ACE UPON A TIME" 1000 Y LITTLE child comes to my comes to my knee, pleads that he may climb Into my lap to hear me tell The Christmas tale he loves so well— -----A tale my mother told to me Beginning "Once upon a time." It is a tale of skies that rang With angel rhapsodies sublime: Of that great host, screene and white, The shepherds saw one winter night-And the glorious stars that sang An anthem once upon a time. An anthem once upon a time. This story of the ballowed years Tells of the sacrifice sublime Of One who prayed alone and wept While His wearied followers alopt-And how His blood and Mary's tears Commingled once upon a time. And now my darling at my side And celoses of the distant chime Bring that sweet story back to n Of Bethlehem and Calvary, And of the grante Christ that died, For sinners once upon a time.

Lynne-

The mighty deeds that men have told In ponderous tomes of fluent rhyme Like misty shadows fade away; But this sweet story bides for aye; And like the stars that sang of old, We sing of "Once upon a time." Exgene Field, in Chicago Saturday Ev. Herald

A CARISTRAS

HERE'S some thing very mysteritus about it," said Server to her passive huse

The provide the properties of the properties

manage her own affairs remarkably well. Early on the morning of the day before Christmas, Mrs. Van Allien, with her unwieldy box of gifts, had started on her journey in a gentle snowstorm; and all went well, though the storm steadily increased in violence, urtil just before noon, when the engine ran into an enormous drift and there stuck fast.

into an enormous drift and there stuck fast. Soon all the women and children on the train had been gathered together in the car where Mrs. Van Allien was sitting, and for awhile she amused her-self by studying them with kindly eyes. But by and by, when they began to give a louder expression to their disap-pointment at the delay, she came to the rescue, and with her cheery temper and the contents of her liberally-stocked lunch basket, she succeeded in quieting the complaints and raising the spirits

the contents of her interally-stocked hunch basket, she succeeded in quicting the complaints and raising the spirits of most of the despondent snowbound mothers and their uneasy children. At first they had all expected that the engine would be able to push its way through the drift and go on in the course of a few hours; but it scon be-came apparent that there was no pos-sibility of getting through that night. It even began to be hinted that it would be impossible to proceed on the following day, unless the storm abated. And there were rumors, too, that the fuel was running low, and that there were no-provisions on board. At this the murnurs of the blockaded travelers grew loud again, for it was

And a pleasant prospect to be obliged to spend Christmas Eve and Christmas for an description of the country.
The afternoon woreslowiy on. There was not christen and beach and stormy sky.
The afternoon woreslowiy on. There was not elegraph wires, and the for graing party which had started out on their participation woreslowing on the country.
The value of the storm had beach and train. But in the early had reached with the solution that has had the set in the set of the started out on their participation of the storm had beach and train. But in the early children were forthist that the had started out on their participation of the storm had beach and train. But in the early children were forthist that the laws a set of the started out on their participation of the store of the started out on their set of the started out on the set of the set of t

dence, and several of the older girls had been called upon to help, behind the shawls. The excitement among the children momentarily increased, and just as the darkness of Christianas Eve was enfold-ing the wearled and supperless passen-gers in the dimly-lighted train, down fame the screening shawls, and a bril-liantly-lighted Christmas tree burst on their bewildered gaze. Then such a shout went up as filled tired little Mrs. Van Allien with keen delight. O cousin Henrietta Marlow and your oight children! You little dream how the unexpected gifts so carefully pre-pared for you are being scattered nowl Your costs and shawls will serve to keep these little snow-bound children warm through the long-coming night; and your toys and bright picture books wours of their long cold Christmas day. There had been a general invitation

left if, blažbag wildly up towards the back and stormy sky.
It was late in the afternoon before the foraging party had renched the line was attain the afternoon before the foraging party had renched the line way, and after getting well warmed and restrict a support of a indexs wandering through the pathless snow, child and obtain the early twill be the source of the foraging party had renched the line way, and after hours of a indexs wandering through the pathless snow, child and othow themselves down to sleep, even though they knew that to sleep then might mean to perish. They never dramed that they had almost reached their goal, round which they had been criting for so log.
Suddenly, through his half-closed gres, one of their number saw a light for and the distance, and, half dreaming, he fancied it a star. At this father's house, and it was Christmas Eve. His mother bent over the bedside and tucked the blanket close around her boy, and O' how warm it seemed 'Her good' alsory the star grew brighter still and seemed to be sky, whence star bedside upon his how, and as she left the tore strangeling. The save to distory the star bone down upon him, like a Heavenly guide. The the dream faded away and consciousness came struggling back through the bewildering numbress the norm the dream faded away and consciousness came struggling back through the bewildering numbress the factors for encound and the boy distory the star great while heavely mastered in the sound and the into the distance. The wind caught up the sound and the sound and the prints in haster to find and ald in bring the fancient of the sound and the sound and ald bring the sound and ald in bring in the wearded and half-frozen lite bad.

the band. Happy tears were glistening in Mrs. Van Allien's eyes that night as she lay on her improvised bed of cushions un-

Fattant

MRS. VAN ALLIEN HAD FOUND SOMETHING FOR EACH. 3.00

<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text> chance, and I feel that something ought to be done. Maybe it's sonight woman's foolish fancy, but won't you do me this favor? Get that oblight brakeman to help carry out this tree, which has served its purpose here, and somewhere-at a safe d stance from the traim-set it on fire. There's just a chance it may prove a beacon light and anyway, l'd feel so much better to see it done." Not any of the men would have de-nied this little woman anything that she might ask, no matter how aburd the request might appear to them. So the dismantled tree was carried out, and dragged far up on the top of the drift, and there they tonched it off and

Things Were Different in the Old Days Yet Children Were Very Merry.
How many of the young people know that some forty years ago nine-tenths of the children in America had to enjoy Christmas with only such sums as they had saved up for months, often a penny at a time? Yet so it was. Not one father in ten thought of giving a boy "Christmas money," the big family din-ner and such fun as cost nothing was enough.
Indeed, save for candy and irregrache ters, there was little to spend money for. "Robinano Crusoe" and "Parley's books, though the people had some old standty's on their shelves, and the "Old English Reader" was, like other poor, always with them. There were "Moral Lessons," a few, and tracts enough bu' no gorgeously lettered volumes of child-ish song, no fairy stories shining in covers of blue, green and gold.
The story that artists for the earliest furenile books had to label their pic-tures "This is a horee," "This is a cow," etc. is no doubt an exaggera-tion, but the toys really meeded it. May a little girl made a doll, by dress-ling up a crook-necked squash. "Rag publies" were the rule. A doll such as any child of parents above the grade of paupers may now have for Ciristmas would then have excited.
The stor such a wonderful creation.
The stor such a wonderful creation would have excited.
The stor do the of glouger from Cincinnti-et a cost of two dollars-was made matter of church discussion in one of such a dol by order from Cincinnti-et a cost of two dollars-was made mater of church discussion in one of such a dol by one and meeded annusement, for every child for miles around was crazy to see that doll. As for paying ten dollars for a doll, the people would have asked the count to mame a gancinan for the man who did it, as one unfit to manage his own affairs. In dollars would buy in acre of good inhered land in half of the coontry.
Wood carring was an envide accom-plishment in those days. The "hired hand" who had some skil

YOUR WIFE AT CHRISTMAS.

She finds all business matters new, To her finance is strange; A hundred-dollar bill or two She calls a little change. Each day the dinner is on time, No word she answers back: She shows that she can act sublime To get a sealskin sacque.

Although her taste you'd not deny, You must admit it mars The season's joy to have her buy You neckties and cigars.

She makes you drink of sorrow's cup To gain the kid's applause; For now she likes to rig you up To look like Santa Claus.

Though ready for the yearly strike, It hits you rather funny; Sie wants to know first what you'd like, Then asks you for the money. —James J. O'Connell, in Judge. CHRISTMAS CRINKLES.

Pertinent Remarks on Seasons Questions.

Some Pertinent Remarks on Seasonable Questiona. It requires no outlay of money to wish people a merry Christmas. Don't give yourself to more than one girl as a Christmas present. Doa't spend in gifts the money you owe your wash-woman. Prosents are not numerons in the homes where the parents carefully teach their four-year-olds that Santa Claus is a mythical personage. Price-marks on Christmas gifts are not to be regarded as emblems of ver-acity.

city. The woman who can circulate most The woman who can circuite most through the stores the first three weeks of December can approximate more closely the value of the presents her friends receive.—William Henry Siviter, in Puck. fair

His Invariable Rule. "Dear Miss Mildred," wrote the young editor, "I find it impossible to tell you by word of mouth what I have been longing for months to say. My pulsied tongue refuses to do the bid-ding of my will when I am in your presence. I am under the necessity, therefore, ofawriting to you to tell you how inexpressibly dear to me you have become and to ask if you will consent to be my wife. In replying please be brief, omit the discussion of unimpor-tant topics, and write only on one side of the sheet."-Chicago Tribune.

tant topics, and write only on one side of the sheet."-Chicago Tribune. His Reason. The Sixth Michigan cavalry, of the penowned Custer brigade, was com-manded by a gallant colonel, formerly a member of the Michigan bar. In the early morning of the last day af Gettysburg, while, this regiment, with others, was in line awaiting orders, the men grew nolsy in their conversa-tion and laughter. Tarning nervously to them, the colonel roared out: "Keep silence there!" Then he added, in an apolo-getic tone: "Not that I care, but it will sound better." Yet He Gave It the Stake. Uncle Allen had dropped into a cob-bler's shop for repairs. As he rose up infter putting on the mended shoe he pulled the chair up with him. "That hump of war," said the shoe-mater, "seems to have formed a strong attachment for you." "I don't reciprocate," replied Uncle Allen, "but I confess I'm a good deal stuek on this chair."-Chicago Tribune. VARIABLE AS THE WINDS.

VARIABLE AS THE WINDS.

N. RA

Mr. Younghusband (singing, with great expression)—I love thee! I love theel with a l-o-v-e that cannot die! with a l-o-v-e that-Mrs. Younghusband (interrupting)— Henry, I want a hod of coal right away!

away! Mr. Younghusband (with still great-er expression)—Oh! go to the dickens! —Truth.

Comparison.

Comparison. " Ah:" said the man, with bated breath, Who lived with his third scolding wife, " You talk about the 'jaws of death," They're nothing to the jaws of life." —Judge. Not Left in Doubt.

Not Left in Doubt. Neighbor-I hear your father intends to put up a new house. Who is his builder? Boy-What's that? "Why, the-er-one who bosses the job!" "Oh! Why, ma, of course."-Good News.

News.

What He Wanted. "I tell you, Parker, money is scarce." "Don't 'get scared. I'm not going to dun you for that ten dollars you owe

dun you for that ten dollars you owe me." "Oh, I wasn't thinking of that. I was fixing to ask you to lend me an-other ten."-Brooklyn Life. Hoth Right. Tommy (taking a big bite of apple pie) -Mamma, cook and I have been argu-in'. She says the middle part of the pie is the filling and I say it's all fill-ing. Which one is right? Mother (smiling)-Well, my boy, I should say you were both right.-Har-per's Young People. A Sure Indication.

per's Young People. <u>A Sure Indication.</u> Grocer—Those new people on the hill must have come by their money very recently. Customer—What makes you think so? Grocer—Why, they pay their bills just as promptly as if they were living on a salary.—Detroit Tribune.

What He Had Hoped.

What He Had Hoped. "Promises, like pie crust, were made to be broken," said the Summer Girl, when she broke the engagement. "Yes," said he, gloomily; "but in this case I had hoped the promise would be like some of the pastry at our board-ing-house."—Puek.

Ing-house. "--ruck. Labor. Regie--I heard papa say the other day that labor is sweet and noble. Mamma-So it is, Regie. Regie--Then, mamma, why does papa hire a man to cut the grass while he sits on the piazza and only looks on?--llarper's Young People.

bark, surveying the situation very enro-fully, and when the fact that be was real ly afloat and about a yard from shore seemed to be fully comprehended, he looked out for the nearest land. This point fairly sottled upon he im-mediately began to cast a web for it. He threw it as far as possible in the air and with the wind. It soon reached the shore and made fast to the spires of grass. Then heturned himself about and, in true sailor fashion, began to haul in hand-over-hand on his cable. Carefully he drew upon it, until his bark began to move toward shore. An it moved the faster, he the faster drew upon it to keep his hawser tant and from touching the water. Very soon he reached the shore, and, quickly leaping to terra firma, sped his way homeward. Thinking that he might be a special expert and an exception in that line of boatmanship to the rest of his com-panions, the naturalist tried several spiders. They all came to shore in fire manner.

His Affections. First Boy—Which do you like best, your father or your mother? Second Boy—Well, I like my father pest. mostly, but I like my mother best at mealtime.-Good News. A Mathematical Proposition. "What are you cyphering?" said the fair typewriter to the bookkeeper. "I cypher you," was the reply. I legot her.-Rochester Democrat and Droniele._____

What Farmer Peters Heard. "Fine sermon, wasn't it?" asked one of Farmer Peters' boarders, referring to a scholarly discourse with which the Meadowille meeting house congrega-tion had been favored that morning by a city dergyman. "Mebbe," returned Farmer Peters. "Why", persisted the boarder, "that man knows more about the Bible, ho has made a deeper study of Biblical history and geography, than almost any other minister in this country." "Ilas he, now?" inquired Farmer

What Farmer Peters Heard

¹ Teypher you," was the reply. He got her.—Rochester Democratant Chroniele.
¹ A Realty Pleasant Topic-Dichers—Don't talk shop; let's speak of something pleasant.
¹ Tieker—What did your mother-in-law die 672—Brooklyn Life.
¹ Poor as a Church Mouse. Bess—Jack told me last night that my face was my fortune. Bess—Jow very unkind of him.-Brooklyn Life.
¹ Tean dress myself!" bragged Willie "Ana l," said Bobbie, proudly, "Ican wipe my own nose!"—Brooklyn Life.
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¹ Tean dress myself!" bragged Willie
¹ Tean brack the world to be saved up to make bread pudding of .—Harper's ¹ Tesideal:
¹ Tesideal:</li

MISERY AND COMPANY. **RICH FRUITS**

A Dog and a Cat Who Are Wonderfully Attached to Each Other. Misery loves Company. Misery is a brindle cat, and Company is a big New-foundland dog. They were raised and lived very hap-pily for some years in a shanty high up on the rederation of the source of the sour for some years in a shanty high on the rocks of a vacant block 'm up



were saying: "Why don't you keep step?" Although Company never minds how-ever roughly the children may play with him, he is very jealous and un-casy if any one of them tries to catch Misery; he will then girls and boys all understand very clearly to mean "That's my cat, and you must be very careful of her."-J. R. Smith, in St Nicholas.

CLEVER SPIDERS.

Side boards, centre tables, extension tables and thousands of other useful articles in the furniture line. For the balance of this month we will give TEN PER CENT. OFF

"WIT DON'T YOU REEP STEP?" "WIT DON'T YOU REEP STEP?" Harlem; but times have changed with them now, and they are in a fair way to become tramps in the wide world of unclaimed cats and dogs. Some days ago the people of the shanty were forced to move away, and a blacksmith's shop was built tpun the rocks; then a wagon load of large steam drills was hoisted up and piled alongside of it; and in a few months a a wo of tall modern houses will stand in the little shanty's place. When the owners moved away, they helt Misery and Company all alone to take care of themselves as best they could; and their trial would have be-gun before now if it were not for the children in the neighborhood, who have so far kept them supplied with bores and pieces of meat and bread-for Company is one of those great big good-natured dogs that would not have aso far kept them supplied with priends among the little boys and girls mear by, whom he is always ready to play tag with, or even to ride around on his back. During school hours Misery and Com-many pass their time very quietly to-gther, wondering what has become of their owners, and wandering about or the rocks in search of them. Might they erawl under the shanty, and Misery curls herself up olsen, as a kitten does with her mother. Company is always first to walke pin not to disturb Misery until she begins to stretch herself and is ready in to to disturb Misery until she begins to stretch herself and is ready in boise, they shart off together, suckast. Misery finds it hand work to keep step, and they start off together, side by side, to take a ramube before bear to ways at Misery with a reproachul sort of way, as if have yooking down sideways at Misery vith a negreached of admiration, but still ha reproachul sort of way, as if have yer roughly the children may play with him, he is zery fundy, and you keep step? ON ALL BLANKETS, and 50 per cent, off on all coats left from last year. This means A \$10.00 ladies' coat for \$5.00. Can you afford to miss all this? Foilet chamber sets, worth \$4, for \$2.50.

Cheaper than any ever offered in the coun-Cheaper than any ever offered in the coun-ty. NOTIONS and HOLIDAY GOODS we are aiming to have just what you want far cheaper than you dreamed of --consider-ing quality. We have a large stock of shoes to select from; the Oreigbourg shoes for chil-dren; every pair guaranteed; call and see them. GROCERIES

AT THE ROOTS.

From the 15th last until January 1st 1 ill sell you

FURNITURE and CARPETS SLAUGHTERED.

ertises. Look at the

and PROVISIONS.

PROVISIONS. 20 LBS, GRANULATED SUGAR, \$1.00; Shoulders, Ite: Cheese, Ioc: Butter, 30e Lard, 124; Sath herring, 5c h; Sath had-dock, ac h; 3 hb bologna, 25c; 3 lbs mix-ed cakes; 25c; 5 lbs rice, 25c; 5 lbs bar-py, 25c; 3 lbs ginger cakes, 25c; 4 lbs sola hiscuits, 25c; Mint lozengers, 10e h; Mixed candy, 10e hb; Stick candy, 10e h; 5 cans sardines, 25c; 2 cans salm-nu, 25c; 3 qb senas; 25c; 3 dts peas, 25c; 2 lbs drý corn. 25c; 5 lbs cairs, 25c; Bonny flour, \$LS5. Yours truly.

J. C. BERNER. LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD. Anthracite cond used exclu-sively. Insuring cleanliness and comfort.

ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS. NOV. 19, 1893. LEAVE FREELAND.

How They Reached Land After Having Been Set Adrift. A naturalist took a large spider from his web under the basement of a mill, put him on a chip of wood and set him afloat on the quiet waters of the pond. He walked all about the sides of his bark, surveying the situation very care-fully, and when the fact that he was real by afloat and about a yard from shore

ARRIVE AT FREELAND. 5:90, 7:18, 7:26, 9:16, 10:56 a m, 12:33, 2:13, 4:34, 6:56 and 5:71 pm, from Haleton, Stockton, 7:30, 9:10, 10:86 a m, 2:13, 4:34, 6:58 p m from pelano, Mahanoy City and Shenandonah (via New Boston Branch). 9:10:300 Branch). 9:10:300

B. Junction (via Highland Branch). SUDAY TRAISS. 11 31 an and 331 pm, from Hazleton, Lumber Yard, Joddo and Drifton. 11 31 an from Delano, Hazleton, Philadelphia and Easton. 331 pm from Delano and Mahanoy region. For further information inquire of Ticket Agents.

CHAS. S. LEE, Gen'l Pass. Agent, Phila., Pa

R. H. WILBUR, Gen. Supt. East. Div., R. W. NONNEMACHER, Ass't G. P. A., South Bethlehem, Pa.

 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{A. w. NOAN ESTADUELT, ASS U, P, A., South Betchleherm, Pa. \\ \hline \textbf{South Betchleherm, Pa. \\ \textbf{Schuytkill, Ralkoad,} \\ \textbf{Time table in effect September 3, 1860, \\ Trains leave Drifton for Jeddo, Eckley, Hazle Brook, Stockton, Beaver Meadow Road, Roam and Hazleton Junction at 600, 610 a m, 1210, 409 pm, daily except Sunday, and 7 GB a m, 2 38 p m, daily except Sunday; and 7 GB a m, 2 38 p m, daily except Sunday; and 7 GB a m, 2 38 p m, daily except Sunday; and 7 GB a m, 2 38 p m, daily except Sunday; and 7 GB a m, 2 38 p m, Sunday. \\ \end{array}$

Jonniccen and Jernaer ac ou a m, 210 p m, sunday.
Trains leave Drifton for Oneida Junction, Ilarwood Roud, Humboldt Road, Oneida and Sheppton at 610 a m, 2210, 400 p m, daily except Trains leave Hadleton Junction for Ilarwood, Cranberry, Tombicken and Deringer at 637 a m, 140 p m, daily except Sunday; and 545 a m, 170 m, 190 m, and 190 m, 190 m, 190 m, 190 m, 190 m, daily except Sunday; and 54 m, 308 p m, daily except Sunday; and 54 m, 308 p m, daily except Sunday; and 54 m, 308 p m, daily except for Tombicken, Cran-berry, Harwood Hoad, Humboldt Road, Oneida and Shepton at 647, 910 a m, 1240, 439 m, daily except Sunday; and 540 m, 308 p m, daily except Sunday; and 540 m, 308 p m, daily except Sunday; and 540 m, 308 p m, daily except Sunday; and 540 m, 190 p Hourds, Harwood Hoad, Stockton, Haale Brook, Eckley, Jeido and Drifton at 240, 630 p m, Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Haale Brook Trains leave Shepton for Oneida Junction, Haale Road, Harwood Road, Oneida Junction, Haale Road, Harwood Road, Stockton, Haale Road, Harwood Road, Harwoo