

## The Old Year And the New

THE clocks were on the stroke of twelve,  
The moon was bright and high;  
A footstep broke the frozen crust,  
A shadow passed me by.  
I saw a veteran, lame and old,  
Whose march was almost done.  
The battered knapsack on his back  
Was empty, like his gun.

The silver chimes began to ring,  
I heard a bugle blow.  
A dashing soldier, young and fair,  
Came riding o'er the snow.



THE NOTES OF "TAPS" HE BLEW.

The frost was on his cloak of blue  
And on his yellow plume,  
And on his sword he bore a rose—  
A red, red rose—in bloom.

He bared where the aged man  
Had fallen in the snows,  
And icy winds had made for him  
A bed of white repose.  
He set the bugle to his lips,  
The notes of "taps" he blew,  
And then I knew that I beheld  
The old year and the new.  
—Minna Irving in Leslie's Weekly.

**Queer French Canadian Customs.**  
A French Canadian New Year's custom now nearly obsolete was that known as La Quieté de l'Enfant Jesus—the collection for the infant Jesus. This collection was managed by the parish priest, who was driven round

among his parishioners by the senior churchwarden or the beadle. The gifts that he thus gathered "for the love of the infant Jesus" on the festival of the circumcision were distributed among the poor. Intimately connected with this was another practice of collecting alms for the poor, known as La Guignolee or La Ignotee. The words signify both a custom and a song. On the eve of the new year bands of youthful masqueraders serenaded the various residents of the locality after nightfall with music and song, knocking at doors and windows and begging for offerings for the poor, generally eatables, with threats of revenge if gifts were refused. A piece of pork with the tail adhering, called La Chignee, was the traditional offering expected.

### A Gala Day in France.

New Year's, not Christmas, is the French day of days. Cards, flowers and bouquets are exchanged in profusion, and visits are made. In the dining room on New Year's morning are assembled the gentlemen of the family to greet the ladies with courtly bow and gallantly to kiss their hands. The gay breakfast over, the children, the youth and those of the family in the prime of life make ready to pay visits. They start forth with pockets and hands filled with remembrances. The older ones, ensconced in easy chairs before the fire, wait for the younger relatives and friends who will come with light and merry talk to make good cheer.

### The Children's Day in Russia.

In Russia New Year's is especially the children's day. Among the peasants the old time frolics and games are renewed. It is a practice among the boys to arm themselves with a supply of shelled wheat and dried peas and to go from house to house in the small hours of the morning. They present themselves unbidden in a neighbor's house, where the doors are always unlocked, and pelt him with wheat or peas till he offers cakes or fruit.

### "First Footing."

"First footing" is an old, old custom which still lingers in Ireland. It is considered a lucky sign if the "first foot" is a fair man. A dark man, a woman, a red haired or squinting person is supposed to bring bad luck. In the north of England, however, a dark man is preferred as a "first foot."

### First Pins New Year's Presents.

When pins were invented in Gloucester, England, in the sixteenth century, they were much used for New Year's presents. Later, when money was given to buy pins it was called "pin money," a term which for four centuries has designated the money devoted to feminine trifles.

### How Indeed?

He wires me, "Happy New Year!"  
But how does he expect  
It to be so when he has sent  
The telegram collect?

### A Topsy Turvy Party.

A topsy turvy party is good fun at Christmas. Everything is done at this party "the other way around." For instance, a very small Christmas tree is fastened to the ceiling upside down. On the floor a number of packages should be laid. In the packages you must be sure to have the topsy turvy scheme. In all those intended for the girls you should put only such things as boys like or use, and the older the guest the simpler should the toys be. The next thing in this topsy turvy party after the distribution of the packages is to have some one enter the room dressed as Santa Claus with an empty basket on his back or in his hand, but instead of giving each person a present he must demand one from each person. Later on in the evening the guests play a game of forfeits, when they have a chance of getting back their gifts.

### A Few Christmas Don'ts.

Don't fuss, don't hurry, don't worry, don't fret. Christmas has come and gone many times and will come and go again. Don't do one single thing, then, for at least two weeks that will jar you into forgetting that it was the birthday of peace and good will.—Philadelphia Record.

### INDIGESTION'S RECORD



"The best remedy I can prescribe for your indigestion, madam, is Green's August Flower. I know of several other physicians who prescribe it regularly."

Indigestion is making an awful record as a cause of sudden deaths. It is beating heart-failure in its ghastly harvest.

You read in the papers daily of apparently healthy and even robust men being suddenly attacked with acute indigestion after enjoying a hearty meal, and of their dying in many cases before a physician could be called in.

This should be a warning to you who suffer with regular or periodical attacks of indigestion. If these unfortunate victims of acute indigestion had taken a small dose of Green's August Flower before or after their meals they would not have fallen a prey to such sudden seizures.

August Flower prevents indigestion by creating good digestion. It also regulates the liver, purifies the blood and tones up the entire system in a natural way.

Two sizes, 25c and 75c. All druggists.

R. C. DODSON.



# December Sale of Millinery

WE are closing out our stock of Winter Millinery at greatly reduced prices. ONE-THIRD off on all Trimmed Goods. All Street Hats at ONE-HALF PRICE. All Wings and Ostrich Feathers at ONE-THIRD and ONE-HALF off former price. - - - We are showing for the Christmas trade, a fine line of HANDKERCHIEFS, STOCK and TURN OVER COLLARS, HOSIERY and JAPANESE DRAWN WORK.

# LUDLAM'S

Two Doors East of Post office,

EMPORIUM, PA.

# Begin Buying Now for Christmas

## A Look in the Windows.



Will bring you in close connection with the beauties of this store and of the great variety of novelties we are showing for Christmas.

Don't forget our Merchant Tailoring Department, which is always well supplied with all the latest styles. Don't pay fancy prices for "city made" clothing when we can give you the best fit of stylish made clothing. Get our prices and compare goods.

Nothing has been forgotten—the good substantial sorts of things that men and boys wear, are here in abundance.

We want to impress this fact upon you, that whatever you do—whatever you buy, wherever you go—don't pass by seeing this stock this season.

The Early Buyer has an advantage, a great advantage, and one that must not be ignored if judicious buying is to be pursued

Right now is the very best time to shop; not only this but every store has ready the Christmas showing, complete. Styles, shades and assortments are at their very best now and now is the time to make selections.

We have prepared a little plan to put aside whatever you select for Christmas and keep it until you call. Pay when you get it. This will help those who are not prepared to make early purchases.

You should make a trip through our store now and get acquainted with the new ideas for men and boys. Such things that can't well be described, but are designed to satisfy and please the most fastidious dresser.

We can't single out one department for praise above the other. Each show-case, each division in the shelves is a miniature department complete. The showing of Christmas novelties this year, surpasses any heretofore attempt and will, we know, be enjoyed by all who come and see.

## Cut This List Out and Put it in Your Hat:

For the Man.

Neckwear,	Suit Cases,
Muefflers,	House Coats,
Gloves,	Bath Robes,
Umbrellas,	Night Robes,
Dress Shields,	Pajamas,
Scarf Pins,	Armlets,
Cuff Buttons,	Garters,
Suspenders,	Hats,
Hosiery,	Caps,
Underwear,	Suits,
Collars,	Overcoats,
Linen Handkerchiefs,	Rain Coats,
Silk Handkerchiefs,	Shirts,
Grips,	Sweaters,
Trunks, Valises,	Leggins,
Initial Handkerchiefs,	Toques.

# R. SEGER & CO.,

NEXT TO FIRST NAT'L BANK,  
FOURTH STREET.