

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

O, list the joyful sounding bells!
What is the tale their music tells?
'Tis but the oft-repeated strain
First heard on Judah's starlit plain.

"CHRISTMAS GREENS."

Various reasons have been assigned for the custom of welcoming the anniversary of our Saviour's birth with wreaths and branches.

In England every house from the palace to the cottage, is decked with bay, laurel, holly, ivy and mistletoe in all the freshness of perennial verdure.

In former ages all the above named plants were held in superstitious reverence and were believed to be especially repugnant to evil spirits.

With us, of late years, the custom of "Christmas greens," as they are quaintly termed by old writers, is becoming more common.

In Maine, the most northeasterly State of our Union, where the winters are long and cold and unpropitious to the growth of herbaceous evergreens.

The mistletoe, a plant of the natural order of Loranthaceae, was an object of the most superstitious reverence to our Celtic and Saxon ancestors.

In the Middle States, although the myrica are used yet, the glory of their woods, the American laurel (Kalmia latifolia) forms a magnificent rich wreath.

This shrub belongs to the natural order of Ericaceae and was dedicated by the great Linnaeus to his pupil, Peter Kalm.

Although the mountain laurel is found scattered through the New England States, growing plentiful in some localities, yet it never attains the size and beauty it does on the Allegheny range in Pennsylvania.

ing dense thickets twenty feet high, growing under the shade of the forest trees, seemingly unaffected and preferring the darkness of such places from whence its terminal corymbs of bright, rose-colored or white blossoms "make sunshine in a shady place."

This plant is difficult of cultivation and has not been introduced into our gardens as generally as it deserves; it is, however, extensively cultivated in the pleasure grounds of the English.

The American laurel is not only indigenous, but peculiar to our country, and it has been suggested that we adopt it as our national floral emblem.

While the national debt of the United States has for years been steadily decreasing, the debt of the Dominion has even now rapidly increased.

The gentlemen of leisure in Paris are gaining ground, it is said, in their campaign in favor of color in garments.

The pharederon flavescens of the Middle States is, however, a different species from the English pharederon album.

It grows very plentifully in Delaware and Maryland, and is found more sparingly in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

In Great Britain the mistletoe is most commonly found on the apple tree; when growing on the oak it was considered the peculiar gift of the gods.

oak; hymns were then sung in honor of the Divinity and prayers were offered for a blessing on their solemnities; at the New Year the plant thus gathered was distributed among the people as a sacred relic and was a panacea against every disease and a remedy for poisons.

Critics have fancied that Shakespeare alluded to its poisonous qualities when he calls it "baleful mistletoe," yet I think so true a student of nature had observed that trees on which the mistletoe abounded were not flourishing.

In all parts of the United States Christmas is now celebrated. No longer do certain denominations forbid its observance, thinking it savors of popery; no longer are the people fined for resting from their labors on this holy day.

Debt-Ridden Canada. The Dominion government has just cause for becoming alarmed at the comparatively small number of actual settlers who are entering the country.

While the national debt of the United States has for years been steadily decreasing, the debt of the Dominion has even now rapidly increased.

Parisian Gentlemen of Leisure. The gentlemen of leisure in Paris are gaining ground, it is said, in their campaign in favor of color in garments.

The pharederon flavescens of the Middle States is, however, a different species from the English pharederon album.

Chinese cheap labor, or labor that amounts to the same thing, is causing much trouble in Queensland, Australia. The sugar planters have found it necessary in order to compete with foreign growers to import Polynesians.

A Mean Old General Routed. Old "General Debility" has been put to flight in Arkansas, with happy results. From Brinkley, from Webb City, and from Walnut Ridge, Messrs. P. R. Anderson, E. M. Taylor and F. S. Pinchbeck respectively, write that they were all afflicted with general debility.

How Mrs. John Fellows met Her Husband--His "Pard." Chicago Herald. Among the arrivals at the Northwestern depot yesterday were a strange looking couple, the man wearing a buffalo-skin coat, and the woman a long sack made of the same material.

All "Played Out." "Don't know what ails me lately. Can't eat well, can't sleep well. Can't work, and don't enjoy doing anything. Ain't really sick, and I really ain't well."

Four Lucky Men. Four of the employees at A. Goebel & Co.'s brewery have had a stroke of luck, owing between them one-tenth of a ticket which is said to have drawn the \$50,000 prize in the Louisiana State Lottery.

Well, that broke me up worse than a dynamite explosion. I was ashamed, and I said: "Take her away, doc, she is yours; but besays: 'No sir, she is sick and you must take care of her.'"

Found No Poison. Dr. Samuel K. Cox, D. D., Practical Analytical Chemist, Washington, D. C., who made thorough and careful analyses, reports that there is neither morphine, opium, emetics nor poisons in the Red Star Cough Cure.

There is but one best color for butter, and that is the best butter color in the world; it is free from sediment or impurity, always ready to use, and it imparts to butter that rich dandelion yellow, without a trace of red, which is the acme of desirability in any butter color.

THE VOLTAIC BELT Co., of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated ELECTRO VOLTAIC BELT and other ELECTRIC APPLIANCES on trial for thirty days.

Steel JOSEPH GILLOTT'S Pens Sold by ALL DEALERS throughout the World. Gold Medal Paris Exposition, 1878.

Don't disgust everybody by hawking, blowing and spitting, but use Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy and be cured. The election of Charles S. Voorhees, a son of Senator Voorhees, as a delegate to Congress from Washington Territory will, it is believed, be the second instance only in the history of the country, when a father and son sat at the same time in Congress.

"I Feel So Well." "I want to thank you for telling me of Dr. Pierce's 'Favorite Prescription,'" writes a lady to her friend. "For a long time I was unfit to attend to the work of my household. I kept about, but I felt thoroughly miserable. I had terrible backaches, and bearing-down sensations across me and was quite weak and discouraged."

When the emancipation of slaves in the British colonies took place in 1834 their number was 780,993, and in payment for them Great Britain distributed \$100,000,000 among their owners.

Poets are inspired. When they shake hands with an icicle they feel like writing a farewell to summer. Kate Field is still giving the Mormons particular fits. Hades hath no fury like a supercilious woman who has got lost.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

When you visit New York City, via Central depot, save baggage Expressage and \$3 Carriage Hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite said depot.

Rheumatism. It is an established fact that Hood's Sarsaparilla has proven an invaluable remedy in many severe cases of rheumatism, effecting remarkable cures by its powerful action in correcting the acidity of the blood, which is the cause of the disease, and purifying and enriching the vital fluid.

BROWN'S IRON BITTERS. PHYSICIANS AND DRUGGISTS RECOMMEND IT. THE BEST TONIC. This medicine, combining Iron with pure vegetable tonics, quickly and completely cures Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Weakness, Impure Blood, Biliousness, Chills and Fevers, and Neuralgia.

PRICKLY ASH BITTERS. CURES ALL DISEASES OF THE LIVER, KIDNEYS, STOMACH AND BOWELS. It is an invaluable remedy for Diseases of the Kidneys and Liver, and is especially adapted to Women, and all who lead sedentary lives. It does not injure the teeth, cause headache, or produce constipation--other medicines do.