# The Semi－tueekly Calomist． 

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FICTORIA SEMI-WEEKY COLONIST. FRIDAY DECEMB 3 R 27190


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## A COW-PUNCHER'S LOVE


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CHRISTMAS VERSES




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## Fifty Cent Ties

IS A WORLD－BEATER
PUFFS，FLOWING ENDS，DERBYS，ASCOTS AND FOUR－IN－HANDS


3 Cases Boys＇Pea Jackets
Cases of Christmas Suspenders B．WILIAMS $8 \mathbf{c o}$ ．

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#  tepinģs by Wipifred Cuģrin 

6) $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{P} \text {, John will go as the Black } \\ & \text { Prinee," said Harry, correcting th }\end{aligned}$ young lady who stood on the hearth-rug facing him, to which young lady he
had been secretly engaged for four months. had been secretty engaged for four months
"John will go as the Black Prince, my dear, and $I$ as the renowned Beau Brummel." "Well, I am sorry; the Black Prinee was
always my faverite hero, and the date of the Batile of Poitiers is one of the only three dates
I can remember." The girl sighed resignedly
 and, turning a lititle from him, and, turning a iittle from him,
leaned againt the mantel
pillar and placed one slipered foot on the fender. "How-
ever, if you will go os Beau
Brummel pray do not carry Brummel, pray do not carry
Your galanty too far in your
efforts to do the part justice,", tioningly out of the end o Ho Evelyn, my dear, am I ever too gatlant $?$ "
 indignantly, "Besides, Harry, there is only
one case in which you overexert yourself" one case in which you overexeret yourself," giving a discret ecough, asked in an abrupt
change of tone, " What costume will Norah
The

Harry Sandringham was very unsupicious
rubbed his chin Ho rubbed his chin, thoughtfully, and a, Da, absently: A Dresden shep
"Doubtest the dress will suit her
She will look like a picture " (
"She will look dike a piciture" (Warmly).
Tis tone evidently annoyed the young lady. She tapped her foot, impatiently.
"How long have you known Miss Trevor
 and then, as he drew
a folded thit of paper
ofl to the floor

## 

 when he looked at her,a sweet, ceep raver that was happier even tha
his smile " Evelyn, to your love me ?"
 he said, lifting her brows,
"Not always ? Please

"Perhaps to-morrow",
Ho left her, unheeding the scrap of paper As the door closed the girl stooped, and,
pieking it up, heli it of from her, between her
thumb and forefinger thumb and forefinge
"Doubtless this hereself," "I shall tease him a bit before I re





 at the end of a dozen lines the signature, Your
Little Norah." The girl's face flushed very
hot. It was not her letter, then, after all. She hhould not read it, of course., No, she could
not. Still, in a way, she reasoned sher she had a right, perhaps, being his fiancee. She
looked again at the paper, merely, as she told
herself, to see looked again at the paper, merely, as ahe told
hherelf, to see the ader, but unconsciould,
her evee traveled over the paper. "Dear

on the ylowing eads and then seated herself on
the little stool diract y in fron to the tre, und,
putting her head in her lap, elasped her her arms puthing her head in her lap, clasped her arms
tithhtly ybut her kkees. She
presently stood noc presenty, stood up, and with a very white face
and feet, and hands that trembled vhe walked
to the o the uncurtained window and looked out with wide, dry eyes at the wift-raling senow. for the senger rrought a note to his door. He reoog
nized the hadd writing in an instant, and with a need tine hace westowed a a silver dollar on the the
beaning face small boy, and backed inth ohis room tor read the
misive, In his shirtsleeves, with one cuff on
 he looks, and, siinting the envelope carefully, half-written note paper, and ran his eye over
the contents. Then, with a face in which anger, amazement and consternation were
hended, he stood up, turned around, and, spreading the note on the table, read it again,
"Dear Mr. Sandringham, - For some time now $I$ have feared that this engagement of our
was a mistake. We were both very hasty, and was a mistake. We were both very hasty, and
since then, after thinking the matter quietly
over Thave come to the over $I$ have come to the conclusion that we had
better end thines befe in better end things before it is too late. It would
be terrible to get married and be sorry after wards "Te to get married and be sory at after the ball before writing this note, because
Christmas has always been the happiest time of Christmas has always been the happiest time of
my life; but Ithink it would have ben wrog
to have put off any longer what should have been done months ago.


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| h | "I mighing out his own to trai

He laid the brushes down quietly enough, and
turned \& arther pale face upon his brother.
" But she wites and turned a rather pale face upon hiss brother.
"But she write and ives me my death-blow as
though she were dedining an invitation to go to though she wero decilining an invitation to go to
the playy." His soice broke a little. "I can"t undertand it", John said, slowly.
I have always liked Evellyn, and had always
hoped that you two woild strike it of she has hoped that you two would stri"
money and you have brains"
"That site yur beotb
"evELYN GRESHAM." At this moment a quick knock at the door
warned Sandringham of his brother's entrance.
 shoonders- in figure an exact counterpart of
Franks
 coat. Hello," he broke off, abmptly, "What
the matter ?" His brother handed him the letter, silently,
and then compressing his lips and pating his and then, compressing his hips and pating
hands deep in his trousers poeckes, walked
abruptly to the window, where, quite regardess arrupty to the window, where, quite regardess
of the world outsid, heopene the hatters
and stood in his shirtskeeves, stariug at the fiickening lights and the passers?by. then glanced up at his brother's broad back "Close the shutter, old chap," he sid,
"and get into your thing, We can talk while you're dresing", to the opera to-night" Harry
"I Ian' go to turred from the window and threw himseif
hearily into a chair. "Don't wait for me,
Johni." Joinl "Oh, come, how". The other perched him-
self on the table." Why the Dikens didnt
yon tell me of this before, Hariy $\ell$ " he asked, you tell Im of this before,
perpleaxedyy
"It only came to-night."
"I mean the engagement-are you engaged It looks like it, does't it $t "$ sarcastically.
Weill, have you been engaged ${ }^{\text {? }}$ " "Hañ It ary, yes what's the matter with
? Hary, stood up suddenly and again
 Januar,
 fairly it, as you say, she has no reason. If I
where, y your liace I should get at the bottom of
this "Harry;",

## knocked out"," "Nerer say die, old fellow. At any rate,



You ?ed tarry stoo
walked to the wind
guesed it heon veen gone
gueand tragically, "I hav T had at last met aspury, trice, , faithful wooman,
but
He threw out his hande, and the plunged them into his pockets again, "They're
all alike every mother's son of "e






PIOUS FRAUD IN MINING CAMP
By Gilbert Reeves.

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Billy's Adventure at Christmasteria
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