The Acton Free Press



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Thank West Passettes Ages, but that bury is still on the folly headting percentately like well-yadd position. So has alless but mattery by has been presently in the season of their address in the feet years of their address in alless without address in alless without address in alless without address in alless without address in alless to place the present and positioned for the words. He of the complete the principal of the words without and position in the words. There is your equity in inplicing. "Ein happy experience is they of unday whose we have advanted for HUDGESS, harge, bosonable and permisapant.

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CHRUTEAU HYMN Hong, Christman bellir! Say to varth this is the morn Whereon our Haviour king is born :

That saveth them and saveth me! Strops, Soap, Hones, Tools of every kind. Sporting Goods. Sing of the war that God has placed Abuve the manger in the rast; fling of the glories of the night, The Virgin's sweet humility. Silverware of every description, Tinware, Enamelled Ware, Nickel The Babe with kingly robre bedight

Sing to all men, where'er they be, This Christmas morn; Ware, Brass Goods, Woodenware, Carpet Sweepers, Cutlery, Lamps, For Christ le born, That saveth them and saveth use. Sing, some of earth ! () ransound seed of Adam, sing God liveth and we have a Klug. The curse is gone, the bond are fre By Bothlehein's star that brightly

Tool Boxes, Toy Shovels, Carpet By all the heavenly signs that be, We know that I real is redeemed ; . That on this morn That saveth you and saveth me. Sing, O my beart.

Ning thou in rapture this dear morn Whereou the blessed Prince is born: And as thy songe shall be of love. So let thy deeds he charity, By the dear Lord that reigns above By him that died upon the tree,

By this fair morn Whereon labora The ()hrist that saveth you and me.

Select Family Reading

Christmas at Widow Wylic's By Blab Babartson

SHAUAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAH HR WIND that burried across swept series the frozen surface of the provingly at the whirling snow.

tiny creek, and crept through the gape the cracks in the pine floor of Mrs. deep enough for Sandy Claws' sleigh. Wylle's small unpainted house. With shudders of dismay, the little family drew closer around the small stove. and slapped their numb fingers against | the snow will be falling so fast that each other for warmth. neven small Wylles called bome.

There seemed to be a division of poinstocking anyhow."

"It won't do no good," rejoined Letplump forgot us."

"Maybe he has," replied Rob, "but I'm goin' to sorter jog bis mem'ry." "No use," insisted Letty firmly. "He's plumb forgot us, ham't he

"It looks that way," answered patient, hard-working Mrs. Wylie. with a slate as she looked up from the stocking she was patching, "We live so far off the road, Rubble dear, and the wind blows the snow so Santa Claus can't see the house. It's very lad. small, you know."

"Well, you just see If I don't make him remember this time," boasted Rob, his eyes daucing with juy over some secret thought. "Yes, I'll ser," complained Letty. 'Wa'd he lucky if we get two bites

apiece for to morrow's Obristmas dis-"You just wait an' see," was Rob's sole rejoinder. "Sandy Claws will

"Jdain its ered bours" euco Yet in spite of his brave words. Hab | There were questions, and suspers. was by up, means as sanguing as he land then the man fished several borseprotended. Letty's complaint that shoe nails out of his pockets and Hanta Claus had wholly forgotten I soon had the sign nailed fast to the them had a depressing effect on his jack-oak tree. Then he wiped the antrite. But he propreded, neverther snow from the face of the sign, and less, to put into execution his plan for road with home difficulty the coornirio joinging the mind of the patron mint characters: \". of the coming Christmas lide.

Aberebed in her work and her own anxious thoughts, Mrs. Wylle paid little heed to his proceedings. But Later, though piqued at the lack of sympathy with her glanny progentilaird upon the personal appearance or of the mules inquired. Benta Claric, asking all manner of

Sing to all men, the bond, the free, The rich, the poor, the high, the low, The title child that sports in glac, d the little chap, hoarsely. Bert, still called "the baby" though The sged folk that tottering gohe was nearly four years old, and Proclaim the more thought himself quite a man, was the That Christ le born :

victim of a cold that made his. volce a combination of creak and wheere. His custing ort liab to thinking. Perhaps it was more proper to address Benta Claus as "Mister" he reflected The favor he desired would be a large one, and therefore, called for all the

courtery at his compand. But a difficulty arose. His sprawling letters occupied nearly all the thought of putting it on the back of whittled away the "Sandy," with and read the sign again, which he had begun the legend, subatituting for it "Mr. S." written in a

When finished, the name of the Obristmas saint was masquerading under the partial disguise of "Mistur

S. Claws.

" While Rob viewed his bandy work with supreme estisfaction, the baby and twins were load in its praise and even critical Letty was forced to admit that If Saint Nicholas' memory was not journed by that sign it was hopeleady beyond the reach of all jogging. Mrv. Wylle remarked in effect that it wana scholarly and artistic hit of work. Bundling himself up as well as he could with his scanty wraps, Rob passed out into the cold, with the relie of his dead father. A few flakes fire. Uncle Ell told Aunt Sallie the volce. were whirling downward, and soon the air was white with falling anow, the cable. The wind increased in volume and

sent the flakes hurrying past Rob's and side-ment I' Aunt Sally cried. face as he trudged bravely on. The keen wind pierced his were garments, but his young blood seemed to the mow-covered prairie had dely the chilling blast, and, absorbed coat. Then se that gentleman, withan ley keepness that portended with his hopeful thoughts, be almost a cold Christman on the morrow. It forgot the cold. He even looked ap-

"I'm mighty glad it came," he mutin the underpinning and up through | tored. "Was afraid it wouldn't be But it'll be all right now." "You don't reckon," he went on ad dressing an imaginary auditor, "that he can't wee the sign? No, he'll see !

Quite an parment discussion was gur | fast enough, I reckon," he concluded ing on in the little, shake building the cheerly. "His eyes are used to seein in spowstorms." At the lone jack oak tree, where the ion among the innestes, and the argu- little worn track led away from the ments waxed more and more parase. I section roads to the Wylie shack, Italy "Well," fluxly announced Rob, with | paused. From a pocket of the long

emphasis, "I'm going to hang up my | oost he drew a hammer and a spike nail. It was cold work nailing the sign to the tree. His hands, numbed tie, the oldest of the youthful Wylles, by the loy wind, found difficulty in and Hob's senior by two years, "you holding the board and the nall and HERENBURE BERNESSEE WON't get nothlo.' Sandy Claws has accurately delivering the hammer blows at the same time. A fingle of bells sounded up the section road, and the occupant of a pair

of bob-sleighs that a pair of wiry, "lineback" mules were hurrying slong the road from the direction of the settle ment, wondered at the presence of the little figure at the jack-oak, The mules were halted near the tree und without a word, the man who drove then dropped the reins and stepping

from the weigh stopped close to the The face of the old hammer glanced from the nell just then, and went it fiving, while the hamilier itself gave the thumb and forefinger of Rob's left | what yer want, I reckon." hand such a whack that be dropped in the snow with a pry of pain.

"Hello! What's the matter yere?" orled the gruff but kindly voice of the owner of the mules. Rob sprang to his feet and faced about, his eyes brave for all the tears that hung on the long brown lashes.

"Mister S. claws, come to wider

-Walle Blace," -----His wiskered mouth did not so much so twist, but when he spoke there was a queer chuckle in his wine that I cations, watched him curiously, and made. Rob look suspiciously at him.

a beap of toys an' candy, an' such "Is he Mister Sandy Claws?" where things an are goln' ter hang up their stockings. Letty 'lowed it wouldn't do no good, but I know better. He'll

> know what the sign means, won't be. Uncle Eli Brunner looked into the were silently tied to the barbwire fence little lad's questioning face and ans. and a muffled figure made its way worod heartity

"Hure be will." Then Bob was bundled into the sled and the line-back mules sent it aploning toward widow Wylie's callin. Before it was reached Uncle Ell had learned the state of sifairs at the poor little home, and how much of to-morrow's comfort depended on the coming window, and then the muffled figure the title. Rob quickly dismissed the of St. Nicholas. Then, as the mules started on their homeward way, the the board. It was not probable that driver let them go at their own 'gait Santa Claus would think to look there. so busy were his thoughts. Abreast was a large turkey, browned to the

highly eccentric manner with the hot | as the mules sped on their way again.

balf shoot that sent the mules leaping forward in a way that threatened the away. safety of the bobsled. When he had succeeded in reducing their speed he resumed the monologue !

her own, but sometimes she generally thinks as I do." he chuckled to himself. "When she don't think as I I sorter think'se she does, so-" large red gate at the home place interrupted his coglistion. Twenty

story of little Rob's sign and affairs at "Nothing for Christmas but hominy

'Why, goodness-" She interrupted herself to hand Uncle at als lately discarded overstruggle into it, she went on :

jest too hed! Well since the snow blockade way off there on the rallroad kept Hiram's folks from coming o-day, maybe they won't git here tomorrow, sither. If they do, baked chicken is good enough for 'em." "Yes, it is," sgreed Uncle Elf. "An"

"Hominy and side-most! Why it's

he turkeyand three or four ples-" .

"But what'll Hiram an'-" | Kli's head in a great sourf. "If they | Purthables, Scotland. . . come, an' there hain't enough for all

in the floor, poor things! Sandy Jennie Cameron, Lexie Camble, Alice Claws won't fergit 'en this time." Eli. "But what air you a-bundlin' me Lucinda Alexander, James McDonald. W. H. Denny. Mesers, Donny and up his way for? Been tryin' to ask you, but yer tongue run on so's I McTavish; P. M. W .- Isanc Brancis; sult is a fitting compliment to the men couldn't get a word in edgewaye."

"Hush right up. Ell. Brunner!" adthe two mules can take you to town Cameron ! I. W .- W. E. Snith ! O. au' back in that time ?"

door. "Candy an' knick-knacke is Nell McGill, Jr. t P. C. R. - G. H. "An' nuts an' oranges, an' toys, an' M. Sutton ; R. R.-M. Cobban ; F. S. sumple' for the widder..." But Uncle Eli had slaumed the door | Riger S. W. - Duncan McDonald;

and very soon hereafter the old lady J. W. Gbo. Adams; S. B.-R. J. Ed. saw the mules splaning out of the miston; J. B .-- Alfred Bauer: Physiyard at a rate that threatened to over lolans-Dra. J. F. Uren and S. A. Me turn the bobsled. The mules almost flying through the Mr. and Mrs. David Williamson storm, were pulled use abruptly before Nassagaweys, celebrated their silver

gave vent to a roar of laughter. shake, as if greeting himself,

The mules were excelully stabled, and of the remarks offered. the numerous bundles removed from

sign on a small plue board. When was a faint suggestion of a gulp in his Widow Wylie down to Baby Bert. Hear the kiddles shout, making with the last noker a rude lue. He fergot us last year." There Aunt Hallie opened the backages, tire satisfaction, a question from the where we live, 'cause the twins an' There, too, was a jumping-lack, behy cau id an alteration in the Alfie and Nellie and luby Bert thinks bideous of feature and wonderful of

> "That," proudly spoke Uncle Etl, "i for the baby." The inmates of Widow Wylie's cable were wrapped in sleep when pair of indefatigable line-back mules

> over the know to the lean to kitchen The window was soltly raised, and the muffled figure looked in. A row of seven small stockings hung within reach, and these were filled to replation. The larger bundles were placed on the floor. Two more trips were made from the bobiled to th

vlowed its work with a satisfied Beside the heap of packages there After much deep reflection the lad of the jack-naks he stopped the tpam | queen's taste, a great howl of stewed cranberries, four mammoth minor " Mistur S. claws come to wider plan, dishes of jelly and preserves Wylies pleas," be repeated half aloud | pickles in a glass jar and other dain ties and substantials of various kinds "I reckon—that Is, he might—sure | Tied to the toe of the smallest stocking In the row was the hideons jumping-The last words were uttered in a jack. Then the window was softly

closed, and the muffled figure stole The mules were stopped at the jack oak while their mester wrote a word no though with a lead pencil. There

Same as I do, I reckon. Got a will of Claws' work was ended. What words could fitly describe the dawn of that happy Christman Day. when the intrates of the lone cabin or the claim wwoke to the joy in store The turning of the mules up to the for them? For unwards of an hour happiness reigned supreme, and the moureful cadence seemed to be ban precious sign under his long coat, a minutes later, seated by the cheerful | ished permanently from Mrs. Wylle's

"I told you so! I told you so!" reitered little Rob, sgain and again. "I knew he'd come !"

"Oo bet be did !" . " Hearing this the mother murmured Who shall say the widow and the fatheries are forgotten?"

TWENTY YEARS AGO Budget From Last Issue of the Free Press in 1802

ing or participating in raffles or other | of her services as organist. ' Rev. Jac. games of chance. ways, died on Bunday, just about two | sive of the good will of the congrega-"An' the turkey an' all the fixin's 'ill | months after his partner in lifes. He | tion, signed by Rev. Mr. Hart and to to where Mistur'S. Claus goes," was in his ninetisth year and lived a Mosery, Wm. Nellis, Nelson McLaughnterrupted his wife. "The crambris life well spent in honest and honorable lin, Weeley Moore, and James Moore, an' some of the fell, an' apple butter, activity, always on the elect to do Committee. good, and ever striving to lead a pure | Nominations for Acton Council are

"Do without I recken," broke in near here in 1844, coming to Canada | J. B. Prarson, Dr. Lowry. For Cons-Aunt Sallie, as she enveloped Uncle at the age of about 15 years, from cillors-J. E. Corry, Those C. Moore, The following pupils have been pro- Havill Joseph Anderson, John Wilhands to sat, let them blame them- muted at Lorne School : Alice Brown, Hame, John H. Matthews. Dr. Lowey selves or the snow blockade, or jest Mina Gamble, Maggie Barnes, Fred having removed to Guelph, is of course make the best of it. Hominy an' side. Plank, Fred Cleave, Robert Lashy, out of the contest, and J. H. Matthews meet for a Christmas dluner an'cracks Robert Leavens, Arthur Swackhamer, bas withdrawn. Suyder, Iva Clauve, Lizzle McDonald, nominated 1-J. H. Harding, James "That he won't !" chuckled Uncle Frances Townsend, Ada Alexander, McLant, Rolst. Wallson, A. R. Nicklin. A. O. U. W. officere :- M. W .- Jan. Nicklin have withdrawn, and the re-Furemen - Jun. Holmes: Overvoor - | who have attended to the interests of Jas. Wilson : Recorder - D. McDon- | the public during the erection of the monished the old lady, briskly, "It'll aid; Receiver D. Graham; Finan- new school. be dark in two hours. Do you reckon cler-J. H. Mattheway Guide-Thos.

W.-Jas. McBachern : Rep. to Grand "Rockon they kin." Unde Ellen- Date-land Francis. swered promptly as he started for the ! I. O. F. officers :- O. O. H. O. R. Brown ; O. R .- Jav. Plant ; V. C. R.+ Treus. - C. O. Speight ; Ohap. - Rav. J.

the lone lackank, and their driver read | wedding on Tue-day, evening by .. in. again the sign pailed th the trunk, viting 00 or 70 of their friends in the Then, as the team sped away again, township and Acton to enjoy their Uncle Ell smote one knee soundly, and hospitality in their newly-built residence. After the wedding feast "Mr. "Howdy, Mr. Clawe!" he said, and H. P. Moore was appointed chairman, dasping his hands, gave them a hearty and called upon Rov. Mr. Edge. Dr. Uren and Mesars, A. Stephenson, Jas. The enow had cassed falling when McLant, Thos. Ebbuga, T. Wilson, Mr. Brunner again turned the line- Wm. Kitching and Fyle Bomerville back mules in at the upon gate. The for addresses. Long acquaintance bright moonlight made the long with the bride and groom, and please stratebee of snow-onvered prairie look | ure at their success in life and com. | Christman." The Methodist Sunday School anni- are rockets.

Liston to the eleighbeile, All the merry rout, Faster: up your stocking,

Hee what you'll receive. Many things be'll bring you, If you just believe. Children ask for candies.

Dolls, a bores that rocks

Gunz, and drums, and teddler. Piles of building blocks. And their good old Santa : Loads the reindeer sleigh Glides screes the roof-tops. Down the chimney way,

You, much older, wiser, Do not ask at all. Though his best and rarent Gifte awalt your oall. Ask bim for contentment.

Peace and happy thought, Chees fulness and charity. Things that can't be bought. Ask for pleasant memories Lurking in his pack,

that make a fellow Happy looking back. Perhaps you'll see a fireplace With a stocking there. And a little figure Creeping down the stair.

Hoping to see Santa, Hoping, yet afraid Lest old Santa whick him Off where toys are made. But instead of Santa. Mother by the tree,

Ouddling him and kleaing-

So it used to be. Far away the kiddle-How the years have flown? "Wonder what the wife will say? they hurried away again, and Mr. S. You perhaps now have some Kiddles of your own, But the dear old season

Brings the past again,
All its love and happiness,
Nothing of its pain. Santa knows no grown-ups, Children all to blue Spite of age and wrinkles.

Bolte of eyes grown dies All hang up your stockings. Gather round the tree. Here's to Merry Christmas !

Marry as can be? the scholars, and in the evening to the parents and workers. On Christman night Mr. Thomas McGilliouddy, of Turonto, lectured on "The Small Boy." were opened and found to contain

\$50.05, as against \$32.87 last year. Orawson's Corpers' Mathedists met Wellington County constables have | on Dec. 20th at Mr. Wns. Kitching's been instructed by the County Crown to make a presentation of a gold Attorney to prosecute all parties hold- watch to Miss Kitching as recognition Hart procided and Miss McLaughlin Mr. Donald Robertson, of Nassaga- was asked to read an address expres-

Christian life. He settled on the farm as follows :- For Roave-Jas. Brows. W. E. Smith, Heary Grindelt," George

For School Trustees these were

Morray-in Mequeing, on December, 83 Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Moffat, a sec. Mr. and Mrs. John Stalter, a daughter. McKnows-In Requeston on Desember Red to Mr. and Mrs. James McKnows, a daughter MANRIED McKunzin-Modific -11 the veldence of the

hride's herenta files Lawson, on Desember Slat, by Rev. J. W. Rev. Donald McKelana, of Abgrips to Margares A., eldess daughter of Mr. Reif Medilli. Mallan-At his residence in Erumon, on De-opmber Sith, William Mollah, aged to years. ROBERTHOF At his bosse in Naturalityre, lot 25, open I, on Christman Day, Donald Robert son, in his 90th year.

Shoatlin In Requesting on the evening Christman Day, Joseph Henry, con of Joseph Shortill, aged if years.

MARY CHRISTMAN "Mame," said little Willie, looking p from the paper on which he was laboring in writing a letter to Senta Claus. "I think I'll send my love to Kels Kringle's wife.". "But I don't believe old Kris has

"Oh, yes he ban. You've beard of her lots of times. Her name's Mary

"Why, Sandy Claws, of course," the bobiled to the house. Then, while versary was held in Sunday and the | Beery wamen should have an alm Rob anamered beiehly. (1 put in Upple Hil mated liqued as the table. Influence overling. Boy in life pour if the can't principal flue Hop worked attended, this sign so's bould be burget where a piping hop supper attended. Mr. Edge presched in the moraling to with any degree of about