

The Syrian New Year

All the Christians of New York do not observe Christmas as a time for Santa Claus. The Syrians, for instance, who live in the lower end of Manhattan island, in Washington street, from the Battery up to Albany street, have an old custom of giving their presents on New Year's day.

The Conflict of the Years

The year is dying. The battle bravely fought is o'er at last! The aged warrior wounded to the death With Time's fell arrows, silently awaits The moment of release with laboured breath.

Blood That Maketh an Atonement for the Soul

TEXT—The life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that maketh an atonement.—Leviticus XVII, 2.

TEMPERANCE NOTES

SOBRIETY IN GREAT BRITAIN

United Kingdom More Temperate Now Than Ever Before, Says Alliance Secretary. The amount of beer and spirits consumed in the United Kingdom during 1909 is very much less than the amount recorded for all preceding years.

THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

Lesson Text—1 Kings 12:1-24. Memory verses, 12, 14.

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THE NEWS OF PENNSYLVANIA

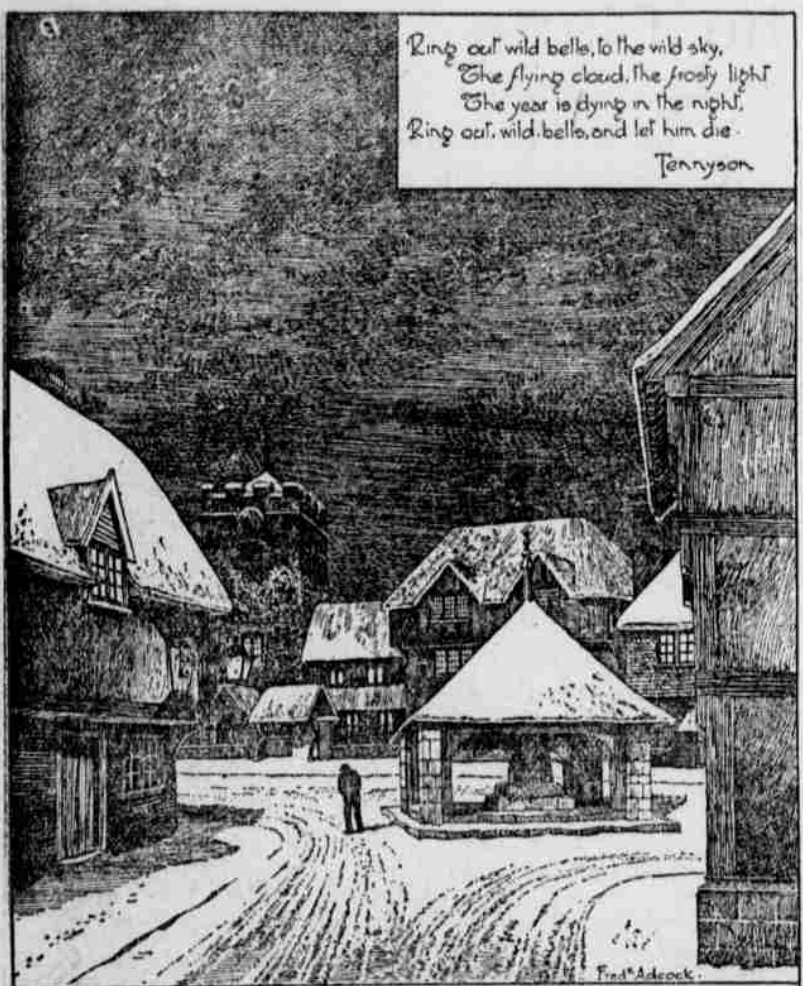
Kutztown.—Ingenuity on the part of Pittsburg capitalists is shortly to force attention to a new product from the earth, which will be made from what has for centuries been considered a troublesome waste.

ONLOOKER by WILBUR D. NEWETT

The PLUSH HAT



There's lots of things I'd like to say about the woman's fall today. About how they today are thin and so the morrow fat! But just when I take up my pen to write about the woman's fall, My eyes will wander till they see my new plush hat.



New Year's Eve

Ring out wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light The year is dying in the night, Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

prise, any Syrian early New Year's day fooling with a costly article. He can be depended on as knowing better, for either he would have to make a gift of it to the one who first greeted him, or else be branded as a miser.

New Year's Day in the Long Ago

LONG years ago the people who lived in a great many different places in the world were very much interested in New Year's day, just as we are, and they did many things in honor of the day, exactly as we do.

LEAVES BRACELET TO QUEEN

In Order to Prove That Stories About Her Were Untrue Woman Gives Jewel to Alexandra. It used to be a source of the bitterest pain to Consuelo Duchess of Manchester to know that certain portions of the press used to make unkind insinuations regarding the great friendship between her and the king.

hair. At any rate, they always wore robes on New Year's day, for that was the day when they cut down the sacred mistletoe.

For the Druids didn't think that mistletoe was only a pretty green vine. They believed it to be a miraculous growth which would prevent people from being harmed by poisonous food or drink.

After the divine reconciliation comes human reconciliation. The great Messiah will not require sacrifices of humanity, but, on the contrary, will open the blind eyes and cause the knowledge of the grace of God to reach Adam and every member of his race.

There and then the duchess wished to give the jewel to the queen, but her majesty would not hear of such a thing.

"I should feel as if I had asked for it," she said.

"Well, then," replied the duchess, "I shall leave it to you in my will."

Neither thought at the time how very soon the promise was to be fulfilled.

DRINK CAUSE OF INSANITY

Liquor Responsible for Nearly 50 Per Cent of Patients Admitted in English Asylums.

Drink and hereditary influence were reported as the cause of insanity in 42.3 per cent of the cases admitted into Rainhill asylum, in England, last year, drink being responsible in 22.5 per cent of the cases, and a clear history of hereditary taint in 19.5.

On the subject of the causes and the prevention of lunacy, Dr. Gliglesworth, medical superintendent of Rainhill, is very outspoken. Referring to the 22.5 per cent of admissions for which drink was responsible, Dr. Gliglesworth says the figure is sufficiently large to indicate clearly that havoec which drink makes with the nervous system, and adds: "If the evil affected the individual only it would be bad enough, but unfortunately there is reason to believe that it is often handed on to the offspring, owing to the direct poisonous effect upon the germ of the alcohol circulating in the blood, and that not a little of the terrible amount of nervous instability and degeneracy which we see around us has its origin in this cause."

Regarding the 19.5 per cent of admissions in which there is a clear history of hereditary taint, Dr. Gliglesworth says that no doubt this figure considerably understates the real influence of heredity, owing to the difficulty experienced in getting reliable accounts of the families of the patients.

Whoever named it, named it well; A bar to manliness and wealth; A bar to want and broken health; A bar to honor, pride and fame; A bar to want and grief and shame; A bar to hope, a bar to prayer, A bar to darkness and despair; A bar to joy that home imparts, A bar to hating, senseless strife; A bar to all that's true and brave; A bar to ever drunkard's grave; A bar to tears and aching hearts; A bar to heaven, a door to hell. Whoever named it, named it well.

The church often fails at work because the preacher is so anxious to succeed in words.

The Saloon Bar.

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Cure for Scratches.

Scratches are caused by exposure to cold and wet, local irritation or low condition, all of which should be avoided if possible. In simple cases apply cloths wet with a weak solution of sugar of lead and in winter cover to keep out cold.

Why?

Men take a hundred doses, 'tis said, When for the north pole they explore— But now they save us ever read That they bring back a half a score.

Helping Papa.

"Ah," sighs the enamored swain, As the taxicab rolls smoothly and swiftly on its way, "if we might ride on thus forever together! Would it not seem heavenly to you?"

Most of us have given up the search for a woman who looks like the ones pictured on magazine covers.

Holiday Terminal Facilities.

"I don't know what this is for and I don't know to whom it is for," says the lady, holding up a fancy-work contrivance.

An Old Foggy.

"I'd like to have some stories from young Silingink," says the magazine editor, "but he is so old foggy."

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Reading.

The 5 per cent. increase, granted at a conference in Chicago between the Stove Founders' National Defenders' Association and the Iron Molders' Union of North America, will affect over 200 men here and hundreds of others throughout the Schuylkill Valley.

Pottsville.

Stoney Waspish, of Minersville, was sentenced to eight years at hard labor in jail for killing his neighbor, Anthony Wasnock, with a pocketknife. The evidence showed that the dead man was the aggressor, going to Waspish's home to pick a quarrel.

Easton.

Irwin S. Uhler, a member of the Northampton County bar, was found drowned in the bathtub at his home. Mr. Uhler was a cripple and is supposed to have fallen into the tub while preparing to take a bath.

Lancaster.

Mrs. Mary Greer, the oldest woman in Lancaster county, celebrated her 96th birthday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. B. Frank Althouse, in Bart Township. Mrs. Greer has been a widow for fifty-six years.

Shamokin.

Mrs. Aaron Yoder Numedia, an aged woman, was stricken with apoplexy while smoking a pipe and burned to death.

Reading.

Nathan F. Quinter, one of the best-known residents of St. Lawrence, died of lockjaw, the result of crushing his hand by having it caught between a telegraph pole and a wagon about two weeks ago. He was high constable and roadmaster of Exeter Township for many years, and was in his 65th year.

Bethlehem.

William Finley and his little brother had narrow escapes from drowning in the Lehigh River. The lads were standing on treacherous ice and broke through. William managed to reach firm ice, and then heroically returned to his brother's aid and after considerable difficulty rescued him.

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