly different from his contemporaries. When young he was outlawed for having killed an Englishman in a casual fray, and he assembled a band of kindred spirits, who at the first seemed to have no other purpose than to be a law unto themselves. They soon began to make attacks upon the English, and being joined by Sir William Douglas and his followers, they at length became so formidable that King Edward sent an army against them. By this force the adherents of Wallace were temporarily dispersed, but they soon rallied, and at the battle of Stirling he completely routed the English forces, and made himself master of Scotland. He then invaded England, and the ravages of his soldiers were such that, to quote Sir Walter Scott, "they left nothing behind them but blood and ashes." On his return to Scotland he was proclaimed Guardian of the Kingdom. His position was weakened by the failure of many of the nobility to come to his support; nevertheless he was able to entell a formidable army and prepare for the attack, which he knew King Edward would make as soon as the wars on the Continent would leave his hands free to enter Scotland. The attack soon came, and Edward, that leader adopted tactics that had been successfully employed on other occasions. He laid waste the country and retired into the centre of the kingdom; but Edward was not made of the stuff that is easily turned from his purpose, and amid perils that would have daunted a less determined man, he advanced as far as Kirkcaldy, in West Lothian. Here he halted, and was seriously debating whether he should advance or retire, when he learned that Wallace was at Falkirk. Edward resolved upon forcing a battle, and advancing rapidly he came up with the Scottish forces on July 22, 1298. The battle that ensued was splendidly contested, and though victory rested with the English, Edward was unable to follow up his success. The most important result was the resignation of Wallace of his office of Guardian. The Bishop of St. Andrew's, Bruce and Comyn were appointed in his stead, and they administered the affairs of the kingdom in the name of Balliol, who was at that time a prisoner in the hands of Edward. The Pope now appeared upon the scene, not personally indeed, but by the issuance of a Bull, in which he claimed Scotland as a dependency of Rome, and ordered Edward to submit his claims to him for adjudication. This Bull was laid before the English Parliament, and it was met with the famous reply, "that in temporalis the King of England is independent of Rome." This declaration closed with these remarkable words: "We neither do, will nor can permit our sovereign to do anything to the detriment of the constitution, which we are both sworn to and are determined to maintain."

Edward renewed the invasion of Scotland in 1301. The Scottish forces were led by Sir John Comyn and Sir Simon Fraser, and the English troops were severely defeated. Edward then took the field in person, and he was not long in subduing all opposition. A general amnesty was granted to the Scottish leaders, although some of them were fined and some were banished. Wallace was expressly exempted from the terms of the agreement reached between Edward and the Guardians.

He was offered the opportunity of surrendering himself unconditionally. This he declined to do, and his friends endeavored to negotiate terms with Edward. They were unsuccessful, and a price was put upon Wallace's head. The great hero retreated to the forest, where he was captured by Sir William Monteith, whom Sir Walter Scott describes as "his unworthy and apostate countryman." He was taken to London and tried for high treason. He denied the charge of treason, and indeed he could not properly be charged with it, for he had never acknowledged Edward as king. He was condemned and beheaded in 1305, his quarters being distributed throughout the kingdom. This Edward thought he had forever united Scotland to the English Crown, a belief doomed to speedy disappointment.

THE EARTH

The Mississippi is hardly to be regarded as a river. It is a great system of drainage channels lying wholly within the United States and taking part to the region lying between the Appalachian and Rocky mountain ranges. At some remote period in geological time the sea extended from the present shore line of the Gulf of Mexico up as far as Girardeau, in Missouri, a distance of 1,100 miles. This long and somewhat narrow arm of the sea received the combined waters of what are now the Mississippi and Missouri from the north, the Ohio and minor streams from the east, the Arkansas, the Red and minor streams from the west. These rivers, carrying down silt from the mountains and lower lands, gradually drove back the sea, repeating on a vast scale what has taken place in many other parts of the world, so that at last all that was left of the long salt water way was the channel which the rivers kept open, and which today shifts its course often with destructive suddenness. In the lower Mississippi valley we see exactly what the sea did along every roadside after a heavy rain, where the water runs off in crooked channels through the accumulated mud.

The name Mississippi is applied to the river, which flows in a general north and south direction. It is 3,160 miles long; but if length of course were the determining factor, the Missouri would be considered the main stream, and if the volume of water carried were considered, the premier place would have to be given to the Ohio. The source of the Missouri is 4,200 miles from the Gulf of Mexico, from the source of the Ohio to the sea the distance is 2,383 miles. From the source of the Missouri to its junction with the Mississippi the distance is 1,998 miles; the Ohio is 1,300 miles long; the upper Mississippi, which is the river above the junction with the Missouri, is 1,330 miles long. The Arkansas is 1,514 miles long, and the Red river 1,200 miles. (This latter must be distinguished from Lake Winnipeg.) From the head of navigation on the Missouri a steamer can sail down that river, then down the Mississippi, and then up the Ohio to the head of navigation of its tributary, the Allegheny, in New York, a distance of 4,000 miles. In all there are estimated to be 100,000 streams, large and small, in the Mississippi river system, and the total length of navigable water is placed at 15,700 miles. A striking feature of this great system is the absence of lakes of any importance. In the whole Mississippi drainage area, which contains more than 1,250,000 square miles, there is scarcely a lake large enough to be shown on the state maps of an ordinary atlas.

In the course of its source the Mississippi proper falls a distance of 1,535 feet. The springs in which the river rises are about 100 miles south of the Canadian Boundary Line, and within a short distance of the sources of tributaries of the Rainy river, flowing into Lake Superior. The Minnesota, a branch of the Mississippi, river within a very few miles of the source of the Red river, the waters of which find their way into Hudson Bay. The source of the Ohio is near the Delaware; that of the Missouri is near that of the tributaries of the Columbia, sends its waters into the Pacific Ocean. Thus it will be seen that the water precipitated in central New York from a summer raincloud may find its way into the Atlantic or into the Gulf of Mexico; that from a similar cloud in Minnesota may reach the Gulf or Hudson Bay, and that from a cloud in Montana may flow either into the Gulf of the Pacific Ocean.

The other rivers flowing into the Gulf of Mexico from the north belong structurally to the Mississippi system, but have made their own courses to the sea instead of joining the greater stream. There is one very notable exception to this rule, namely, the Rio Grande, river is nearly two thousand miles long, and it has no connection structurally with the Mississippi system. It has its source in the mountains of southwestern Colorado, and forms the boundary between the United States and Mexico for much of its course.

Eddie Foy has a youngster, who is at the women call the "cute" age. The other day his mother looked all over for a comb, and finally discovered it in a basin of water. "Now," she said to Foy, junior, "what do you suppose that comb was doing in that water?"

Foy, junior, ignored the suspicion. "It 'us probly washin' its teeth," he replied—New York Telegraph.

Some Famous Dramatists and Their Master Pieces

(N. de Bertrand Lugnes)

JOHANN CHRISTOPH FREIDRICH SCHILLER

The pictures we have of this great poet show a beautiful face, full of lofty enthusiasm, and in his eyes a divine fire that bespeaks the truth of his ideals, though his life was by no means an easy one, for he experienced severe bodily suffering, the pangs of poverty and died from a grievous malady while he was still a young man.

He was born in 1759 at Marbach, a small town of Wurttemberg, and his parents, though worthy people enough were in no way distinguished, his father being a barber by trade. While still a young man, however, he entered the army and later rose to the rank of major. His mother was the daughter of an innkeeper, a comely, intelligent woman, deeply religious by nature. Johann was one of two children and the only son.

It was the earnest desire of his parents that he should enter the ministry when he became old enough, so it was with this end in view that his education was begun. The school which Schiller entered at the age of 14 was well known for the severity of its discipline, and the rigid regime was not conducive to the development of any latent genius its pupils might possess. Promiscuous reading was especially under the ban, and the youthful Schiller in order to gratify his love for poetry, and romances, felt justified in feigning illness many times in order to be granted the privacy of his own room where he might enjoy his clandestine pleasures which were surely not censurable ones. It was while at this school that he became familiar with the great poets of his own country, and also with Shakespeare through a rather imperfect translation. But his first contribution to the world of letters, "The Robbers," was not to appear until he had been some years out in the world, though he had written it while at school.

In the meantime he found it a difficult enough matter to earn a scanty livelihood, and often knew what it was to go without his dinner. Time and again he lost heart and wept over the unkindness of fate, but an impetuous genius prodded him into renewed activity, and imbued him with fresh hope. At odd moments he was at work remodeling his play. Night after night he sat in his cheerless garret room and by the dim light of his tallow candle read his manuscript with eyes critical, corrected and rewrote until he felt that his work was as perfect as he could make it. Then torn between hope and fear he sent it to a publisher. It was returned to him. Again and again he tried publishing houses, with no better success, and finally convinced of the merit of his work, he succeeded in borrowing sufficient money to have the play printed.

And "The Robbers" met with an enthusiastic reception. It was translated into several languages, and brought the young writer a certain measure of fame at once, and also incurred the severe displeasure of the Duke of Wurttemberg, who had Schiller arrested and sent for two weeks to prison, on account of the sentiment voiced in the play, which showed only too plainly the young author's "hatred of the galling personal restraints and daily vexations he had suffered," through the unhappy social conditions then prevailing. Furthermore Schiller was forbidden by the Duke "henceforth and forever to compose comedies or anything of that sort."

So Schiller went to Bauerbach, hid himself, for a time, adopted the name of Doctor Ritter and continued to write with the greatest fervor. He produced several plays, all of them superior in artistic finish to his first work and showing a clearer and wiser judgment. "Cabal and Love" was a decided success. It is "a bold exposure of the selfish greed, corruption and cruelty of contemporary court life in Germany; and puts the Hessian landgrave (who sold his subjects to England as soldiers to fight against American independence, to get money to squander on his mistresses) in the pillory forever." The mass of the people frantically welcomed this daring bit of work which so strongly voiced their own sentiments.

It was shortly after the performance of this play that Schiller began the earnest study of history and philology, feeling himself deficient in these branches of learning. With the historical works which he produced we will not concern ourselves, except with those plays founded upon historical facts, which have brought to him so large a treasure of well-deserved fame. Wallenstein figures as the hero of three plays. In 1800 appeared "Marie Stuart," followed by the "Maid of Orleans," "The Bride of Messina," and "William Tell," the last veritable masterpiece of dramatic continuity, creative power, wonderful character study and marked contrasts of social conditions.

Schiller with all the ardour of his poetic temperament knew what it was to fall in love several times. He experienced transports of joy and sorrow, hope and despair, and finally in 1799 he married Charlotte von Lengefeld,

and by her had four children, two sons and two daughters.

In 1799 he settled permanently at Weimar, and two years later was raised to the nobility. Previous to this he had been made an honorary citizen of the French Republic, a distinction which he valued very highly. For all his popularity Schiller received very little pecuniary benefit and was obliged many times to accept aid from his friends, among whom during the last ten years of his life was the greater poet Goethe.

Schiller died in his 46th year from pulmonary trouble. His wife survived him 21 years.

Extract from "Wallenstein's Death."

Wallenstein—
Soft cradled thee thy fortune will today;
Thy duties thou couldst exercise in sport,
Indulge all lovely instincts, act forever
With undivided heart. It can remain
No longer thus. Like enemies the roads
Start from each other, duties strive with duties
Thou must needs choose thy party in the war
Which is now kindling 'twixt thy friend and
Him who is thy Emperor.

Max—
War, is that the name?
War is as frightful as Heaven's pestilence;
Yet it is good, is it Heaven's will as that is.
Is that a good war which against the Emperor
Thou warest with the Emperor's own army?
O God of Heaven what a change is this.
Beseeems it me to offer such persuasion
To thee, who like the fixed star of the Pole,
Wert all I gazed at on life's trackless ocean?
O what a rent thou makest in my heart.
The ingrained instinct of old reverence,
The holy habit of obedience—
Must I pluck life asunder from thy name?
Nay, do not turn thy countenance upon me.
It always was a god looking upon me.
Duke Wallenstein's power is not departed;
The senses still are in thy bonds; although
Bleeding the soul hath freed itself.

RUTH

By Thomas Hood.
(1798-1845.)

She stood breast-high amid the corn,
Clasped by the golden light of morn.
Like the sweetheart of the sun,
Who many a glowing kiss had won.

On her cheek an autumn flush,
Deeply ripened; such a blush
In the midst of brown was born,
Like red poppies grown with corn.

Round her eyes her tresses fell,
Which were blackest none could tell;
But long lashes veiled a light
That had lashed been all too bright.

And her hat with shady brim,
Made her tressy forehead dim;
Thus she stood amid the stooks,
Praising God with sweetest looks.

Sure, I said, heaven did not mean
Where I reap though shouldst but glean;
Lay thy sheaf adown and come,
Share my harvest and my home.

"WHEN THE SWALLOWS"

When the swallows homeward fly,
When the roses scattered lie,
When from neither hill nor dell
Chants the silvery nightingale;
In these words my bleeding heart
Would to thee its grief impart
When I thus my image lose,
Can I, ah, can I e'er know repose.

When the white swan southward roves,
To seek at noon the orange groves,
When the red tints of the west
Prove the sun is gone to rest;
In these words my bleeding heart
Would to thee its grief impart;
When I thus my image lose,
Can I, ah, can I e'er know repose.

Hush, my heart, why thus complain,
Thou must, too, thy woes contain;
Though on earth no more we rose
Loudly breathing vows of love,
Though my heart must find relief
Yielding to these words belief,
I shall see thy form again,
Though today we part in pain.
—Old Song.

IMPERIAL MOTHER

Imperial Mother, from whose breasts
We drank as babes the pride whereby
We question even thine own behests,
And judge thee with no flinching eye—

Oft slow to hear when thou dost call,
Oft vext with a divided will,
When once a rival seeks thy fall,
We are thy sons and daughters still.

The love that halts, the faith that veers,
Are then deep-sunk as in the Sea;
The Sea where thou must brook no peers,
And have with none thy sovereignty.
—William Watson in London Times.

The rice production of Japan exceeds in quantity 260,000,000 bushels a year; tea nearly 60,000,000 a year, and silk more than 25,000,000 pounds a year.

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Departments

made in the assortment to replenish the store right up to the day as your interests at

- to \$5.00
- of designs, from, per \$4.00
- Per dozen \$12.00
- \$8.00
- liver top, in the very \$7.50
- Each, \$7.50, \$7.00
- necks. Each, \$3.00
- \$2.50
- from \$6.00 to: \$3.00
- to \$2.00
- to \$2.00
- l. \$16.00 to: \$10.00
- \$12.00 to: \$7.00
- with sterling silver
- \$2.50
- with sterling silver
- \$8.00 and: \$5.00

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- in \$13.00
- edge \$15.00
- \$17.00
- \$25.00
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giving a piece of flora and violets.

- \$1.00
- \$2.00
- \$3.50

glass bottles and any handsome display \$1.50
..... \$2.50
\$3.50 and: \$2.00
5c and: \$5.00
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a work of art,
you to see this
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We're After
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When You
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You'll Be
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Bovine Tuberculosis; Its Relation to Man

What Is Being Done to Stamp Out the Plague Which Threatens Life

The prevalence of the white plague in British Columbia among human beings, brings forcibly to the attention of everyone the necessity of immediate action being taken in order to less...

Contagion was first brought into the province by imported stock. Now is the time, before the disease is thoroughly established, to make a determined effort to stamp it out.

There are now four duly qualified veterinary inspectors in the employ of the department, assigned to different districts in the province. These men are kept steadily employed testing...

Now that the provincial government is in the plain duty of all those who own cows to work in unison with the department, to prevent the spread of this disease, by having their herds tested.

From time to time the department publishes in the press and the British Columbia Gazette, the names of the owners of dairy herds, the number of cows kept, the conditions of the milk...

There is perhaps no problem confronting agriculture today of more fundamental importance than that constituted by bovine tuberculosis.

supplied by the Department of Agriculture. In any cattle are found to be affected with the disease they are slaughtered under the personal supervision of the veterinary inspector, and the carcasses are disposed of in a sanitary manner.

It is only when the public has a clear conception of the situation of bovine tuberculosis that the efforts of the department of agriculture will meet with the most satisfactory results.

The extent of the disease in our province is not exactly known but it is gradually but certainly being eliminated. The department has been working on the question for several years and one year after another shows a marked advance in the control of the white plague.

It is expected that in the state of Oregon, the legislature will be asked to pass a law requiring the testing of all dairy cows and slaughterhouses, and the inspection and testing of all cows hereafter brought into the province.

There are now four duly qualified veterinary inspectors in the employ of the department, assigned to different districts in the province. These men are kept steadily employed testing...

There is perhaps no problem confronting agriculture today of more fundamental importance than that constituted by bovine tuberculosis.

There is perhaps no problem confronting agriculture today of more fundamental importance than that constituted by bovine tuberculosis.

ANCIENT ABSOLUTE REGIME IS ENDED

With the New Year, Constitutional Government Will Be Fully Launched in Chinese Empire

PEKING, Dec. 17.—It seems safe to announce that the ancient absolute regime in China will expire only nominally at the Chinese New Year.

It is stated that the throne has decided to accede to the resolution of the imperial senate praying for the immediate creation of a constitutional cabinet.

Political events in China have moved with a rapidity that appears almost revolutionary when it is considered that the first step toward a constitutional government in the empire's history of nearly 4,000 years was inaugurated only recently as late as 1898.

The first imperial senate met on October 1st last. The late Emperor Dowager organized a body to be known as the imperial parliament, he convoked in 1915, at the end of a nine-month period of preparation.

However, the people, having had a taste of popular government, were impatient, and the senate soon after its convocation demanded the immediate opening of a general parliament.

It was at first thought that the senate one-half of the membership of which was directly chosen in the election would be subservient, but its independence developed a striking spirit that action should be taken in the matter if we are to have a government of infants and prolong the life of individuals.

mat school (Ontario) for three years, and taught subsequently in Oregon for 10 years. In 1876 he came to British Columbia and taught until 1884, when he was appointed superintendent of education of the province which position he held until March, 1892. He until very recently he has been conducting a private school, Queen's Academy, in this city.

In Beag's history of Canada, published in 1884, the following reference is made to the late Dr. Pope: "Possessing the advantages of ripe scholarship, a large and varied experience as well as great administrative ability, Dr. Pope has brought the educational system of the province into a high stage of perfection and by his strict impartiality in the discharge of his duties, he has gained the confidence of the community. Taking a deep interest in all that concerns the teaching profession, and sympathizing with the teacher in the difficulties of the schoolmaster's friend."

Cardinal Merry Del Val VIENNA, Dec. 17.—The leading clerical organ of the Viennese press, the "Katholischer Volksbote," declares that Cardinal Merry del Val enjoys the undiminished confidence of the pope and that the only basis for the rumors of the impending resignation of the papal secretary of state is the fact that several of the elder cardinals are making a more active part in the work of the secretariat.

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WINNIPEG CARMEN MAY LEAVE WORK

Striking Expected as Result of Meeting Held Last Night to Consider Dismissal of Two Officers of Union

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—A thousand street railway employees gathered at midnight to discuss the finding of the arbitration board, whose decision this week went against the union.

HOSPITAL BALL

Committee Expresses Acknowledgments to Those Assisting to Make it Success

STRIKE IS ON IN WINNIPEG

Carmen Leave Their Work and Traffic is Much Hampered - One Car Stopped by Crowd of Sympathizers

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—The meeting of street car employees at an early morning session resulted in a strike, and traffic was much hampered.

MELBOURNE STRIKE IS MORE SERIOUS

All Industries in South Australia Capital Brought to a Standstill - Fears of Trouble Spreading

MELBOURNE, Dec. 15.—The carriers' strike in Adelaide has taken on a serious aspect. Almost all the industries are at a standstill in consequence of a sympathetic strike, and the price of food is rising rapidly.

PRINCE GEORGE RETURNS

Made Good Run From Prince Rupert - Ice is Running in the Skeena River

The steamer Prince George, Capt. Robertson, of the G. T. P., returned last night from Prince Rupert, after a good run with 76 salmon and 10 minutes of second class passengers.

Miss Beattie Ledingham, who is accompanying her aunt, Mrs. R. Ledingham, to California, entertained a few friends at her home on Friday evening.

CALL TENDERS FIRST SECTION

Canadian Northern Pacific Railway Makes Announcement Regarding First Miles of Island Road

TO AWARD CONTRACT BY JANUARY

Expected That Entire Section Will be Under Contract by Close of Year

Official announcement is made by Canadian Northern Pacific Railway that tenders are now available for clearing of right-of-way and construction of the first section of the Island road, consisting of the 13 miles for which plans and profiles have been filed with the government.

Although no official announcement has been made in this phase of the subject, it is further hoped and expected that, despite the fact that the company's agreement with the government does not necessitate such expeditious procedure, the entire Island section of the new transcontinental road will be under contract by the close of 1911.

Surveys are already well advanced from the Cowichan river to the West Coast terminal, and the company's engineers are busily engaged in working out their data for the extension from Soharbor, via Sooke river and lake Shewanigan lake, to the Cowichan.

Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann are essentially desirous to see the construction of the new transcontinental road in the hands of the Canadian Northern Pacific system.

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 AND. Dec. 15.—Felder
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 his province.

THE VICTORIA COLONIST

Games for Holiday Time

Games that are really "Christmassy" are as welcome at the Christmas party as the spangled tree or the dainty refreshments. Here are a few games that have proved entertaining to children at their Christmas-keeping:

Holly and Mistletoe.—To start with a lively game that will loosen little tongues and banish shyness, try "Holly and Mistletoe." The children join hands and kneel at arms' length in a circle, dropping hands again, and saying "Holly, Holly, Holly," but the one he wishes to have catch him he calls "Mistletoe!" Then the leader runs, winding in and out among those in the circle. Mistletoe must catch him, following in his exact track. If Mistletoe misses going where the leader went, he must sit in the centre, and the leader chooses again. If Mistletoe catches the leader, he can go around naming "Holly, Holly, Mistletoe."

Santa Claus' Sleigh.—We have no end of fun with "Santa Claus' Sleigh." It is the old-fashioned game of "Stage Coach," converted to Christmas playing. So each of the children of today ever played "Stage Coach" that it seems new. Give each child a name that will fit into a story of Santa's annual trip. Let one be Santa, another the sleigh; there should be "Danver and Prancer," the pony, the doll, the hill, the chimney, the stocking, the snow, etc. Then let some one who is old enough to bring in the names often tell the story of the trip, throwing in an upset by way of excitement. Every time a name is spoken, that child whirls swiftly and sits down again. To keep as many as possible laughing and whirling at once makes the fun. When the doll and the pony, the automobile, piano, house and lot, and a few more small things, have been successfully put into one stocking, the narrator says suddenly, "Then Santa went home!" All must exchange seats, the one left standing having to tell the story next time.

Christmas Dinner.—The children march in a circle singing to "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning":

On Christmas Day in the morning!
 I saw three ships go sailing by,
 I saw three ships go sailing by,
 I saw three ships go sailing by,
 On Christmas Day in the morning!"

The leader then continues:
 "O, one was loaded with turkey brown,"
 and the rest join in:
 "With turkey brown, with turkey brown,
 O, one was loaded with turkey brown,
 On Christmas Day in the morning."

Then all sing the first verse again, and the child next the leader starts the second, leading the ship with whatever he likes best to eat, the rest joining in as soon as they hear his choice.

When Christmas dinner has been played out, let the children take seats. The leader throws a baby's stocking to her neighbor, saying, "What will you put into this Christmas stocking?" The neighbor answers with something, the funnier the better, which begins with the initial of his name. Then he tosses the stocking to the next with the same question, and so on.

Santa's Animals.—Put one child in the centre of a circle, as Santa Claus. He is blindfolded, and a mask with whiskers adds to the fun. Laying his hand on one in the ring, he says, "What beastie is this in Santa Claus' pasture?"

The child answers, perhaps, "A pony. Don't give me away."
 "Wait till Christmas Eve and see," answers Santa, and passes to the next, asking the same question. Each gives the same answer, choosing the name of any animal he wishes to represent. When all are named, Santa says, "Go and get fat!" and they break the circle and scamper out of his reach, but not out of the room. Then Santa says,

"Tis Christmas Eve, and I must go,
 To fill the stockings in a row:
 Come, pony!"

The child who is pony whinnies softly, and Santa muts locate him by the sound and catch him. Every time Santa says, "come, pony!" the pony is obliged to whinny until he is caught. Santa then repeats his lines and calls some other animal, which must make its own peculiar noise until caught. This makes uproarious fun.

The Christmas Tree.—Pass a pencil and half-sheet of notepaper to each child, with another child's name written on one side of the paper. Let each choose a gift to give the one whose name he has drawn. The gifts may be something he knows the other wants very much, or just something funny, like a donkey or a rattle-box. Then each draws a picture of the gift he will give, on the blank side of the paper. The drawing need not be skillful, to make a lot of fun. Let all who are old enough write nonsense verses under their pictures or jokes explaining them. Then choose a girl to be the Christmas tree. She can be decorated with a little tinsel, and hold a lighted candle in each hand. Each child hangs his "gift" with a pin through some part of the "tree's" dress or hair or slipper-ribbons. When all the gifts are hung with the names in sight, the children join hands and dance around the tree, singing to the tune of "John Brown's Body":

"Here we go a-marching round this pretty Christmas tree!
 Here we go a-marching round this pretty Christmas tree!
 Here we go a-marching round this pretty Christmas tree!
 To see what Santa brought!"

The circle stops, the leader looks over the tree until he finds his gift. Then they circle and sing again; another hunts his gift, and so on, until the tree is stripped.

A Luncheon Game.—Our way of serving refreshments, last year, was just another game. I had cut a dozen fat stockings from pink and green cheesecloth. It took only fifteen minutes to stitch them up and fasten a bit of tinsel to the instep of each. Into these, before the guests arrived, went tiny wrapped sandwiches, pink cakes, and a handful of English walnuts, cracked. The stockings were hidden about the

with it. The effect will be surprising, for the camphor will burn with a steady light.

Guess That Nose.—Hang a cloth in front of a doorway, and place one-half of the company in each room, only one of which is lighted. Cut a V-shaped hole in the cloth, and let those in the dark room place their noses through it, one by one, those in the light room guessing to whom the nose belongs. When a right guess is made, the owner of the nose must come out and join the guessers, but, if a wrong guess is declared, the one making it must join the players in the dark room. The game ends when all are in one room—unless they tire of the play before that—the larger number being the winners.

Mesmerism.—Let the company be seated around the room, then make the declaration that you can mesmerize any one present so that he or she can not rise alone. Your offer will be instantly taken, probably; then make a few

Choosing Christmas Gifts

Steam burst from the lips of the Queen Anne silver tea kettle. Then, with a rush the water boiled over and ruined a lace tea-cloth. Still the women talked on unheeding. When women fail to interrupt a conversation at the call of a tea-kettle something important must be under discussion.

"Only a little while now," could be heard in the midst of a flow of remarks about shopping.

"I was out all day," said a little woman, wearily, "but I have not spent much. I always buy my Christmas presents early, so that I may have plenty of time to choose and to get

are newer than the toques of fur entirely. Haven't seen them? Oh, then you have not gone a-shopping, as you will have to do sooner or later. Picture to yourself—oh, you don't care to imagine, I forgot," and she turned to eyes that were younger, and in which there shone a spark of congenial good feeling. "Think of the most wonderful and the richest brocade you have ever seen, and cut it into imaginary lengths. Then put a band of ermine, or sable, or even good musquash round, and you have the new toque that comes well over the ears and fits closely. Skates to go with it? I daresay that would be all right for no girl could possibly feel any doubt as to the use of a pair of light and airy skates. A musquash set of furs might be a trifle more practical if we mean to keep to the point."

"Copper and brass ware pleased me more than anything else," said the gentle voice of the housekeeper, "because all the new things are in such handsome designs. I saw a wood box, deep and wide, covered with a heavily-chased pattern in brass-work, and I liked coal-boxes in copper after quite a new model. It would not be difficult at all to choose useful gifts if one spent some time among the brass and copper fittings. There are dainty little sets of brass or steel irons hung on quaint stands. Hearth-rugs and floor-rugs seem to come along with these quite naturally, and I was charmed with the display I saw of antique rugs. There are magnificent skins with heads on them, so that any woman who prefers polished floors with rugs and skins may arrange a wonderful room. Chairs and lounges? Oh! yes, they seem to lead naturally to small tables in inlaid work and to all sorts of wonderful reading chairs and lamps, bookcases and cabinets. Then I was particularly charmed by some large screens I saw framed in leather and panelled in tapestry. There is quite a special taste just now for tapestry; it appears everywhere, and some of the cushions shown in it would grace any room."

"Silver and linen?" Someone took up a remark that was breathed on the air as if in suggestion.

"I suppose you mean to spend your cheque in silver and linen. Cheques are such handy presents at Christmas, for there are so many people who never know what to give. If they save themselves all trouble by sending cheques, they may be sure of at least earning gratitude. Tell us what you have selected in the way of silver and linen."

"It isn't bought yet," was the placid reply; "but I have seen it more than once, and I have almost made up my mind to have it. It is a set of silver toilet ware in the new pattern all very fine and thin, and simple in design. There are pots and candlesticks and trays all to match. I mean to have as much as I can get for three-quarters of my money, and the rest shall go in linen. Lace and linen appeal chiefly to me, and some of the table cloths and napkins with wide bands of lace set into the border are too lovely for words."

"Enamel," said a girl, who had been listening eagerly, "would suit me much better than silver. I like pale colors set into silver, and I simply revel in the tortoiseshell things with gold or silver scroll patterns on them. They are too lovely! I want a fan, too. I hope some one will remember that. I want one of the sweet little Empire ones, with a lace medallion in the centre and handpainted borders; I like them better than spangled ones. Spangled ones are pretty for theatre wear, though, particularly if you have one of the new bags to match."

"I should not at all object to a new down quilt," the answer was given to a question; "the one I have is nothing like the new ones, and I could give it to some one who has not a quilt at all. There are plenty of people who would be delighted with the large woolen squares in pale colors that make quite a good substitute for quilts covered in silk and embroidered. If you give me one of these silk ones—blue, with a ribbon scroll put under a lace band—shall be very grateful."

For a quarter of an hour at least the room seemed to be filled with Christmas marvels, so rapidly did everyone talk at once. There were suggestions of new and modern jewels, of tiny chains in gold, silver, or platinum, and of charms to hang on them. A watch, outlined in diamonds and set into a tiny ball, had caught a wandering eye, and long earrings with peridots in them seemed to have placed themselves beside it in the memory of an observant shopper. Scents put up into bottles of crystal decorated with silver-gilt tops, and pure English lavender-water, in elaborate basket-work, had some relation to potpourri jars, after Greek models, in lovely soft colors. Writing-table novelties in crystal, from the largest and most elaborate, to the little rack for twenty-five cents, consisting of a thin bar of metal set on a glass stand, suggested a whole range of novelties, moderate in price. Even twenty-five or fifty cents would go a long way in providing dainty trifles, such as mascots in the form of an elephant, a gilded or china pig, a dog, or some other curio. Small pieces of china at most moderate rates are shown; there are varied fashions in lace and embroidered handkerchiefs, and much variety in hand-embroidered collars, lace sets, linen jabots, etc. Most acceptable would be the many comotes, preserved meats, and fruits, as well as tea, in prettily-ornamented boxes, all of which recall the fact that preparations for Christmas this year have made the world more attractive even than usual with their promise of happiness and good cheer.



INTO THE UNKNOWN
 Captain Scott, who, with a gallant crew, is speeding towards the Antarctic in the "Terra Nova," in search of the South Pole. Two of his dogs are seen in the picture.

rooms, and just as the children finished the last game a jangle of sleighbells sounded on the porch.

How the bright eyes danced when the children heard that Santa had just filled all their stockings and gone, leaving word that each was to find his own stocking, and we would all investigate our treasures together at the big table. The stockings were basted securely shut at the tops, and when we were all seated, great was the surprise and joy at their contents. Small cups of hot chocolate added the finishing touch to this game.

The Christmas Day amusements need not be confined to those for children. No doubt their elders, who are still young at heart, will enjoy the following:

Parlor Magic.—Show the guests a ball of light snow and offer to make it burn—a thing that the smallest child knows is impossible. Your offer will be taken incredulously. Then, after all have examined the ball and found it genuine, press a tube of camphor into it, the small end coming flush with the outside surface of the snow. Be very careful that no one sees this done. Next light a match, in smiling confidence, and touch the point of the camphor

passes over the selected one, and tell him to get up if he can. Probably he will spring to his feet, which you must do also, saying: "I told you you could not rise alone."

The Cat and the Mouse.—A large number of players join hands in a circle, in the centre of which stand two, representing the cat and the mouse. The mouse may go in and out of the circle freely, but the cat must break through, and, once out, must force a way in again if the mouse remains inside. When the mouse is caught, he becomes a cat, and chooses his mouse.

HIS DEFENCE

It was shortly after midnight, and the colonel had caught Rastus red handed.

"Well, Rastus, you old rascal, you," said he, "I've caught you at last. What are you doing in my henhouse?"

"Why, Marse Bill," said the old man, "I-I done heerd such a cacklin' in dis here coop that I-I thought mebbe de old hen done gone lay an' aig, an' I-I wanted ter git it fo' you' brekfask while it was fresh, suh."

"Good value, bless you!" cried the tall woman, with hair like ripe grain and eyes of speedwell blue. "Why! Isn't it good value when you make people happy? Isn't it just jolly, too, to see all the preparations, and even to dream of the Christmas presents you might give if you had the money?"

"I can't see much pleasure in that," was the response, in a tired voice; "what is the use of imagining things?"

"If no one imagined anything it would be a dull world! Well, I've been imagining half the day, but I have done a good many grow practical things as well. Practical presents grow more fashionable every day, and I really am not convinced that they are not best of all. Think of the fur-lined coat we were commissioned to buy," and she smiled at her hostess, who was eyeing the ruination of her tea cloth. "I think we got splendid value. We had \$25, and we got our coat and a trifle over for a fur cap. Oh, the fur caps and toques this season are too lovely for words! We owe a debt to the motorists, for if they had not required a close-fitting headgear we should never have got those enchanting toques of fur of all sorts. The caps of old brocade? Yes, I daresay they

Glove Scripts Make a Much Appreciated Christmas Gift.

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MONDAY commences a very strenuous week at The Big Store. Our Christmas stocks were never better, and for many of the departments we are able to make a better display than last year. The store will remain open evenings until 9:30, and the first evening will be one of the busiest of the week. See window display for goods on special sale.

Monday Evening Specials at 7:30

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|--|--|--|
| Music Cabinets. Regular \$9.00 to \$14.00. Monday, 7:30, price \$5.00 | Baskets. Regular \$1.00. Monday, 7:30 .25¢ | English Coal Boxes. Regular \$1.50 .90¢ |
| Umbrella Stands. Regular \$2.90 to \$3.90. Monday, 7:30, price \$2.50 | Pintella—the New Table Game—Regular \$3.00. Monday, 7:30 \$1.00 | English Coal Boxes. Regular \$2.50 \$1.90 |
| | Dressed Dolls. Regular 50¢ .25¢ | English Coal Boxes. Regular \$3.85 \$2.90 |
| | | Assorted Candies. Regular 25¢. Monday, 7:30, per lb. .10¢ |

Dainty Gifts from Our Patent Medicine Department

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| Perfumes, a large assortment in handsome cases, all triple extracts and the latest odors. Ranging from 25¢ to \$4.00 |
| Perfume Sprays from 50¢ to \$2.25 |
| Hair Brushes, all kinds, for ladies and gentlemen, at specially low prices. |
| Manicure Sets, fitted with the best glass goods, from \$1.25 to \$8.50 |
| Men's Shaving Sets from \$1.00 to \$4.50 |
| Ladies' Fitted Dressing Sets, guaranteed ebony fittings—all prices. |
| Men's Fitted Dressing Sets, Ebony Military Brushes, etc. Up from \$4.50 |
| Hanging Hall Sets, with Cloth and Hat Brush, \$1.75 to \$4.50 |

Table Covers as Christmas Gifts

The most useful and practical gifts being displayed are the large assortment of Art Table Covers, in all the leading makes. The materials comprise Tapestry, Cloth and Velour embroidered, also Mohair in solid colors of green, crimson, gold and blue.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 2 yards x 2 yards | \$10.50 |
| 2 yards x 2 1/2 yards | \$12.50 |
| 2 yards x 3 yards | \$16.50 |

Book and Stationery Department

| | |
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| CHILDREN'S BOOKS. | |
| Unreadable Linen Books | 25¢ |
| A. B. C. Books | 25¢ |
| A. B. C. Books, price ranges 5¢ to | 75¢ |
| Books illustrating animals, trains, birds, etc. | |
| Buster Brown, Katzenjammer Kids, Foxy Grandpa, Sammie Sneez, Happy Hoolligan, each | 60¢ |
| Children's Fairy Tales, each, from 25¢ to | \$1.00 |
| NEW NOVELS. | |
| Trail of 98—by Service, author of the Songs of a Sourdough. Price \$1.25 | |
| All the Poets, morocco bound, padded covers, with colored illustrations, each | \$2.50 |

Christmas Gloves

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| Perrin's "Marchioness" Gloves, glace kid, all the newest shades. Price \$1.00 |
| Perrin's Chamois Gloves, natural and white \$1.00 |
| Perrin's Dogskin Gloves, heavy make. Tan only, \$1.25 to 75¢ |
| Perrin's Dogskin Gloves, grey and tan \$1.50 |
| Perrin's Dogskin Gloves, English make, mole, beaver and white. \$1.00 |
| Trefousse "Dorothy" Gloves, glace kid, 2 clasp, all the latest shades \$1.50 |
| Trefousse "Dorothy" Gloves, suede and kid \$1.50 |
| Mocha Gloves, fleece lined, 2 clasp \$1.25 |
| Mocha Gloves, fleece lined, strap wrist \$1.25 |
| Gloves, glace kid, fleece lined, tans only \$1.25 |
| Mocha Gloves, silk lined, \$2.00 and \$1.50 |

Where you would rather leave the selection to the recipient, Glove Scripts will be issued for any amount, redeemable at any time.

Staple Department

We have just opened 9 bales of new Comforters. This is a special purchase of excellent value, which we will sell Monday at very low prices.

Lot 1, 10 only, Mercerized Floral Sateen Covered Comforters, slightly damaged in transit. Regular value, \$2.00. Monday's price **\$1.00**

Lot 2, 20 Mercerized Sateen Comforters, floral designs, light ground. Regular \$4.50. Monday **\$3.50**

Lot 3, 50 Pure Eiderdown-filled Comforters, light or dark colorings of downproof sateen. Regular \$6.50. Monday **\$4.50**

Lot 4, 10 only, "Maish" Cotton-filled Comforters, light ground, floral designs. Regular \$6.50. Monday **\$4.50**

Many others to choose from. Prices from \$25.00 to **\$4.50**

Fancy Linens for Xmas Gifts

There are just six more selling days before Christmas, and we find our stock of Battenberg and Drawn Linen is very heavy. In order to reduce it, we are offering exceptional values. See display on the main floor Monday.

A large shipment of new Table Linens and Napkins just received. You will be able to select some very appropriate gifts at special prices Monday.

Christmas Specials in Men's Clothing

An immense assortment of Bath Robes and Smoking Jackets at low prices.

Men's Smoking Jackets in heavy jacket flannel, in various shades of green, brown and grey mixtures. Trimmed with fancy cord to match. Monday's price **\$3.75**

Men's Dressing Gowns, in heavy melton eiderdown. Neat patterns of brown, with green and grey overchecks. Monday **\$5.75**

Men's Fancy Vests, in white, greys, greens and brocades. Prices range from **\$2.50**

Men's Eiderdown Bath Robes. Monday **\$4.75**

Boys' and Youths' Dressing Gowns and Bath Robes Combined, in heavy melton eiderdown. Well selected assortment of patterns. Monday, **\$4.75**

Children's and Boys' Tams and Hats, in leather and fancy cloths. Prices, 75¢ and **\$1.00**

Men's Hats, in stiff and crush shapes. Special, \$3.00 and **\$2.50**

Hearth Rugs for Holidays

Heavy Axminster Hearth Rugs, in a large variety of designs, both conventional and floral. Handsome colorings that harmonize with any furnishings. Well made, thick, velvety pile surfaces, ends securely bound. Sizes 27 x 54 inches **\$2.50**

Santa Claus Day in Toyland

Tables Loaded with Toys of All Descriptions in as Many Prices

| | |
|-----|---|
| 25¢ | Magic Lanterns, Games, Blocks, Skittles, Whips, Helmets, Guitars, Trumpets, Harmonicas, Autoharps, Horns, Wool Rattles and Balls, Teddy Bears, Furry Dolls, Rabbits, "Jack-in-the-Box," Humming Tops, Shooting Games, etc. |
| 50¢ | Toy Soldiers, Guns, Swords, Haversacks, Helmets, Drumboys, Accordions, Bugles, Trumpets, Horses and Carts, Work Boxes, Choral Humming Tops, Musical Boxes, Backgammon and Chequer Boards complete, Skittles, Dolls, Cradles, etc. |
| 75¢ | This table consists of larger toys in many of the above mentioned list, also Picture Blocks, Locomotives, Footballs of Plush, Carved Work Boxes with lock and key, Vacuum Pistols and Darts with Targets, Nine-pins, etc. |

The animal world is well represented. The display comprises: Teddy Bears, Monkeys, Cats, Rabbits, Dogs, Pigs, Seals, Lambs, etc., in all sizes. Prices range from **25¢**

Brief List of Useful and Inexpensive Gift Suggestions to Be Obtained on Main Floor

A LIST AT 25¢ FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

| |
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| Beauty Pins, gold plate. |
| Safety Lace Pins. |
| Novelty Hat Pins, in Gift Boxes. |
| Pearl Cuff Links. |
| Vell Pins. |
| Brass Initials for Bags. |
| Change Purse. |
| Lace Handkerchief. |
| Initial Handkerchiefs. |
| Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs. |
| Fancy Bow Ties. |
| Silk Ties. |
| Jabots, lace and embroidered finish. |
| Dutch Collars. |
| Patent Belts. |
| Hosiery. |

35¢

| |
|----------------------------------|
| Pearl Beauty Pins. |
| Lace Pins, gold plate. |
| Fancy Hat Pins in Gift Boxes. |
| Cuff Links. |
| Collar Pins. |
| Fancy Handkerchiefs. |
| Linen and Initial Handkerchiefs. |
| "Titewad"—a patent bill fold. |
| Lace Jabot. |
| Lace Collar. |
| Novelty Bows. |
| Collars. |
| Jabots. |
| Mufflers. |
| Hosiery. |
| Barrette. |
| Woolen Gloves. |
| Silver Thimbles. |

AT 50¢

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|-------------------------------------|
| Brilliant Beauty Pins, gold-filled. |
| Oriental Hat Pin in Gift Boxes. |
| Monogram. |

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|---|
| Fancy Handkerchiefs. |
| Cashmere Hose. |
| Cost Collars. |
| Silk Mufflers. |
| Wool Mufflers. |
| Coin Trays. |
| Dresden Belt. |
| Patent Leather Belt. |
| Hair Ornaments. |
| Novelty Neckwear, including Jabots, Ties, Bows, Collars, Stocks, etc. |

AT 75¢

| |
|-----------------------------------|
| Embroidered Hosiery. |
| Woolen Mufflers. |
| Lace and Embroidered Neckwear. |
| Velvet Belts. |
| Oriental Belts. |
| Tinsel Belts. |
| Hair Ornaments. |
| Brilliant and Amethyst Hat Pins. |
| Trinket Trays. |
| Silver Thimble. |
| Half Dozen Initial Handkerchiefs. |

AT \$1.00

| |
|-----------------------------------|
| Card Sets of Morocco. |
| Hobble Tea Bags. |
| Brilliant Hat Pins. |
| Novelty Brooches. |
| Card Case. |
| Llama Wool Mufflers. |
| Scotch Pebble Brooches. |
| Half Dozen Initial Handkerchiefs. |
| Hobble Ties. |
| Hobble Jabots. |
| Kid Gloves. |
| Corset Covers. |

AT \$1.25

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|------------------------------|
| Hand Bags, specially priced. |
| Gloves. |
| Gift Hosiery. |

| |
|------------------------------|
| Brooches. |
| Neckwear, in all styles. |
| Coin Trays. |
| Parisian Novelty Belts. |
| Novelty Hat Pin. |
| Silk and Wool Mufflers. |
| Dogskin Gloves. |
| Handkerchiefs, neatly boxed. |
| Lace Collars. |
| Lace Jabots. |
| Eaton Collars. |
| Dutch Collars. |
| Hobble Jabots and Bows. |

HAND BAGS

New and fashionable Hand Bags in velvet and many qualities and kinds of leather, gold, silver and gun metal finished frames.

Hand Bag, of solid leather, fitted with vanity pieces, and change purse. Fifty only. Regular \$3.50. Monday **\$2.25**

Hand Bags of morocco, seal, goat, calfskin, alligator, walrus and other leathers. Prices are \$4.50, \$5.50, \$7.75, \$9.50, \$10.00, \$12.50, \$20.00, \$25.00 and **\$35.00**

GIFT UMBRELLAS

Cane and Umbrella Combination, strong, thin, sturdy frames, pure silk cover. Fits into a camphor wood collapsible cane. Each **\$7.50**

Suit Case Umbrella, with gloria silk cover. Handles when detached, makes the umbrella suit case size. Each **\$4.50**

Umbrellas, with stag horn handles, silk covered **\$12.50**

Umbrellas, with stag horn handles, sterling or gold filled mountings. Twilled silk cover **\$8.50**

Umbrella, silk covered, ivory handle. Price **\$7.50**

Men's Umbrellas, "Spencer's" Special. Strong frame, silk close rolling cover. Handle of genuine ebony. Sterling mounted **\$6.50**

FOR MEN AND BOYS

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 35¢ AND 50¢ | Titewad—bill folds. |
| | Bill Holders. |
| | Coin Trays. |
| | Ticket Cases. |
| | Cigarette Cases. |
| | Identification Purse. |
| | Cigar Cases. |
| | Purses. |
| | Handkerchiefs. |
| | Jewel Cases. |
| | Watch Receivers. |
| | Scarf Mufflers. |
| | Woolen Mufflers. |
| | Bradly Mufflers. |

AT \$1.00

| |
|------------------|
| Bill Books. |
| Cigar Cases. |
| Cigarette Cases. |
| Trinket Box. |
| Collar Bags. |
| Cuff Holders. |
| Jewel Cases. |
| Wallets. |
| Card Sets. |
| Euchre Decks. |

Tie Pins. Stirrup Tie Holders. Whisk Holders.

AT \$2.00

| |
|--|
| Umbrellas. |
| Bill Folds. |
| Cigar Cases. |
| Card Sets. |
| Huge display of Purse Wallets and Leather Goods. |

\$3.00

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|----------------------|
| Wallets |
| Bill Books |
| Leather Novelties |
| Mufflers |
| Umbrellas |
| Gloves |
| 1 doz. Handkerchiefs |

\$4.50

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|---|
| Men's Suit Case Umbrellas |
| Men's Silk covered Umbrella, of fine quality. |

\$7.50

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|---|
| Men's Umbrella, genuine ivory handle, strong frame, silk covered. |
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\$8.50

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| Men's Umbrella, heavy stag horn handle, silk covered. |
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VOL. L. NO. 416.

BURIED UNDER FALLEN WALL

More Than Score of Firemen and Policemen Meet While Fighting Fire in Philadelphia Block

TWENTY BODIES TAKEN FROM RUB

Others Seen in Debris Cannot Be Recovered at Present Danger Seen But Could Be Escaped

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.—More than a score of lives were snuffed last night as the result of a fire which destroyed the leather goods factory of D. Friedland, 1112 North Bodine street, and as many more were injured, many of them fatally.

While the firemen were fighting the flames from the roofs of adjoining dwellings, the south wall of the factory collapsed, burying nearly a score of firemen.

As soon as the extent of the calamity became known, policemen were hurried to the scene in an effort to save those who were still alive in the debris by tearing down the north wall, which was tottering. This body of policemen had scarcely got to work when the north wall crashed upon them.

At the time of this second fall, between 25 and 30 policemen and firemen were at work directly under the heavy mass of bricks. When the second crash came, 15 of them managed to rush to safety, but others were crushed beneath tons of bricks and girders.

Known dead policemen and firemen have been taken from under the north wall and buried in the rubble. Other bodies can be seen under the debris, but the work of recovering them is necessarily slow owing to the fact that the bricks, which are hard to handle, are unable to escape.

The men on the houses saw the danger first and called to their comrades on the ladder, but to no avail was the collapse of the wall, that one was able to escape the rain of bricks, twisted beams and girders.

With a roar, the five-story mass crumbled, carrying the death of twelve firemen. At that moment the fire had stood ice-covered, trying to save adjoining property.

The scene which followed was sickening. Thousands of gallons of water already had been thrown into the burning building, and there was a fear that two feet of water in the cellar. The first two bodies to be taken from the debris were those of Patrick Carroll and George Machinick. Their heads were crushed almost beyond recognition. A few moments later the body of Charles Erdman was pulled from beneath a heavy girder, and John Carroll's body was taken out shortly afterwards.

A hurry call was sent to all nearby hospitals and the police department for assistance. Soon nearly a score of ambulances were at the scene. As the injured firemen were lifted from beneath the debris they were ministered to by the priests who had rushed to the fire from St. Peter's German Catholic church two blocks away.

While the injured were being removed from one side of the building, the groans of other firemen could be heard at the other end of the burning structure. William Glasier, of engine company No. 4, and Harry Bercolet of chemical engine No. 2, who were pinned by heavy girders, were able to talk with the rescuers and direct their work.

In the meantime a great disaster was threatening the men buried in the ruins. The north wall, which had remained standing, began to totter and fears were entertained that it would crash down upon the firemen at any moment.

Superintendent Taylor hurried 300 policemen to the scene, with instructions to tear the wall down at all hazards to prevent it from falling upon those of the frozen and seriously injured men who were alive, and further bury the probable dead.

When Glasier was rescued from beneath the debris he was almost frozen. Erdman, whose body was beneath him, was frozen stiff. The ice had caked on his face, forming a perfect mask.

Plague's Ravages in China
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Every report to the state department from China bearing on the epidemic of plague indicates the rapid spread of the disease and adds to the magnitude of the affliction. A cablegram received from the legation at Peking today says no less than two and a half million people have been plague-stricken in the province of Anhui alone.

Guests Narrowly Escape
HAGERSTOWN, Md., Dec. 22.—Fire broke out shortly after midnight in the Franklin hotel and burned so rap-