

THE CAMERON COUNTY PRESS.

ESTABLISHED BY C. B. GOULD, MARCH, 1866.

"Liberty and Union, One and Inseparable."—WEBSTER.

TERMS: \$2.00—\$1.50 IN ADVANCE.

VOL. 34.

EMPORIUM, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1899.

NO. 43.

M. C. TULIS. | M. C. TULIS.

HOLIDAY STORE News.

DOLLS, SLEDS, TOYS, BABY CUTTERS, GAMES, AND GO-CARTS.

Ladies' Jackets and Capes,

At and Below Cost after Jan. 1st.



IT is an immense satisfaction to buy Cloaks at a store where the Cloaks are not only the best, but where the trouble of fitting and buying is the least.

Here you find the "between sizes" which makes it easy to get the exact fit and avoid delay in alterations.

Our stock of Ladies' Jackets and Capes is undeniably the greatest collection of seasonable apparel at such LOW prices as Emporium has rarely—it ever—

enjoyed before.

When you consider that this is the commencement, not the end of the season, and that you have months before you for wearing what you buy. The pricing seems phenomenal. Every one of these dozens of garments is made with due regard for present fashions.



Children's Reefers and Baby Cloaks.



What happy times for children these times at the Big Store. So many bright new things. So much to keep the growing beauties snug and warm. Such a variety to delight the girls.

Mothers and fathers have been coming here a good many years, and it is only natural the girls want to come also.

To delight the girls and please the parents, we are offering better values in children's wear than ever before.

All the worthy new styles in Children's Reefers are here. The greatest as-



sortment we have ever shown and that means much, for our leadership in this line is undisputed. You can buy here the best made garments at moderate prices, and know that you are getting great values for your money. Truefulness of style and LOW prices are indissolubly joined here. Come and see them.

Dress Goods.

The richness and elegance of our Dress Goods add greatly to the success of this up-to-date department.

The stock we are showing is equal to all the demands that are being made upon it, which means that it is the best selected and most complete stock in the country.

Our special exhibit of high class novelties in Black Dress Goods, embraces the very latest offerings of the leading importers. Prices are somewhat less than usual asking elsewhere.

Ladies' Waists.

Beautiful styles in Ladies' Waists, made of silk, Imported Ladies' Cloth and French Flannel, plain colors, stripes and checks. Our offerings this season are the best we have ever made.

One strong feature is perfection in fit, another is fashionable cut and finish, a third, values that cannot be matched.

High quality and Low prices are made possible here by buying and selling largely and quickly on small margins, and the accurate knowledge of the woolen market that enabled us to take advantage of the recent rise.

We bought Low and Sell as we buy. People of taste appreciate the excellent quality, generous fullness and beautiful finish of all of our garments shown in this department. The general high quality and low prices of our underwear will surprise you.

It is fortunate all around that we bought so early and so largely of these staple goods. All of them fully up to our high standard so that we are able to furnish the best of Blankets at last year's prices, and some special lots at even lower figures. We assure you that our Blanket Department offers better values than can be had elsewhere.

We are now offering a collection of Handkerchiefs which surpasses in interest and excellence of values any we have heretofore shown. This collection of beautiful Handkerchiefs is of such an unusual character that we urgently invite you to call and take advantage of the opportunity to buy the finest of fine handkerchiefs at prices that make it a pleasure to spend money.

Beautiful creations typifying all that is new in the handkerchief world, are to be found in this vast stock.

If you appreciate nice goods, prettily made, you will be pleased with our immense assortment of Chinaware.

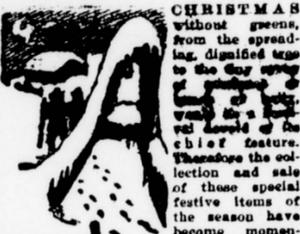
One of the most popular advantages of buying China here is the satisfaction of always getting dependable up-to-date China at prices within the reach of all. What you get here must at all times be of the highest standard in style and make, and you will always find us ready to supply at the lowest possible prices.

M. C. TULIS.

CHRISTMAS GREENS.

MISTLETOE AND HOLLY ADD TO THE JOY OF THE FESTIVAL.

For Decoration the Red Berried Holly is More Beautiful than the Paler Mistletoe—Better Adapted to Wreathmaking.



CHRISTMAS without greens, from the spreading, dignified tree to the gay spray of holly, is a barren and lifeless affair. Therefore the collection and sale of these special festive items of the season have become momentous undertakings, which involve transactions that in geographical area and extent reach from across the seas to the Maine woods. Mistletoe, which is so prized by the romantic young people, who value its significance far more than its beauty, is at its best in England, though a great deal of it comes from Virginia. The English mistletoe has a flat, very green leaf, with large single berries, oval in shape and peculiarly waxen in appearance, while the American branch of the family boasts smaller leaves and berries in clusters of three. It is packed, when gathered in Europe, in eight foot long open crates and shipped across the ocean, with as much care given to its preservation as though it were far more precious than it really is, save in the opinion of the romantically inclined. The common mistletoe has been associated with many superstitions from the most ancient times and has been highly extolled for its medicinal virtues. It is, however, excluded from the pharmacopoeias now. The origin of the modern custom connected with mistletoe is not very clear. Like many other customs, its original significance is only guessed at. It is known, perhaps the innocent merriment now associated with the plant would be exchanged for a feeling of stern disapproval, and the mistletoe would be banished from our homes.

Mistletoe may be made to grow on the apple and other trees by cutting a notch in the bark on the under surface of a branch and carefully inserting the seed therein. Two precautions are specially necessary. One is to place the seed in such a position that the embryo shall be directed toward the trunk of the tree, and the other is to avoid crushing the seed. The apple is the tree on which the mistletoe grows most abundantly. The orchards in Herefordshire, England, are greatly infested with this parasite, which, however, has a value of its own for it appears that upward of a hundred tons of mistletoe are annually forwarded to London and other large towns from that county alone for Christmas decorations.

The holly, with its bright berries and glossy leaves, is one of the most decorative greens used at the Christmas season and is adapted especially well to wreath form, the color lasting longer and the general shape being more satisfactory than when made of the evergreen. Strange as it may seem, hundreds of holly wreaths are sent out to the cemeteries, their green and red brightness signifying the loving remembrance for dear ones passed away, yet somehow a little incongruous even from a sentimental standpoint. One is so apt to associate holly with crackling wood fires, rollicking jollity, good eating and drinking and other material enjoyment that in memoriam it seems a trifle out of place, yet in the poem of that name which Tennyson has made immortal we read, "With trembling fingers did we weave the holly round the Christmas hearth." So that the holly has before its present vogue in cemeteries been associated with the memory of those no longer with us.

Botanically speaking, the holly is a genus of trees and shrubs of the natural order Aquilifoliaceae, chiefly natives of temperate climates, with evergreen, leathery, shining and generally spinous leaves. The common holly, the only European species and a native of some parts of Asia, also is a well known ornament of woods, parks and shrubberies in Great Britain, the stiffness of its habit being so compensated by the abundance of its branchlets and leaves as to make it one of the most beautiful evergreens. It is found as a native plant in Scotland, although Britain is nearly its northern limit. It attains greater size, and displays greater luxuriance in the northern than in the southern part of its geographic range, often appearing in the former as a tree of considerable size, 20 to 50 feet high, while in the latter it is generally a mere bush.

In table decorations holly at the Christmas season is used most effectively. It is on the authority of a leading florist that we state that the correct arrangement of a Christmas dinner table, so far as its evergreen appointments are concerned, is a large wreath of holly in the center, surrounding a dainty vase containing mistletoe. Over this and suspended from the gas fixtures is another spray of mistletoe, tied by brilliant scarlet ribbon to match the berries of the holly on the table beneath. Near the ends of the table are banded masses of holly, in the center of which are wired upright loops of scarlet satin ribbon, their trailing ends straying over the green leaves on to the white cloth. Tiny bouquets of holly or mistletoe are placed at the men's places, larger clusters, more on the order of corsage bouquets, being supplied for the fair members of the company. So great has become the demand for holly wreaths that orders are given to the florists weeks before Christmas, and it is not unusual to send two dozen wreaths to one house, all the windows being decked in his apropos garb, any left-overs doing duty suspended wherever their green and red cheeriness can be utilized to artistic and pleasing advantage. It seems an extravagant fad when one considers how

soon the beauty fades, yet the good cheer that speaks from the disks of green and red in the mansion of the millionaire or the hovel of the pauper more than compensates for what our Puritan ancestors would deem willful extravagance.—Philadelphia Times.

Christmas Dinner.

Christmas Oyster Soup.
Turkey Stuffed with Chestnuts.
Sweet Potatoes, Baked. Rice Croquette.
Cauliflower, Parisian Style.
Celery, Cranberry Jelly.
Lettuce with French Dressing.
Crackers, Cheese, Olives.
Eggs Pic. Christmas Lemon Tart.
Fruit. Ham, Biscuits.
Coffee. —Chicago Tribune.

THE YULE LOG.

It Has Its Origin In Scandinavian Mythology.

In the Scandinavian feast of Juul, when they burned huge bonfires in honor of Thor, we discover the origin of the Yule log. The descendants of the old Norsemen, who no doubt are responsible for the custom in England, carefully preserved half of the log with which to be burned at next Yuletide, and so we have the old English proverb, but in poetical form, by Herrick:

Part must be kept wherewith to tend
The Christmas log next year,
And where 'tis safely kept the fad
Can do no mischief here.

The Druidical contribution to the modern Christmas celebration originated in the annual feast given in honor of the Druid god Tutanus, who corresponds to the Phoenician sun god Baal. His favorite among all trees and plants of the forest was supposed to be the mistletoe. The number three was held in reverence by these ancient people, and because the leaves and berries of this parasite grew in clusters of three, this, in addition to the glory of being Tutanus' favorite, made the plant sacred, and annually there was a great festival given in its honor.

In the choice and selection of the Yule log the ash tree plays a very important part. In Scandinavian mythology it is Odin's tree and was most noble, for its wood made the spear and the javelin, the oar and the mast. In their language ash means man, and the legend runs that when the sons of Bor, who were sons of Odin, formed the first man and woman they were made out of pieces of ash. This man was named Aska. And at the present day in Devonshire, as a relic of this pagan-reverence for this tree, we find the Christmas fagot made of ash sticks, bound tightly together by green withes or bands of pollard oak. As each wither bursts a quart of cider is passed around, and healths are drunk, amid great glee and rejoicing. The gypsies, too, and the wild hill people of Bavaria and Bohemia reverence the ash, although their legends attached to it are Christian in their origin.—Boston Herald.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

How the Date Dec. 25 Came to Be Established.

There is some disagreement as to the origin of Christmas day. The legend runs that in the earliest period of the Christian church some communities of Christians celebrated the festival of Christmas on Jan. 1, others observing it on the 6th of that month. In some of the eastern churches it was kept about the time of the Jewish Passover, near the end of March. There is also some evidence of its having been observed on Sept. 29, being the Feast of Tabernacles. In the year A. D. 325, when the Emperor Constantine legally established Christianity in the Roman empire, Christmas was observed at the beginning of the new year, while in the eastern church it was celebrated on Jan. 6. Pope Julius eventually effected a compromise, and the 25th day of December was established. These historical statements have been called in question by some, but John Chrysostom, the eloquent preacher at Constantinople, in the fourth century confirms them.

It is a curious circumstance that some difficulty has been found in accepting the date of Dec. 25 as the probable day on which Christ was born, because the close of December being usually the height of the rainy season in Judea, it is said that neither flocks nor shepherds could have been at night in the fields of Bethlehem. This strange objection is considered of such importance that it is incorporated in almost every encyclopedia and dictionary which treats of Christmas. It is one of the curiosities of literature. The present writer has been in those parts at this season of the year and has found no difficulty in "keeping watch by night" in the open fields of Palestine. What is possible for a western traveler, unused to living in the open air, in the nineteenth century, must have been far easier for a band of eastern shepherds at the beginning of the Christian era.

Spirit of Christmas.

About Christmas there is an ineffable strangeness and mysticism. It seems possessed of a spirit as well as a body. This spirit seems redolent in the air, in the strains of Christmas music, on the evergreen and mistletoe and on the very pealing of the bells which flood the world with melody seemingly garnered through all the 12 months since that sacred night when heaven kissed the earth and Christ our Lord was born and the angel choirs chanted, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will!" For nearly 1,900 years this hymn has continued to ring down the changing grooves of time and still re-echoes o'er the weary world at Christmas dawn.—Elmira Telegram.

Cauliflower For Christmas.

Boil a good sized cauliflower until tender, chop it coarsely and press it hard in a bowl or mold so that it will keep its form when turned out. Put the shape thus made upon a dish that will stand the heat and pour over it a tomato sauce. Make this by cooking together a tablespoonful of butter and flour in a

saucepan and pouring upon them a pint of strained tomato juice in which half an onion has been stewed. Stir until smooth and thicken still more by the addition of three or four tablespoonfuls of cracker dust. Salt to taste, turn the sauce over the molded cauliflower, set it in the oven for about ten minutes and serve in the dish in which it is cooked.

Christmas Game.

You are to write a capital D on a sheet of paper while standing at a table. At the same time you must try to make your right foot swing in the opposite direction from that which the pencil is following on the paper. It sounds easy. Try it in every way you can think of. First get your foot going toward the left in an easy swing and then start your letter and see what will happen. Then try, beginning the letter first and going in presently with the proper circle in the opposite direction. If you do not laugh at the result, you will probably be profane.—San Francisco Evening Post.

Selecting the Turkey.

In choosing a turkey the age of the bird is the principal thing to be attended to. A young gobbler is best. He may be distinguished from a hen turkey by his comb. The age may be ascertained by the lower part of the breastbone. If soft and pliable, the turkey is young. If stiff, it is old and not good for roasting. It can only be used for boiling and braising. Turkeys weighing from eight to ten pounds each are thought best.

ROMAN CHRISTMAS.

A Season of Joy and Merrymaking in the Eternal City.

Although the picturesque scenes and grand functions which formerly attracted visitors to Rome at this time of the year are in a great measure things of the past, perhaps in few other cities of the world is it possible to pass a more delightful Christmas than in Rome, for here, in the venerable Caput Mundi, all the cosmopolitan usages and customs which flourish in the motley train of old Father Christmas seem to concur in rendering it a season of joy and merrymaking, while the peculiar fascination of the Eternal City sheds a kind of glamour over the most varied celebrations, and the beautiful religious ceremonies are unequalled for solemnity and impressiveness. Of all seasons this is in Rome the gayest within the circle of domestic life, but the vigil, instead of the day itself, may be said to be the great occasion for family reunions. Here, as everywhere else, the most important part of the profane programme is of a purely gastronomic nature, and the cenone—i. e., "bi-supper"—takes the place of the Christmas dinner of the following day, as held in England. The appearance of the shops is brilliant and striking in the extreme at this time of the year, the confectioners' windows especially being full of things the sweetest and prettiest—sugar temples, snowy cakes called paglioli, made of almonds, raisins and flour (a redoubtable composition, compared to which an honest British plum pudding is as light as a wafer); longitudinal papers filled with torrone and all sorts of other delicacies. One of the first Christmas trees ever introduced into Rome was for the little Prince of Naples, heir to the Italian throne, whose nursery governess was an English lady, and since then the Teutonic custom has gradually become a la mode in Rome.—London Mail.

SACRED THORN TREE.

Strange Story of One That Blossoms Only at Christmas.

Six miles northwest of the quiet little episcopal city of Wells rises a lofty peak, called by the Celtic natives of the district a "tor." It is conspicuous for a millenium, with the tower of an ancient chapel on its top and with a neat little country town and the ruins of a noble old abbey.

Sufficient evidence remains to show that the abbey was of vast proportions, occupying in all 60 acres of ground. It was founded by Saxon kings and further endowed by the Normans and Plantagenets. The grand chancel and its fine chapels were built in the finest style of later Norman architecture, but now little more than crumbling walls and pillars testify to the once great beauty of the abbey.

The porch of St. Joseph's chapel, however, is in a fair state of preservation. Outside there grows the famous Glastonbury thorn that blossoms but for one day in the year, and that Christmas day. This tree has a strange history.

During his long journey from Palestine St. Joseph of Arimathea visited the district, he and his 12 companions having been sent by St. Philip, the apostle, to convert the then heathen nation of Britain and to cast out the Druid superstition.

St. Joseph and his followers found their way to Glastonbury, then known as "Yhiswtryn." They were all a-weary, and, arriving on the summit of the hill, Joseph, who was using a hawthorn stick as a walking staff, stuck it into the ground, and it burst into bloom. The present Glastonbury thorn is an offshoot by continued grafting of St. Joseph of Arimathea's walking staff.—London Mail.

A Siberian Superstition.

A strange superstition, which may owe something of its origin to the associations bound up with the Biblical narrative of the Nativity, obtains credence to this day among the peasants of Siberia. By them it is believed that a gift of human speech and superhuman prophecy descends upon the beasts of the stall and hie during the mystic hour that heralds the Christmas dawn and that if one is bold enough to hide beneath the straw on such occasions he will hear his fate for the coming year foretold by his domestic animals. A betrayal of his presence, however, entails certain destruction.—Pall Mall Gazette.

GLADSOME FESTIVAL.

HOW TO MAKE AN IDEAL CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM.

Costly Gifts Not Necessary For a Joyous Day—Harmless Revelry to Celebrate the Most Tender of Holidays—The Children's Day.



CHRISTMAS is the festival of all others most closely identified with the home. The glorious Fourth stirs our patriotism, Easter brings the gladness of opening spring and outdoor freedom, but Christmas-tide, coming, as it does, in the winter season, invites to indoor cheer and cozy hospitalities. Besides, it is pre-eminently the children's celebration and their glad vacation from the routine of school. They say, with our Hoosier poet:

Ut to almost cry for Christmas, like a youngster will,
Fourth o' July's nothin' to it. New Year's ain't a smell,
Easter Sunday and circus day—jes' all dead in the shell.

It is also the tenderest, holliest holiday because of the religious observance of the birth of Him who brought us the new teaching of peace and good will to all men.

If the farm is the ideal home, then we should endeavor to observe this home festival in the ideal manner. Our great farmhouses must not be cheerless barracks. They must become the centers of old fashioned merriment, visiting, feasting and hospitality. They must cling closely to the ancient traditions of the day and follow the same spirit of geniality, of present giving, minstrelsy, harmless revelry, and, above all, of kindly benevolence and thought of others.

An ideal Christmas requires thought long beforehand unless the purse is unlimited. Costly gifts are not necessary for a joyous day, but loving kindness must illuminate each little remembrance, or the candles on the tree will be but dim tapers. The glad day comes. The usual church or Sabbath school celebration has been enjoyed the evening before by all the children, but it is in the home festivities we are interested. For an ideal day we shall have the wee ones trooping down in the early morning, waking every one with their "Merry Christmas!" to see what Santa has put in their stockings. A mouth harp, a jackknife or a doll, some joke and a bit of candy they find and scamper back to bed happy as need be. After breakfast the good cheer of the morning is in the arrival of the married children or other relatives and friends with the greetings and joy of reunion. Now the gifts are interchanged. Perhaps a real Christmas tree, with its queer fruit from all lands and its gaudy trappings, gladdens the heart of all, but the chief glory of the day is the family dinner—

When the gray haired father sees round his board
The old, broken links of affection restored;
When the care wearied man seeks his mother once more

And the worn matron smiles where the girl smiled before,
What moistens the lip and what brightens the eye,
What calls back the past, like the rich pumpkin pie?

Preceded by the typical feast of the day, from yearling gobbler to plum pudding, none can resist the influence. With hearts mellowed and appetites appeased the whole company is ready for the laughter and fun to follow. The "help" are all asked to join, one's neighbors drop in, and there is soon a round of games and gayeries entered into by old and young. "Blind man's buff," "hot coekles," "bob apple," "hunt the slipper," follow each other, and the evening closes with the old fashioned Virginia reel and Tucker, or there may be charades and tableaux, with some recitations by the children, or the young people and children may black up and give the elders a minstrel show, sing "Swanee River," "Down the Ohio," "Honey, You's My Lady Love," recite Riley's "Mighty Longsome Wain When the Folks is Gone" or "Little John's Christmas," one of Uncle Remus' stories of his "Hard Road to Trubble." A single person may give an evening's delight for the whole party in reading aloud "Bird's Christmas Carol" by Miss Wiggin. After all is over the young people, disguised as wandering troubadours, may serenade their neighbors with Christmas carols. Who would run away from life on the farm because of its dreariness if the homes were thus made attractive?—Breeder's Gazette.

Christmas Menu.

Oysters.
Chicken Gumbo.
Patties of Mushrooms.
Broiled Shad.
Cucumbers.
Saddle of Mutton, English Style.
Potato Croquettes.
Turkey with Chestnuts and Truffles.
Stuffed Green Peppers. Roast Sweet Potatoes.
Ruddy Duck. Escarole Salad.
Brie Cheese.
Plum Pudding, Hard Sauce.
Ice Cream.
Fruit Cakes, Nuts and Raisins.
Coffee. —Banhof.