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L. WESSEL, JR., Editor and Sole Proprietor.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

Herewith the Countries presents its second annual Christmas number. Especial pains have been taken to make this, both in con tents and general make up, the best special number of any paper ever issued in the city. Whether we have succeded or not, the Counten is willing to leave to the judgment of its readers. We have always prided ourselves on having the handsomest paper in Lincoln, and in addition to the typographical beau'y hereof, we print a literary symposium of more than ordinary morit.

Such well known gentlemen in the field of literature as Messrs. J. D. Calhoun, Al. Fairbrother, Patrick Egan, Robert McReynolds, Walt Mason, Rev. W. G. Hawkins, M. M DeLevis, E. M. Correll, A. B. Hayes and others, contribute articles that need no commen lation from us. We regret that Mr H. M. Bushnell's recent absence from the city, has precluded him from being amongst our list of contributors again this year. The editorials in this, as well as in previous numbers, are from the pen of Mr. H. T. Dobbins, formerly a member of the Counten firm. Other gentlemen and ladies from abroad, of established reputation in the literary world, a:11 the lustre of their names and productions to the completeness of the CHRISTMAS COURIER.

This issue is distinct from our regular weekly edition, and is intended, not only as a a souvenir of the joyous yule tide, but as a number marking a distinctive era in the pa par's history . A little more than three years ago the first number of the Counten, a small four column, four page paper, was issued. its projector, who is also the present publisher, having no intention of making it a permanent venture. The flattering success he met with induced him to continue its publication, and its history from that time is well known. The greatest strides toward perfection have departments have been added that has made it more popular, a mammoth cylinder press, entirely new, capable of printing four pages at one impression (by the way the finest cylinder press in the city) and a steam engine have just been housed, and last, but not least, a wonderful increase in its patronrge.

The Courier is deeply grateful for the many favors tha have been shown it during the year about to close, from every side. Its list of advertisers shows more representative houses than any other paper published in the city, a fact of which we are proud, as it shows the esteem in which it is held by the business public, the bulwarks of prosperity.

We cannot close these few words, however, before expressing to our talented contributors, and others who have aided us in this issue, our sincere thanks.

And having exceeded in these remarks, a greater space than we had intended to occupy, and for fear of tiring our readers, we close, wishing you one and all a merry Christmas, and incidentally, a happy New Year.

THERE are iconocclasts in every walk of as in the newspaper life. A leading journal the other day contained a half column article protesting against "the wasteful and ridiculous excesss" to which the sending of Christm is present has been carried. It is hardly necessary for the COURIER to contradict the statement. It is a custom that cannot be carried to either a wasteful or ridiculous ex tent. The interchange of gifts during the boliday season is a most beautiful and appropriate custom. It is a custom that cements the bonds of love and friendship, that and horses offered by Messrs. Huribut & Co. gives one an opportunity to do good without will be given the person holding the lucky the ostsutation of alms giving, that brings ticket. Each purchaser of \$10 worth of the members of the human race more akin to clothing geto a chance at this elegant rig. one another. True, there is some selfi-hness displayed in the exchange of gifts, many give with the expectation of receiving benifits, some two fold, some four fold and some ten fold; but that is not to be accepted as a connation of the custom. Remember the gracious Master has said that is more biessed to give than to receive. Try it and be conwincel that in this, as ir all teachings from that fountain-head, truth is mighty and will

THOUSANDS of Lincoln households will receive pleasant visits next Monday night fron that fabled annual visitor, old Santa Claus. Hundreds, alas, will not be visited by him, unless the good samaritans of the city enable, by their bounteous charity, our f land, Elder Howe, to successfully enact that role. The elder is willing, and it becomes our generous people to fill his hands with that which will cheer many a house. The line of groceries for holiday feasts c mhold in this large city of ours.

AMELIE RIVES, the author of that start ng piece of morbid passion, "The Quick or the Dead," is described as a pocket Venus, diminutive in stature and sylph-like in form, with bright, straw-colored hair, which she ties in a Psyche knot; soft, velvet eyes under sweeping, eval black lasher and a veritable cupid's bow of a mouth. Amelie would evidently make a nice Christmas present for some one, if she were not already given away

THE New York World, the greatest news paper success of the century, has for several weeks been printing letters from little folks, Kep' hintin' of his father like, and pity wouldn't detailing as to which of the many things in stock they most wish Santa Claus to send them. Many of the epistles are uniquely written, couched as they are in childish sylables, and show how strongly grounded is the belief in that jolly old gentleman's existence, among the younger generation.

THE COURIER is glad to note less of an inlination this year on the part of the people generally to spell Christmas by using the capital X. This is as much to be jauded as the determination on the part of writers of holiday stories to exclude therefrom, bright boys, who suddenly acquire a good dinner or some unlooked for blessing in the manner usual to such narratives,

CONSULT the advertising columns of the COURIER before starting out to purchase Christmas gifts. You will find it of invaluable assistance in making the best selections. In our columns appear only the largest and To Fountaintown with Lidjey's folks; and bought most popular firms, who have placed their announcements in this special number for your benefit. You certainly can therefore, take time to peruse them before purchasing.

THE big prize fighters have recovered their wind and are going for one another in gallant style-on paper. The exchange of fistic gifts in the usual manner between three or four pair She'd take and turn in then and buy more candy of these wind jabbers might tend to make the holiday season even more joyously exciting than it otherwise would be

THE COURIER is now ready to receive Christmas gifts of any and all kinds. It draws the line only at a copy of "Robert Els- By tellin bim be shore and come to merry - Chrismere" and a constable's requisition.

WHAT is your opinion, candidly speaking, of the 1888 CHRISTMAS COURIER! Is it not the finest paper published in the city!

WAIT for Christmas.

A Growing Industry.

Little did the citizens of Lincoln think some wo years ago, when the board of trade proposed to extend every effort to induce the woolen mills to choose this spot for the location of their extensive plant, that the mills today would be running full time with a force of sixty hands that are certainly adepts in their line of business. The intention of the Clay Manufacturing Co., at the start was to give employment to Lincoln's working people, and this they have done whenever practical. Of cours; help was required with a thorough experience of the business, and the managers desiring to obtain bands that would be of benefit to the city as well as hemselves, secured the services of whole families who moved at once to the city and made it their home. The capacity of the mills is forty dozen pieces a day, and every piece turned out finds a market in the surrounding country. The goods are obtaining an introduction to the Lincoln public through the Robinson Mercantile Co., at the corner of P and Twelfth streets. Here is presented to their view the products of the mills. They been made in the past year. Several new are for sale here to the retail trade for a short time only, when the business will be conlucted in a strictly wholesale way. It should be remembered that when the mills were completed and in working order, merchants throughout the country had purchased their winter's line, and therefore to obtain a foothold with the trade at this late day surely speaks volumes for the goods. Every piece urned out they guarantee to be strictly all wool and positively will not shrink. This is certainly a desirable feature in a woolen garment and one to be greatly appreciated. The mills are now at work on a line of samples for the summer trade, as it is necessary for this class of goods to be ready for the market about six months before they reach the consumer. The sample rooms of the Robinson Mercan'ile Co., are to be kept open for a short time yet, and they cordially invite our citizens as well as the merchants who visit Lincoln, when replenishing their stock, to call and see them.

The institution is certainly a creait to both the manufacturer and our rapidly increasing manufacturing city.

For the Palate.

As usual, at this season of the year the establishment of W. D. Gulick, 907 P street, is filled daily with customers who have already enced to leave orders for Christmas Mr. Gulick's long experience in the bakery and fine grocery trade has given him an insight to what is required in satisfying the public that few other merchants in the city nave attained. For the holidays Mr Gulick has supplied his stock with the very finest in life, but in none are there probaby as many fanc, groceries, tropical fruits, confectionaries, imported and domestic canned goods, etc. In his bakery department may be found all the delicious pies, bread, jumbles, fancy cakes of all kinds, qualities and designs, a sc any special kind made promptly to order. In short, here is the place where the genial house wife finds a resort where everything toothsome and delicious for a luxurious mea can be had. Orders by telephone, 198, re ceive polite and prompt attention.

Carriage tor New Year's Gift.

On New Year's day the beautiful carriage You yet have a chance at it if you buy at ituribut's. Their clothing is stylish, well made and prices always below competition. Remember the place.

For the holiday season C. H. Rohman, the O street grocer, has laid in a line of tropical fruits, fine confections, canned goods and a fine line of delicacies that for pleasing the appetite at a Christmas dinner cannot be surpassed. Telephone orders via No. 28 receive careful attention an I promot delivery.

The largest and most complete line of New Year's calling cards over seen in this city have been received at this office and we will be pleased to have you call and see them, The styles this season are entirely different from anything yet seen and some of them are really works of art.

Holly, evergreens and other decorations for Christmas time, fresh and fine, in large or small quantities at reasonable prices at C. H. Rohman's, 1030 O street. Telephone orders promptly filled and all goods delivered. prises everything luxurious and substantial

LITTLE JOHNTS' CHRISMUS.

We got it up a purpose, jes' fer Little Johnts, you His mother was so pore and all, and had to man-Jes' bein' a war widder, and her pension mighty She'd take in weavin', or work out, or anything

And little Johnts was puny like-but law! the You'd want to kind o' pity him, but couldn't, very His pants o' army blanket and his coat o' faded

So we collogued together one't, one wintertime Jes' me and mother and the girls, and Wilse, John Would jine and get up little Johnts, by time 'at

Some sort o' doin's, don't you know, 'at would

And so, all on the quiet, mother she turns in and Some blue Janes-cuts and makes a suit; and then

sets down and knits A pair o' little gailuses to go 'long with the rest— And puts in a red flannen-back and buckle on the

The little feller be'n so much around our house And be'n such a be'p to her and all, and handy as

'At mother couldn't do too much fer little Johnta She ust to jes' declare 'at "he was meat and drink

And Pincy, Lide and Madaline, they watched their chance and rid

a book, they did, O' fairy tales, with pictur's in; and got a little pair O' red top boots 'st John-Jack said he'd be'n a

And Lide got him a little sword, and Madaline, a And shootin' crackers-lawzy-day! and they're so

And Piney, ever' time the rest would buy some

fer the boy! Well, thinks-says-I, when they got back, your pocket books is dry!—
But little Johnts was there hisse'f that afternoon,

so !-Well, all of us kep' mighty mum tel we got him



And fetch his mother 'long with him! And how The fields-his tow head, in the dusk, jes' like His comfert fluttern as he run-and old Tige, don't

A-jumpin' high fer rabbits and a-plowin' up the

It must a be'n most ten that night afore we got to With Wilse and John-Jack he'ppin'us; and Freeman in the shed.

And Lide out with the lantern while he trimmed a Chrismus tree Out of a little scruboak top 'at suited to a t!

All night I dreamp' o' hearin' things a skulkin' round the place—
"Old Kriss," with his whiskers off
freekles on his face—

cooper shop. A-stickin' down the chimbly, with their beels out at the top!

By time 'at mother got me up 'twas plum daylight and mor The front yard full o' neighbors, all a-crowdin' round the door, With Johnts' mother leadin'; yes, and little Johnts

Set up on Freeman's shoulder, like a jug up on the

Of course I can't describe it when they all got into We'd conjered up the Christmas tree and all the

fixin's there-Fer all the shouts o' laughture-clappin' hands and crackin' jokes, Was heap o' kissin' goin' on amongst the women

Fer lo-behold-ye! there they had that young And his chin obblin' like; and, shore enough, started in-

And—sich another bellerin', in all my mortal days I never beerd, er 'spect to hear, in woe's app'int

And mother grabs him up and says: "It's more'n It's all too suddent for the child, and too su'prisin'i-There!



su'prised-but I'm cryin' cause I watche all the time! James Whitcomb Riley in Christmas Book

The Wrong Name.

One road leading out of Burlington has four milkmen tiving on it, and The Free Press of that city says there is some talk of changing the name of it to the milky way It is rather remarkable that the road aforesaid has not already been christened a water route. - Norristown Herald.

Hadn't on His Company Manners. "Bobby," cautioned his mother they were guests at dinner), "is it possible you are eat-

ing with your knife!"
"Yes, nus," responded Bobby, with a look of intense chagrin, "but I forgot I was visitio" - Harper's Bazar.

CHRISTMAS DINNE

comic Suggestions Concerning the Observance of This Annual Festival. Now good digestion wait on appetite, And health on both!

No other festival is so universally celebrated throughout Christendom as is Christmas, and no festival carries with it quite such a spirit of joyousness apart from its own inherent reasons for joyousness. Century after century poetry and art have been adding to the associations of the Christ child's day new and beautiful conceptions and associations more than making up for the gradual dropping off of the grosser traditions and delights of the Christmas of our early English an-cestors, when "the mightiest ale was broached and the boar's head grimly

stared" as the "wassail cup" went round. But if there is less "wassail" the annual feast known as the Christmas dinner remains an interesting feature in the programme of the day's celebration. There is less novelty in modern Christ-

mas fare than in any other yearly feast except Thanksgiving. The time hon-ored mince pie ranks first as standard Christmas dessert, although a real English plum pudding may take its place, when both are not provided. It is to the Saxons that we are indebted as the originators of the fruity mince pic. The Saxon kings and nobles always had a pie upon their Christmas tables, sometimes so large as to fill up the width of the board. These were often used as a means of presenting surprises in the way of gifts that were hidden underneath the crust. To such excess was the mince pie carried that Cromwell and his followers looked with horror upon it, and the Scotch and English Presbyterians adopted instead what they called plum porridge, and from this plum porridge was gradually evolved the English plum pudding, which today stands as the great rival of the mince pie.

In place of the boar's head and stout sirloin, we long ago adopted that national bird, the turkey, which in the past few years has given way in some households

to the goose.

For the housekeeper it is an agreeable fact that the preparation for the Christmas dinner can be made so long in advance. The apples for the mince pies, for instance, many early be selected for peeling, and the fatted heifer killed for suct and meat. This relieves the preparations that under any circumstances will

pile up as the day approaches.

A standard receipt for mince pies: Select from the round three pounds of beef —it is best not to have it fat—and boil it in water enough to cover it. Smoked tongue is a valuable ingredient to add with less of the beef. Chop fine and mix with it three pounds of suct, four pounds of applea, four pounds stoned raisins, two pounds of currants, one pound of citron, a quarter of a pound each of lemon and orange peel, the juice of four oranges and four lemons, four pounds of coffee angar, two grated nutmegs, a tea-spoonful each of ground cloves, allspice, cinnamon, mace, pepper and two table-spoonfuls of salt, eider enough to moisten.

The plum pudding may be made ready also in advance and await the glorious day. Here is a receipt which cannot be bettered: Stone a pound of raisins and pour on them a half gill of brandy. Lay on them two ounces of citron, and one each of candied orange and lemon peel cliced, the grated juice and rind of one orange and one lemon, four ounces of blanched almonds, a pound of currants, a pound of suct chopped, a pound of coffee sugar, and the interior of a baker's loaf crumbed, mix well with grated put-meg, a little cayenne and a teaspoonful of salt. Pour over a gill of sherry and set away in a cool place. Just before boiling the pudding add eight eggs and enough sweet cream to moisten it.

This is Miss Corson's receipt, and she says, "Now let all the young ladies of David Rem'ck, Fred Schmidt, Joseph Wittman, E. Finney, J. W. Bowman, C. H. Imi the house descend and in turn vigor ously stir the fruity compound for good luck," Butter the water tight pudding mold, dust with flour, and pack the pudding in, allowing a couple of inches for the pudding to swell. Boil or steam for ten hours, and do not open the mold until the pudding is ready to serve. Just before using boil again for two hours. Just before serving pour over it a glass of brandy or rum, set it on fire and send in blazing. The sauce is made of equal quantities of butter and sugar flavored

with rum or brandy. There is one thing we have not all learned, and that is, that heaven has not granted us stomachs according to our The rich man cannot eat more than the poor man because he is rich. For that reason there is no use of providing a menu so extensive that even a Christmas day appetite cannot compass it. As we love on this day old times and old friend's turkey, cranberries and chicken salad are not to be elbowed out of the way by any new dishes or four and twenty courses. Here is an old fashioned Christmas day dinner.

Oyster Soup. Roast Turkey. Oyster Sauce. Mashed Potatoes and Turnips. Boiled Onions. Clery. Crunberry Sauco. Pickles. Roast Spare Libs. Apple Scuce. Baked Sweet Potatoes. Plum Pudding. Mince Pies. Pumpkin Pies. Assorted Pruits and Nuts. Confectionery Coffee

There are few housewives that need any assistance in preparing any of these sold things, so comment is restrained. If a more elaborate and modern menu is required we may offer a word. For ex-ample, the procession of the feast will be:

Oysters.

Portage a la reine. Fried Smelts, Sauce Tartan. Scolloped Lobster. Roast Turkey, stuffed with Chestnuta Roast Venison, Current Jelly. Mashed Potatoes. Sweet Potatoes. Sweet Corn Celery Cranberries. Relishes. Asparagus, White Sauce. Roman Punch. Roast Chicken or Duck, with Lettuce Salad, French

Plum Pudding Mince Pie. Nemerode Pudding. Fruit. Nuts. Bonbous. Salted Almonds Roquefort Cheese. Black Coffee.

Miss Corson suggests at the Christmas dinner the old game of snap dragon. Some raisins are laid on a large shallow bowl or platter. A tablespoonful of brandy, alcohol, or any spirit is poured over them and lighted; the sport is to catch a raisin from the midst of the flames without burning the fingers. But don't, oh, don't eatch your lace rubles a-fire and end the merry day in pain.

Family Reorganization Advised. John Cahill and his 5-year-old boy hardly speak as they poss by it came to pass a few days ago that the youngster got into some mischief that called for a severe reprimand and slight corporal punishment. Mr. Cahill administered both, but as he was about to leave the room he heard the boy say to his mother: "Mamma, I think it's about time you got me a step ather."

NEW YEAR CALLING CARDS.

As this beautiful custom of calling on New Years' day is to be more generally observed than heretofore, The Wessel Printing Co., has received a line of the finest

CALLING CARDS

ever shown in the City. The line comprises a variety of the finest and most artistic designs, ranging in price from \$1.50 to \$50.00 per hundred.

FOR BUSINESS MEN

we have also a fine line of New Year Souveniers to send by mail. These are handsomely illuminated, have envelopes and are perfect models of art. We shall be pleased to quote prices, or send agent if requested. Telephone 253.

WESSEL PRINTING COMPANY,

COURIER OFFICE-

NEW BURR BLOCK.

The stock now being new and complete it would be well for patrons to call early before the assortment is broken and best designs are taken.

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