

Christmas Shopping

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We have a Large and Complete Stock

Candy

2 lbs Good Mixed Candy 25c

Barley Toys 30c
Xmas Ribbon Candy 20c
5 lb Box Ganongs 1-2 and 1-2 \$1.25
A large assortment of all New Chocolates and Creams
Also 1 lb. and 1-2 lb. Boxes Ganong's Best Chocolates.

NEW

Mixed Nuts

30c lb, 2 lbs for 55c

New Raisins

Australian Raisins 13c
2 lbs 25c
Sun Maid Puffed 16c
in bulk 2 lbs 30c
Spanish Raisins 2 lbs for 32c
Seeded Raisins 15c

Oranges

A large assortment of California Navel Oranges from 30c doz. up

Grapes

Spanish, Green 35c lb
Emperor, Red 30c lb

Shelled Walnuts

Only 45 cents a pound

Flour

Take Advantage Of Lower than Wholesale Prices

5 Crowns, 98 lb, Jute Bag \$4.80
Purity or 5 Roses \$4.90
Snow White \$4.80

2 STORES

York St. and Queen St.

Daily Delivery to Devon and Barkers Point

YERXAS

CHRISTMAS THE MOST GLORIOUS FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR; FIRST INAUGURATED IN YEAR 98

We soon shall be celebrating the most glorious festival of the year. Wherever the Christian religion has been preached, Christmas is the great joy-time.

It was inaugurated as a festival in the year 98, but it was not until about thirty years after that Pope Telesphorus ordered its annual observance by all true Christians on the 25th December, 137, which then fell on the day we now call the 6th of January. From that time it has been constantly celebrated throughout the Church.

Christmas was called Yuletide by our Saxon ancestors, and meant literally the festival of the sun. One of their names for the sun was Yule, hence the great feast, which was always held at the winter solstice, was called the Yule feast. Yule was the greatest festival in the countries of Scandinavia. Bonfires blazed everywhere to scare witches and wizards and offerings were made to the gods. Pork and ale abounded, and the Yuletide passed merrily away with games and mirth of our Saxon forefathers. The houses were decorated with holly, ivy and mistletoe, and the churches were decked with evergreens. Standards covered with greenery were set up in the streets and on the village greens, and there the people danced and made merry. Great fires of wood were kindled in their huge chimneys, and the blazing of the Yule log is supposed to have been intended to signify the light and heat of the sun. In the King's palace and in nearly every great house was a personage called the "Lord of Misrule," whose business it was to see that the fun was kept up with spirit.

In addition to the sports and feasting of Christmastide, there were many singular customs associated with this season. Crowds of people used to assemble on Christmas Day in the burial ground at Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, to see the thorn bud in bloom, which was said to have sprung from a staff planted by Joseph of Arimathea to whom tradition attributes the introduction of the Gospel in Britain. It was long a popular belief that this famous thorn would produce flowers in full bloom every Christmas Day, and when the spectators were disappointed in seeing the miracle they ascribed the failure to the alteration of the style, and watched again on old Christmas Day. There was, however, no miracle in the case, as the thorn was one of that species which frequently blooms in mild winters.

In the Highlands of Scotland curious out-of-door games were played and peculiar sorts of cakes and thick broth were eaten. In some places a carp was the chief dish at supper. In the Isle of Man people sat up all night, and the next morning they hunted and killed a wren, and, carrying the little bird to church, buried it with mock solemnities. This custom still prevails in some parts of Ireland, only instead of carrying the dead wren to church, they carry it around, tied on a stick, to the principal houses, singing at each:

"The wren, the wren, the king of all birds."

St. Stephen's Day was caught in the furze; Although she is small, her family is great, Rise up, landlady, and give us a treat."

The Dutch made their Christmas keeping a somewhat prolonged festival, often taking more than a week to celebrate it, indulging the whole time in all the good things they could procure. The old Dutch recipe books contained rules for many compounds requiring delicate manipulation on the part of the cooks. Indeed, one can but conceive the greatest respect for the powers of the woman whose waffles were always light and crispy, notwithstanding that baking powders and egg-beaters were things unknown. Santa Claus in Holland is "Kris Kringle."

To the French Huguenots Christmas was a day of rejoicing, family festivity and neighborly greeting. They drank very little strong liquor, and their mild, pure wines served but a digestion. Rarely was drunkenness known among them. The giving of presents was a more prominent feature of Christmas time with them than with others. Their gifts, unlike those of the English and Dutch, which were nearly always something to eat and drink, were of permanent value. They were poor in this world's goods, most of them having had to flee from their country and leave their possessions behind them, owing to the cruel intolerance of Louis XIV., so that their

gifts were seldom costly, but some have survived even to this day in the possession of their descendants—cobweb laces made by delicate fingers, painted fans and screens, and embroidered footstools and cushions.

Christmas is celebrated with great pomp and ceremony throughout Italy especially in Rome and Naples. In these cities all through the night of the twenty-third the screaming of fish vendors resounds in the streets, for eels are the favorite fish on that day. The people, full of animation, move hither and thither, and in their bright colors present a lively and joyous scene. Among the religious ceremonies which take place at this time the midnight Mass, at the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore is the chief attraction. Every Neapolitan would think he failed in his duty if on Christmas Eve he did not dine with his family. The poorest people sell all they have to celebrate the Santa Natale with a good supper. The balconies display every kind of illumination, fire works, etc., and lively talk and boisterous laughter indicate the happiness and good temper of all. The amount of sweets and cakes consumed is enormous. Families have been known to order as much as half a ton, out of which they send presents to their friends, the chief sweet is a species of almond toffee, and the cake most in favor is what is called the "panegallo," which somewhat resembles plum pudding. But the most curious custom of all is that which once prevailed in one part of Italy. The women dragged all the old bachelors they could find into the village church, chasing them around the church and beating them well with their hands. This was done that they might feel ashamed, and take to themselves wives before Christmas came around again.

In Denmark there are strange ceremonies which have come down from pre-Christian times. In those days Odin and Thor and other deities were worshipped. At Christmas a sheaf of corn was tied to the gables of the houses as a feed to Odin's horse, Sleipner. It was the last sheaf cut in the field, and at the present day, every Yuletide, the sheaf is still hung out, but now it is for the horse of Santa Claus.

Now Christmas is begun,
Let us beat up the drum,
And call all our neighbors together;
And when they appear,
Let us make them such cheer
As will keep out the wind and the weather.

A Merry Christmas to all!

EXTRA TRAIN SERVICE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

For the accommodation of people along the lines of the Canadian National Railways these extra train services are announced in connection with the Christmas Holidays. On the Hampton-St. Martins Branch regular service will be operated on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, same as on other week days; also on the branch line between Havelock and Elgin.

On the Valley Railway, Train No 241 will leave for Fredericton on Tuesday, Dec. 22nd, and Thursday Dec. 24, at 7.30 A. M., arriving in Fredericton at 1.20 P. M. An extra train will leave Fredericton on these days for Saint John at 8.00 P. M., arriving in Saint John at 11.50 P. M.

Train No. 242, will leave Fredericton for Saint John on Dec. 21st and 23rd at 6.45 A. M., arriving in Saint John at 11.45 A. M. An extra train on the same days will leave Saint John at 6.30 P. M., for Fredericton arriving at 10.20 P. M.

An extra passenger train will be for Fredericton at 8.00 A. M. on Dec. 16th, 18th, 21st and 23rd, arriving in Fredericton at 11.50 A. M., and an extra will leave Fredericton on these days for Centreville at 5.30 P. M., arriving in Centreville at 9.25 P. M. This is in addition to regular service shown in current time tables.

An extra passenger train will be operated on Thursday Dec. 24th, between Fredericton and Newcastle, leaving Fredericton at 6.00 A. M., arriving in Newcastle at 11.15 A. M., leaving Newcastle at 5.30 P. M., and arriving in Fredericton at 10.30 P. M.

BAPTIST CHURCH IN ALBERT CO. WAS BURNED

Hopewell Hill, Dec. 20.—The United Baptist church of this place, one of the largest church edifices in the county, and the residence of Clifford C. West nearby, were totally destroyed by fire this evening and the United church, Methodist, close by, was threatened but at 11.30 p. m. it appeared to be safe.

The strenuous efforts made by the fire fighters and a slight veering of the wind made it seem likely that this church and the residences adjacent were safe. Great vigilance will be required throughout the night but there are many taking charge.

The first started in the Baptist church this evening but how it started is not known as there had been no heating in the building since the afternoon service.

When the fire was first noticed the blaze appeared to be in the tower. The church was a large and well finished structure which had only recently been renovated and could not be replaced today at less than \$10,000. There was \$2,000 insurance on the building.

Mr. West had \$1,000 insurance on his house and his loss will be considerable. His furniture was partly saved.

HIS BIRTHDAY.

There were many folk in Bethlehem That Christmas long ago,
And they jostled in the narrow streets

Friend, countryman and foe,
And lights were twinkling in the inn
And fires glowed in the hall,
And for the humble burden-beast
Warm shelter in the stall.

But when that night to Bethlehem A little stranger came
The inn was filled and crowded With folks of busy aim,
And so with umbler creatures,
And cradled in the hay,
The greatest Gift of God to man
The little Christ-child lay.

And while in crowded Bethlehem Slept weary man and beast,
Across the Heaven's deep blue dome A Star shone from the East
To guide the watching shepherd folk
And three men, wise and old
To where the little Baby King
Smile on their gifts of gold.

They never knew in Bethlehem Town,
Alas, they never knew!
The little Christ-child's birthday hymn;

They heard not, save a few
Of hillside men, who kept their watch,
Who kept their watch by night;
They listened to the carols grand,
And saw the glory bright.

I would not with the Bethlehem folk
Unknowingly lie asleep,
But with the cattle in the stall
My heart would Christmas keep;
My eager eyes would wake and watch

And turn from inns alight
To where the humble shepherd folk
Creep through the streets at night.

To carry to the Baby King,
With the wise men of old,
My loving adoration.
My little gifts of gold;
My voice would join the carols sung
By angels from above
Of the Baby in the manger-bed,
God's own best gift of love.
NARCISSUS.

"Quarantined Pastor Radios His Sermon," says the headline. You can't keep a good man dumb.

Wishing You All A Merry Xmas

Ada M. Schleyer

Headquarters For Flowers
SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

Flowers are suitable on all occasions. What could be nicer than a nice box of flowers?

Roses, Carnations, Violets, Valleys, Narcissus, etc.

Or in a nice Potted Plant—Ferns, Palms, Poinsettias, Azaleas, Begonias, Cyclamen, Christmas Cherries, Primroses, etc.

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