

# FOR CHRISTMAS

## Christmas Candies and Nuts

Fancy Jonathan Apples by the box

## Everything in Fancy Vegetables

For Christmas Dinner

Fresh Tomatoes, Mushrooms, Kumquits, Head Lettuce, Leaf Lettuce, Cauliflower, etc.

## Best Display of Cut Glass and Queensware

in the city to select a present from

SPECIAL PRICES TO COMMITTEES

# COLUMBUS MERCANTILE CO.

### Route No. 1.

Wardman Bros. were on the market last Friday with a car of hogs.

Very few of the farmers on this route have finished their corn husking.

Last Thursday the carrier was able to make his first complete trip since the storm, owing to the bad roads.

Complaint was made to us last Thursday by one of our young lady patrons to the effect that on Friday, December 3, someone of an inquisitive disposition opened one of her letters that had been left in the mail box by the carrier. She says she would gladly allow them to read all of her letters, if they will call at her home, and will also show them her post card album, which we dare say, is a very nice one. But she says she would prefer to be the first one to open her own letters.

### Card of Thanks.

We wish to thank the many friends for their acts of kindness and sympathy during the last illness and death of our infant son.

MR. AND MRS. F. J. GERHAZ.

### Clearly Understood.

They seldom gave dinner parties, and those they gave were small. But they liked things done decently and in order and generally had the best. On the afternoon of one of the little parties the host summoned the boy in buttons and said to him, "Now, John, you must be careful how you hand round the wine."

"Yes, sir."

"These bottles with the black seals are the best and these with the red seals the inferior sherry. The best sherry is for after dinner. The inferior sherry you will hand around with the hock after soup. You understand—hock and inferior sherry after soup?"

"Yes, sir, perfectly," responded the boy in buttons.

The evening came and with it the guests. Everything went on swimmingly till the boy went round the table asking each of the guests, "Hock or inferior sherry?"—London Tit-Bits.

### A Tempest in a Teapot.

What war was caused by a clay teapot?

For an answer to this question we must go, as might be supposed, to the land of pigstails and porcelain. The story goes that a Chinese emperor in olden days gave as a mark of special favor a magnificent clay teapot of rare design to Lo Hung Chang, his favorite mandarin. This was laid up as a priceless possession among the treasures of Lo Hung or borne at his side by two attendants at all high public festivals and functions. A rival mandarin saw these signs of distinction with the green eyes of jealousy and hired a man to break the obnoxious pot. The clumsy fellow was caught in the act and betrayed his master. War followed between the two mandarins and their respective followers, which resulted in the overthrow and death of Lo Hung Chang and the reception of his rival into royal favor in his place.

### Flag Proportions.

In the United States flag the width of a stripe is invariably half the length in inches of the flag's longest measurement. For example, in a flag ten feet long the stripes should be five inches wide. Accordingly the flag would have a width of five feet five inches, or thirteen times five inches. The field should be of navy blue bunting measuring seven stripes deep and extending two-fifths across the length of the flag. There should be forty-six stars on the field, arranged in six rows, beginning with eight, the two middle rows having eight and the last row eight and the other rows seven. The size of the star at its widest measurement should be such that one-half of its own width will separate it from the next star. Flags may be made in all sizes, but the above proportions should be preserved.—Philadelphia Press.

### Intrinsically.

Constituent—What do you suppose Braghter is worth? Senator Lotsum—'I don't know what he's worth now I bought him once when he was just starting out for \$75 and a railway pass.—Chicago Tribune.

Doubt is born of the mind; faith is the daughter of the soul.—Emerson.

### THEIR OWN DOCTORS.

Remedies That Animals When Sick Instinctively Select.

With the brute creation the simple remedies of nature generally suffice for their few ailments, and they are guided to them by instinct. We have been told how the mongoose cures himself when bitten by a cobra by eating a certain plant, and many country residents have seen a sick dog bury himself in the dirt.

Animals instinctively choose such food as is best suited to them. A large number of animals wash themselves and bathe, as elephants, stags, birds and ants. In fact, man may take a lesson in hygiene from the lower animals. Animals get rid of their parasites by using dust, mud, clay, etc. Those suffering from fever restrict their diet, keep quiet, seek darkness and airy places, drink water and sometimes even plunge into it.

When a dog has lost his appetite he eats that species of grass known as dog's grass (chicentid). Cats also eat grass, catnip, etc. Sheep and cows when ill seek out certain herbs. An animal suffering from chronic rheumatism always keeps as much as possible in the sun. The warrior ants have regularly organized ambulances. Latrelle cut the antennae of an ant, and other ants came and covered the wounded part with a transparent fluid they secrete in their mouths. If a chimpanzee be wounded it stops the bleeding by placing its hand on the wound or dressing it with leaves and grass. When an animal has a wounded leg or arm hanging on it completes the amputation by means of its teeth.—Philadelphia North American.

### HER CHOICE OF BOAS.

The Question That is Now Puzzling the Man in the Case.

Crosby had always been inclined to conservatism in household expenses, especially in the matter of his wife's dress bills. His wife went so far as to say that he was pennywise.

She had been in need of a new boa for a long time, and after she hinted that her happiness would never be quite complete till she had one he at last consented to make the purchase. He went into a store and picked out two, one of which was a cheap imitation affair and the other a fine, expensive one.

Taking them to his office before going home, he changed the price marks, the expensive tag on the cheap boa, and vice versa.

His wife examined them for a long time very seriously indeed and then said: "Now, dear, the expensive boa is a beauty, and it is really very good of you to allow me my choice. Some women would take it without a word, but really I don't think we can afford the more costly one, and besides, dear, I think the cheap one the more stylish too. Why, Cros, dear, what's the matter? Are you ill?"

But dear old Cros had made his getaway into the night where he could kick himself as hard as he felt he deserved. But what he would like to know is this: Did his wife happen on the more expensive boa by pure accident or—

—New York Tribune.

### Girls and Outdoor Games.

Women in their ambition to be athletic contend against innumerable difficulties. One of these difficulties is skirts, a second is waists and a third—almost insuperable—is hair, including hairpins. Watch a girl playing tennis or cricket, and after a more than usually brilliant effort she invariably puts her hands to her head, as if she expected something to fall off if she did not. Energetic play is usually attended by dishevelment of the unruly locks and a shedding of hairpins that cause the pretty athlete distress. Her pleasure in the game is marred by a sense of insecurity and a constant fear of consequences. No woman can wield a racket or essay a run with an undivided mind. Half her brain is occupied by the fearful surmise that her hair is coming down—a surmise, by the way, which is probably too painfully justified by the fact.—London Black and White.

### True Enough.

Irritated Citizen—Aren't you ashamed of yourself, going about with that street organ and leading such a lazy life? Street Organist—Lazy life? Why, sir, life with me is one long daily grind.—Echo.

### LOVE FOR TITLES.

The Way the Average German Burger Longs for His Name.

The average German burger's love of titles is a source of never ending fun to the rest of the German population and of continual ridicule to the rest of the world. Any one caring to see how far some people of the fatherland will go in this direction need only have a look at a hotel register at a summer resort. He will see added to the name of the guest the most curious combinations of appellations drawn together to form a title. He will, for instance, find:

A "Technischen Provinzialfeuerwehrs-tatsinspector" (a technical provincial fire insurance inspector).

A "Geheimen Expedierenden Sekretar im Ministerium der Offentlichen Arbeiten" (meaning a special sort of secretary at the ministry of public works).

A—to continue in English as well as possible—"senior president of the Royal Saxon railway," a "royal railroad subsecretary."

The ladies are not better. "Frau Verwitwetersteuercontrollorin" is quite usual and means "Mrs. Widowed Supertax Collector." Then there are the "Mrs. Secretary and Calculator" and "Mrs. Widowed General Agent." The best of all, however, is a title which a lady entered in the register of a hotel at which I recently stayed. It read, "Mrs. Prison Warden and Children."—Fall Mall Gazette.

### TAMING A BIRD.

Teaching a Feathered Pet to Trust You is Not Difficult.

No creature is more jealous or sensitive than a bird. It is easy, however, to win the heart of almost any bird, and that without starving him or making him think he has mastered you. Simply talk to him a good deal.

Place his cage near you on your desk or work table, and retain his choicest dainty to give to him with your own fingers. Let him know that he can never have that particular thing unless he takes it from you, and he will soon learn, if you are patient and do not disconnect him by fixing your eyes upon him.

After this he will more readily take it from your lips, and then when you let him out of his cage, after the first excitement is over, he will come to you, especially if you have a call to which you have accustomed him, and accept the dainty from you while free.

As soon as he becomes really convinced that you will not hurt him or try to catch him or interfere in any way with his liberty he will give way to his boundless curiosity about you. He will pull your hair, pick at your eyes and give you as much of his company as you desire.—New York Press.

### A Lost Opportunity.

The father of the late Benoit Constant Coquelin, the great French actor, was a baker, and young Coquelin was brought up to the trade. At thirteen, a writer in Le Figaro says, he manifested an irresistible inclination toward the stage, an inclination which his father steadfastly strove to repress.

"Don't devote so much time to those dramas," his father used to say. "You have learned a good trade, the business is remaining well, and you shall be my successor."

A number of years after Constant had made his way into general favor his father, who took pride in his boy's success, but could never quite get over the feeling that Constant should have been a baker, was congratulated upon his son's eminence.

"I remember," said the old man, "that Constant was a good baker. He would have gone far in the trade."

### Blowing Up the Locks.

Would it be easy to blow up and destroy a lock canal by the malicious use of dynamite or other high explosive? The question has been debated much in connection with the Panama canal. The Engineering News calls attention to the fact that an attempt made in 1900 to wreck the Welland canal in this way produced surprisingly small results. After two weeks' examination the two men concerned selected lock 24, and each lowered a satchel containing dynamite and a fuse to the water behind the gate at each end of the lock. Both charges were exploded, but the dynamite failed to carry away the gates. Although the explosives blew a hole about a foot in diameter through each gate and loosened the hinges, the gates remained in position, holding back the water.

### In the Regular Establishment.

"Yes," said the fresh young lieutenant, "the army has fallen on evil days."

The sophisticated captain merely gapped.

"Why," the F. Y. L. went on, "look at the names on this roll—Private Estrance, Corporal Punishment, Major Dome, General Housework. What kind of a—"

But just then the S. C. shied a—well, a ginger ale bottle at the feeble offender.—Lippincott's.

### Cat Exchange in Paris.

Paris has a cat exchange, a "bourse aux chats." This establishment is situated in a big chamber at the rear of a winshop. Here are legions of cats of all sizes and colors, which are to be seen jumping and heard "miaulant." It is said that the customers are by no means tender-hearted old ladies, but for the most part furriers, glove-makers and cooks. A good sleek "mator" realizes from 2½ cents to 20 cents. The skin has a number of usages, and the flesh, according to the story, finds its way into the stewpans of certain restaurants possessing more enterprise than scruple.—Chicago Journal.

### Rough Passage.

"I hope and pray," remarked a gentleman as he left the steamer, "that I shall never have occasion to cross the Atlantic again."

"Rough passage, eh?" queried a friend.

"Rough is no name for it. I had four kings beat three times."—New York Sun.

### A Cuts Child.

"Every time the baby looks into my face he smiles," said Mr. Meekins.

"Well," answered his wife, "it may not be exactly polite, but it shows he has a sense of humor."

# Special Prices for Christmas

We are going to give our customers a Christmas present of reduced prices on all merchandise suitable for Xmas Gifts

Just look over the following suggestions and note the prices

## Ladies' Furs

50c on the \$1.00

\$5.00 Axminster Rugs \$2.48 at

Xmas Handkerchiefs at

5c. 10c. 15c. 25c.

## Combination Xmas box of

Suspenders, garters and Sleeve holders, worth \$1.50, Christmas price.. 69c

Ladies' and Gents' neckwear, 50c values, Christmas price..... 39c

\$2.50 Rochester Nickel Parlor Lamp, Christmas price..... \$1.69

These are just a few items to show what you will find in our Special Xmas Sale

# NEW BARGAIN STORE

419 Eleventh Street

Columbus, Nebraska

### Curious Village Names.

There is in Dorset a group of villages which in some form or other have as their eponym the stream in whose valley they are situated. The stream is named Puddle, and the villages bear the names of Puddle Hinton, Puddetown, Tulpuddle, Affpuddle, Turner's Puddle and Bryan's Puddle. One is reminded of the riddle about the letter "m." Some, like Queen Mary, "have it before," some, like King William, "have it behind." Poor things, poor things! "The inhabitants of these villages," says Marcus Dimdale, who writes in the Cornhill Magazine on "English Village Names," "sent to a former postmaster general—if I am rightly informed, Cecil Raikes—a request that they might be allowed to change their names and replace them with more euphonious substitutes which they obligingly supplied. Back came the official reply, curt, overbearing, and scathing, 'Puddle you are, and puddle you must remain!'"

### Concocted and What as "Seeds."

School children in the crowded part of New York do not speak of corn and oats and wheat by those names, but always refer to them as "seeds." The other day in one of the big schools the teacher was talking to her pupils about gardening. She ended with a request for each pupil to bring a few seeds the next day to be planted in the window boxes. The following morning the children appeared mostly with either oats, wheat or corn. While putting a few grains of each in the earth the teacher referred to them by their familiar names. One of the girls in the class took courage to "set the teacher right" and said: "Some one must 'a' told you wrong, teacher. That 'a' pointing to the wheat, 'is bread seed, an' that yellow stuff ain't corn; it's pigeon seed. We always call them that in the block where we live."—New York Sun.

### Shell Sculptors.

The workman manipulated the comb of pale, translucent tortoise shell like putty, molding the top with his fingers into small balls.

"You thought we carved shell, hey?" he said, with an Italian accent. "No, no. We heat it up and mold it. We are shell sculptors."

He took three pieces of shell from a pot of steaming water and laid them very carefully, one on top of the other, in a press.

"Shell is like glue," he said. "These three pieces will weld together, and not a sign of a seam will show. Sometimes we weld nine, four, twenty pieces together. I learned my trade in Naples. I don't want to boast, but we Neapolitans are the best workers in shell and coral that there are in the world."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

### It Came Back.

"John Burroughs, the naturalist, dined with me one night," said a magazine editor of New York, "and among my guests was a young nature writer of the new school.

"This young man told a wonderful story about the intelligence of oysters. He said he was going to put the story in his new book. Mr. Burroughs gave a dry laugh and said:

"Let me tell you about a cat. This story is quite as authentic as the other one, and it should do for your book alike."

"The venerable student paused impressively, then said: "A Springfield couple had a cat that age had rendered helpless, and they put it out of its misery by means of chloroform. They buried it in the garden and planted a rosebush over its remains. The next morning a familiar scratching took them to the front door, and there was that cat waiting to be let in, with the rosebush under its arm."

### Mended His Manners.

A certain English officer is noted for his ready wit and quickness in repartee. In the very early days of his career he was ordered to Bombay and was attached to the staff of the then commander in chief as A. D. C.

Shortly after his arrival, at a function at the government house, a new military secretary who, in the conscious pride of his new position, had a hearty contempt for subalterns of all degrees, with a glassy stare through his eyeglasses, offered him two fingers to shake.

The A. D. C., quite unabashed, looked at him for a moment or two and then said gallantly:

"Hang it all, major, the governor gives me three."

The whole room was convulsed, and the military secretary, now a colonel, profited by the hint and mended his manners, but he never forgave the A. D. C.—London Tit-Bits.

### Managing a Servant.

One housewife declares that at last she has solved the servant problem. "Formerly I had untold trouble with my maids," she said. "They'd do well for awhile, and then they'd deteriorate so that I simply couldn't keep them. So I hit on this plan: When I noticed a falling off in the last maid's work I went into the kitchen and told her that, in addition to her fixed wages, she should have 50 cents extra every week that she did well. When she was only fairly good I'd give her a quarter, but on the weeks when she displeased me she'd get nothing. Nine weeks out of ten she gets her half dollar. It pleases her immensely, and I find the plan well worth while in the better service it secures me."—New York Tribune.

### The Wall Street Game.

The burning question on Wall street is always whether stocks will go up or down. If any man were able to answer it correctly he could make himself a millionaire in a day, but speculation is neither a fortune telling nor a gambling game, and the man who believes otherwise is bound to lose his money and to join the ranks of the disconsolate, disgusted and dejected who make the outcry against the evils of Wall street, says Leslie's Weekly.

The winner in Wall street is gifted with the same business characteristics that bring success in any line of enterprise. He utilizes them in buying and selling stocks, just as he would if he were engaged in merchandising. He knows, for instance, that prosperous conditions are reflected by what are called the bank exchanges, by railway earnings, the record of failures, the condition of the iron market, the balance of trade and especially the outlook for the crops.

### Rarely Disturbed.

Two spiders who dwelt in different parts of a church chanced to meet together in the aisle one day when out for a constitutional.

"How are you getting on?" said spider No. 1 to spider No. 2.

"Oh, moderately," was the reply. "I don't feel very comfortable on Sundays. I live in the pulpit under the cushion, and on that day the parson comes and bangs the book and sends his fists on the side, and I have to keep very close or else some day I think he'll hit me. He bangs with such a force that I know he'll squash me to a jelly."

"Oh, you come and live with me!" said his companion. "I'm never troubled. I'm always comfortable and never disturbed from one year's end to the other."

"Indeed!" said the other spider. "And where do you live?"

"Oh, I live in the parson's study," was the reply.—Pearson's Weekly.

### The Poet's Woo.

"I have always been a reader of your poetry," began Mrs. Gushie. "I am glad," replied Algernon Charles Mystic, "that some one understands me."

"Oh, but that is what I have been hoping to meet you for. I wanted you to explain."—Philadelphia North American.

### Modest Greatness.

Reporter—Senator, to what do you chiefly attribute your successful career? Eminent Statesman—Entirely to heredity, young man. I deserve no credit for it whatever. My father had ambition, and my mother had talent, and I happened to inherit both those qualifications.—Chicago Tribune

## The College Chap

Here is a suit made especially for you young men. Never was a garment so well suited for you—every line has the dashing, swinging style that

## MODERN CLOTHES

should be—and its materials are just as stylish as its cut—every whit as full of snap and go. See for yourself—and a word more—look at the prices—

\$15 to \$25

Come and look over our stock for

## Useful Christmas Gifts

such as

Suit Cases, Ties, Handkerchiefs, Neckwear, Hats and All Kinds of Gents' Furnishing Goods

# GREISEN BROS

# Ladies' Cloaks, Skirts and Jackets

Our New Fall and Winter Line of Ladies' Suits, Cloaks, Skirts, Children's Cloaks

and Coats is now complete. We can save you money in this department. Call and be convinced. We are always glad to show our goods.

We are showing a complete new line of

## Ladies, Gents' and Children's Sweaters

The Celebrated SCHMIDT KNIT Sweaters for golf, autoing and outing wear. They are all the vogue.

SPECIAL THIS WEEK—Gents' "Four In Hand" Ties, 20 cents each, 3 for 50 cents. In all the late colors.

We also carry a Complete Line of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Ladies' and Gents' Furnishing Goods, Comferts, Blankets, Carpets and Shoes

# J. H. GALLEY

505 ELEVENTH ST.

COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA