to be filed in another envelope, and

placed in the safe until called for by

"I see no harm in the scheme. Edi-

tors have discerning minds, and size

up people pretty thoroughly. You and

of time imaginable. Don't harp, I say,

"THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT."

editor might choose to send them.

Thankfully.

Local Hollday Anthem

Sung by Double Quartet

just do It. and forget It!"

article which was headed:

very-much epistics.

picasuro.

## The Action Free Press

EVERY TRUISOAY MORNING

BREE LIKES BOTFORM ".

Tank or Honsonirrios — \$1.50 per year strictlyin advance. \$2.00 to subscribers in the United States. All subscriptions discontinued when the time for which they have been paid was expired. The date to which every subscrip-ion is paid to denoted on the address label. ADTRACTION ILLTES - Transient advertise-tments, 10 cents per Neupareil line for drai insartion and 5 cents per line for each subse-quent insertion. Contract display advertise-ments, for 50 or inches more, per annum, 10 cents per inch each insertion. Yearly contracts for reading matter 25 cents per inch each inser-tion.

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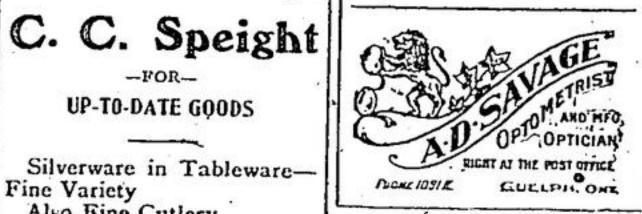
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# Honestly

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> EVERYTHING RIGHT **OUR GUARANTEE**



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Highest Cream Tests last week Robt Allen 40. Wm. McCullough

R. Rubinoff, ACTON CREAMERY

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In two piece and combina-tions, From 75c. to 88.00. You'll save good money by securing all you require at present prices, as woollen goods prices are soaring higher, owing to the present war condi-

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ALL MAKES

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W. J. ELLIOTT, Prin

manently.



Hardware now afar "o'er ocean's wave-boat The old year's dead! The new year's born!" they say; but carry, furthermore, This greater message to each soul; "Eternity is drawing nigh," Thus speak these clamoring tongues of fron whose music floats thro earth and nky.

A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

By Rov. J. R. Laird

That mean these bells resounding

sunset at the close of life's fair Another year's much toward that City where all burdens down we Another year's march toward the

Another year's march toward the

manajona "where the weary are at Ne may stand on Plagab's mountain, If we climb from vales below: breathe the atmosphere of angels more of peace and braven know; Far upon the heights of Nebo we may nee the nelf-life die.

nity draws nigh. Standing there upon the summit as the Old Year flits away, We may see unfold before us dawn tints of the eternal day; ting off just a little bit too while from myetic future ages, in Float to us ragific voices, blending in the songs of peace.

And go forth to holler living as eter

A STORY OF

A HOLIDAY SEASON

CLARENCE URMY

TOHN GENTLEFOLK, ESQ., on day late in November, observed to Mrs. Gentlefolk, that he was of the opinion that appreciation had "gone out of style."

"People, no longer," he said, "appreciate what is done for them. Children in particular, seem greatly remiss in this regard. Christmas presents of blocks, toys, tin soldiers, and the like. that gave great pleasure to the youngsters of forty and fifty years ago, are now looked upon as quite impossible Grown people fall to make acknow ledgement of favors received. Actors singers, artists, authors, and public people of all norts and conditions, are especially and strangely at fault in this regard. Newspaper and magnaine notices of the most flattering sort are treated as a matter of course, and note of thanks to the critic is quite ar unheard-of thing. People seem more and more to be coming to a point where they expect help, praise, flattery and adulteration, with no corresponding growth on their part in the

way of appreciative acknowledgement of value received." Mrs. Gentlefolk lot the porturbed nan continue to the end of his harangue, and then remarked: "I do not believe that the world is unappreclative, John. This hurryscurry age leaves little time for the amenities of life, and politeness seems to have succumbed to strenuchaness.

But, surely the feeling of thankfulness in the world has not been entirely obliterated. There must be a great many worthy people in the world who approclate help, no matter in what form it comes to them." "Well, I'd like to know where they are," said John, "and I'd give a few of them a chance to express themselves this coming Christmas; not that I'm looking for thanks, but just either to prove or disprove my theory."

Mrs. Gentlefolk preferred, just then, not to hold up her end of the converlong procession of ghostly debtors to him to keep the change. her kind heart and good will; people who had been greatly benefitted by the Gentlefolk fortune; people who had had good cause to rejoice over sent flowers to three sick friends, and wrung my heart ever since, did not potent causes for the amazing brumany a narrow slip of paper signed, had the finest kind of Christmas din- touch me then. by John or Mary Centlefolk; people ner with the balance. I asked an old "It was twelve that night when a "The Germanic peoples are the only whose powers of appreciation and weman who hasn't a relation in the croupy cough startled me from my group who feed alcohol to the babies

donor this Christmas, and see what the whole five dollars, and this morn- was going to Heaven. comes in the way of appreciation from ing she told me that she gave ten dred dellars to The Sentinel, and ask the managing editor to distribute it whorever he thinks best. Five dollars will be the low limit, and twenty dollars the high. There must be a lot

ing, or hearing, or getting anything Day. of the kind?" Mrs. Gentlefolk was quite well acquainted with Mr. Gentlefolk, so, when John, withdraw to the library, and

possibilities to her acute intuition. pride, and laid a short of writing Christmas giving. I had a fine time paper on the perch table. He drow a in the country on Christmas Day with chair close to the table, sat down, what was left. I thank you. placed his outstretched hand over the letter, and said: "See here, Mary, I've drawn up

Tell me what you think of it." "I'm all cars!" said Mrs. Gentlefolk. "Horing the trap!" is to place the names of the recipients myself for a bully Christmas dimer

envelope, sealed, and placed in his happy. safe. The editor, with each gift, is to send a note which will shy: "'A donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, having loft with the editor of The Bontinel a certain sum of money for distribution according to the ideas of the editor, the shelosed amount is forwarded to you, wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy "The money is not to be sent out of

recipients, received by the editor, are

I called the whole street in-Cames, presents, and a tree. Ico cream and cake, all free! You gave a happy hour,

if I were you. People may be thank- Put on your hat and cloak, Mary, and ful, and not know just how to express lot's start the new year with a spin | meat market, is suffering from bloodmany times, myself, and I often keep the use of owning a car if you don't

"ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES" The New Year's edition of The Sentinel gave special prominence to an Edwin, with blouse torn and face

porch embroidering. "O, mother!" he breakfast table, and this is what barefoot?" "You look disgraceful enough al-Appreciation has not entirely gone out of style, notwithstanding the deready," said his mother as she carelorable fact that courtesy in acknowfully drow her white duck skirt away from his rather muddy shoes. "I am

edging favors has seemed greatly to deteriorate during the life of our what up-to-date philanthropy has How did you tear it?" called out in the way of thank-you-

onymous, lately left with the editor go barefoot? of The Sentinel the sum of one hun-The one hundred dollars was divid- all his cager buoyance departed. ed into eight portions-four of twenty dollars, and four of five. That seemed the elderly woman near her. "Do

Eight thank-you-very-much notes voice was gentle and her manner was were received at this office during the almost apolegetic, but the boy's mothtwo days following Christmas Day, er flushed under the mild gaze. "I The editor takes great pleasure in was sorry that you sent your son printing the letters, the addressing of away feeling that he was in high disthe editor, and of course, the Mgna- favor. One can't expect healthy little ture, being omitted. The letters are boys to stay clean in the country. printed in the order of their receipt: and clothes will tear now and then." "I wish my son to be a gentleman," I cannot tell you how grateful I am

of my married sons, all of whom have large families. I owe you a thousand thanks for making it possible to take er. so great pleasure in giving so great Gratefully yours.

several of my neighbors quite handand I long to ask his forgiveness. some presents with part of the five.

God bless you for what you did. I old. Late one afternoon he came in far as the alcohol contents are con- others to forget her needs, she wishes sent for my mother. She got here almost completely covered with mud. cerned. Persistent use of beer, a 4 others to go, to dress, to be gay. But Christman night. We had not seen He had been sailing a tiny ship in a per cent ablution of alcohol, like she cares. each other for five years. The twenty puddle in the yard. I was heartly whiskey a 60 per cent, solution pro- Mother is not different; she feels, bought the ticket, and left plenty for ashamed of him, and I told him in no duces a loss of self-control and he de- she suffers, she can weep, she can be a merry Christmas supper. I put uncertain terms what I thought of his clares that "a man who drinks beer gay. fifty cents in the poor box at St. appearance, and I put him to bed even quite moderately is never quite Mary's on Christmas morning, and carly as a punishment.

That five dollars was a godsend. I pathos of the petition, which has mild beer has been one of the more thankfulness had somehow been sore- world. I called it an angel dinner, and sleep, and at three o'clock in the or very young children of middle and we had angel cake for dessert, and morning, the doctor who had worked upper classes..... The child grows "I have it!" John suddenly ejacu- my guest said that she could just hear over my boy for two hours, told me to manhood, drinking alcohol and conlated. "I've a great scheme. I wager angels singing in the room, and when there was no hope. I took my darling tinually handicapped in his develop-

". I isn't dood enough,' he gasped. that sort of giving. I'll send one hun- cents to the postman who brings her That was the end. My haby, my only years of childhood are past, distinctly ponsion money every month, and ten haby, went from me feeling that he lessening the danger of permanent was not worthy to enter the home cerebral degeneration. The war policy Two frail old hands were suddenly all poisoned by alcohol, or at least

> "I didn't mean to make you cry. one year's subscription, and please help you to understand your little urges that "some part of its solution

"Mary! Where did you put my doled out nickels to a lot of ragged factory," a young man said in reply fountain pen?" she said nothing, but youngsters who looked longingly at to an inquiry made by an elderly bustled into the room in a hurry, put the sweetments in the window. And friend. "I am theroughly familiar work out the scheme, which even in a bee line for the taffy counter. I the performance is easy and enjoyits chaotic inception disclosed great used to do this Santa Claus act when able. As to salary, I set my stakes at I was flush, but I haven't for a long a certain figure when I first began beaming with self-congratulatory for me to experience again the joy of perfectly satisfied all around."

little device, a sort of thank-trap. I owe you a debt of gratitude for such say to yourself, "I know all there is generosity. I took five little newsboys to know about my job; it is a good into a clothing shop, and rigged them jub; I am content." According to "That may sound like strange adand the amount sent to each, on cards at "Jack's" beside handing the waiter and these cards are to be put into an iffteen cental You made me very

· Yours truly.

I wish that you'd been here To see how it was spent And just how far its went! You should have heard the dint ful graduates. A high standard is always town, and in to be forwarded so an A splendid "Christmas lihower" to reach the recipients on the day May Reaven its blessing send before Christmas. Any letters from I To you.

fulnean. "The good Lord has been very graclous to you and to me, John," she "I hope that the good Lord will for-

When Mrs. Gentlefolk had finished

reading the letters, there were tears

"Bounds well," said Mrs. Contlefolk. | tears of joy and sympathetic thank-

in her eyes, and in John's eyes, too,

The Sentinel should make a lot of people happy. I wouldn't harp on the appreciation-gone-out-of-style' idea. give me for my pessimism," said John. themselves. I've been hon-plussed down to the tenement district. What's still when I'm having the best kind go where you want to go?"

> and hands generously covered with mother who in crisp daintiness of are striking features. fresh summer attire, sat on the hotel he cried, "they're digging a well near the stable and it's more fun. May I go

ashamed of you. There's no use buying anything nice for you to wear. Read the following letters, and see That handsome linen blouse is ruined. "I was climbing a little way on the

A donor, who desires to remain an- | the mock reply, "but mayn't I please "I suppose so; but don't come near dred dollars, to be distributed in five mp-I don't like pign." She turned result being W. H. Storey was elected They don't care about little thin A and twenty dollar gifts, wherever the from the dishevelled little fellow in by acclamation for Regyo. disgust, and he walked slowly away "Wasn't he a sight?" she said to

to the editor to be a fair division-four you blame me for being annoyed. of the maximum amount, and four of "Since you ask me, my dear, I must admit that I do," The old lady's

said the mother, coldly, as she took up for your timely and generous gift. I her fancy work and set her needle in mmediately sent five deliars to each precisely. For a few moments nothing To the Editor:was said, and then the elder woman softly touched the hand of the young-

"May I tell you a little story?" she "Why, yes, certainly."

Street. I owe you more coursed the tears that my harshness tion of these unforgettable crimes. he did try so to picase me, but one no qualitative difference in the phy-

when I rode on the car to Mass I "When he finished his usual evening sation. She was too busy reviewing a gave the conductor ten cents and told prayer, he added, 'And, dear Dod, drinking are not as striking as in the

that it could not be bettered as a she went home I gave her twenty in my arms, and choking back my ment of cerebral, and therefore moral proof-producer. I'll be an anenymous cents, that was all that was left of sobs, told him as best I could that he control. On the other hand, nearly all

where little children are so lovingly of France and England is being con-

"You have helped me. Come with me, won't you? I wish to find him,

THE GIFT OF DISCONTENT

By Florence N. Nunn.

with every part of the work, so that work, and I've reached that, so am The one who had put the question looked thoughtfully at the satisfied young man for a moment, then he said: "An experienced worker who says, Beware of the day when you that, it is high time for you to stir yourself and become dissutisfied." The young man looked the surprise he felt, and the older one hustened to anawer the unvolced question the look

vice to give you, my boy, but experience has taught me, as it has the one whose words I quoted, that the right port of dissutisfaction to as necessary to intellectual growth and advancement as rain and sunshine to the destruggle when we are content; and when we cease to struggle we couse! to grow. The gift of discontent, as able gift, if it is the right sort of biggest lie gets the dog." olscontent and we employ it to advan- "I am surprised at you little boys." Willie waved his hand frantically. fied with your possessions, but not

- TWENTY YEARS AGO From the Issue of the Pres Press of

Thursday, Dec. 30th, 1897 Prior to saying good-bye to Miss McNelly, teacher of the primary dividon of the Public Echool, her pupils presented her with a very pretty tallet set and several smaller articles. Mr. Carlos Williams, of Rolston's

Vote for the Public Library The sleighing has worn pretty thin for heavy loads.

The Proc Press carriers will deliver the calendars to our subscribers in town as usual on Now, Year's morning. thing now this year. But she is old The calendar is printed in six colors and you are young. Of course it is soil, ran breathlessly toward his pretty and Canada's flag and a fair cyclist natural that you should want frills The Methodist Sunday School rendered the Cantata "Christmas Chimes" on Christman night. The programme

was interesting throughout and the crowning success was the closing plece, "The Christian Graces" by ten young ladies of the school. The Baptist Bunday School held their annual Christmas entertainment. style, but that isn't the reason why Early in the evening they were given she didn't go to church Sunday. She a sleigh drive to the home of Mr. laughs at style and doesn't care if her and Mrs. James L. Warren, where clothes are dingy and faded. Didn't supper was served. After supper they she tell you so only Saturday? returned to the Church where they windmill. I am sorry, mother," was gave an entertaining programme, con- go down again. Mother won't mind cluding with a Christman tree.

> Reynolds-Gowdy-In Guelph, Thursplay, 23rd December, by Rov. S. joys weeding more than picules. Sellery, B. D., J. B. Reynolds, M. A., Mother loves faded gowns and old-Mathematical Master at the O. A. C., fashioned bonnets. Mother isn't sento Maggie, daughter of Thomas sitive, she doesn't care if she is for-

smith-James-At Toledo, Ohio, on December 24. Ellyn Wenona James, in her family, a corner all har own, S. Smith, Acton.

Smith-In Acton, on Sunday, December 26th, William Smith, agod 68

BEER AND THE GERMAN-

Reginald Aldworth Daly, Professo of Goology in Harvard University, care, is not hurt as they are hurt. But writing in the New York Times, (a some day when their own hairs are paper not exhibiting any special pro- gray and they have sons and daughjudice in favor of prohibition, but on term of their own, and the sweet patthe contrary, its talk about drink has lent face of Mother comes to them "I used to have very little patience been unfriendly towards total abatin- across the years, then they will know (This on a post card with "Happy with my little son when he would soil ence and heatile to prohibition.) that Mother was not different. Then New Year to the Donor" at the top.) or muss his clothes, and I would often named some of the acts of German they will know that though her lips Many, many happy returns to the scold or punish him for being careless, officials since the war began and sug- smiled, her heart bled. That though editor of The Sentinet for making Now when I remember his baby cheek gested that mild, eternal intextcation her tongue spoke lightly, her soul was possible a merry Christmas at - steaked with dirt over which had is a partial but a very real explana- filled with dread. That though the gratitude than I can express. I made had caused, my arms ache to hold him He quotes Kraepelin, perhaps the care, her heart was seamed with scars greatest authority on the effects of and her pillow was wet with secret "He was a manly little fellow, and German beer, as showing that there is weeping.

can't expect perfection of a four-year glological effects of beer and spirits so pare; that in her love she wishes

make me a good boy, if you possibly case of persons poisored with whiskey severity was having its effect and the hypothesis that life-long drinking of

the alcohol drunk in France and Engtrolled by men who have not been at

may be found in the relations of chronic alcoholism to the human soul" and closes his remarkable article by asking: "Was the great Von Moltke carry" system, giving a price advanmore dangerous enemy to Germany ried their parcels, requests for de-

J. H. HAZLEWOOD. Department of Bocial Service.

The Denver (Cole.) Gas Company had a surprise in store for it as a result of the votors putting the saloons of that city out of commission. The gas company feared that it should lose \$16,000 a month because of the darkened barrooms. The surprise came when the books were audited and the company found that it had made a gain the first month of \$10}-

For every closed saloon, in a hun- in the words of Milton, like dred homes the lights are abining, for "A wintry vell of maiden white," the fathers who formerly frequented it decks the fields with its soft and the barrooms are new at home with sparkling flakes, and makes of every What a cheerful commentary it la!

Give us more darkened saloons and turn on the home lights.

"I never full to have some fun,"

## THE OLD YEAR

Last night, when all the village Was lying white and still, With starlight in the valley, With moonlight on the hill. I wakened from my dreaming, - And hushed my heart to hear The old clock on the steeple

Toll out the dying year. They say that when the angels The blessed New Year bring. The souls that wake to listen Can hear them softly sing The same melodious authem of peace and love on earth, That told to Judah's shepherds The dear Redeerers cirth.

No sound came through the silence But walting there, I thought Of all the gifts and blessings The year to me had brought; And somothing sang within me: "O happy heart, to-day Remember all who sorrow.

And wipe their tears away." So, in that solomn morning. When first thy feet shall stand Where dawn in light unuhadowed The years at God's right hand; The words of benediction Thy welcome home shall be.

### MOTHER DOESN'T CARE

Thy deeds of love and mercy

Have all been done to me!"

Only Mother! She won't care if Only Mother! You wanted a tennis racket, and she gave you the money that she was saving for a calico gown. But she didn't need the gown; she said so. Only Mother! She hasn't had anyand ruffics; she docan't care for them.

Only Mother! She wouldn't care hasn't time to go; there is work to be done. She told you so. Why, bless her, she had "lots" rather stay at home and unish that weeding in the garden. Didn't she say so? Only Mother! Her hat is out of Only Mother! It lun't necessary to the forgotten "Good-night!" You The usual interest was taken in the would feel hurt if you were forgotten, nominations here on Monday. The but mothers feel different somehow. And so Mother sits alone. Mother goes without the calloo rown. Mother doesn't care for ruffics. Mother en-

gutten. So, too often, Mother has a corner to James E. Smith, son of Mrs. C. and one from which she seldom moves, but from which scatters the blessings

that are here to give. Too often, Mother is "different somehow," and husband and children believe it, accept it-until she is gone. In too many homes Mother is a part of, and still not of, the family circle. Strange as it may seem, sons and daughters think that Mother does not feel as they do, does not care as they thoughtless ones believe she did not

THINK Mako a delivery, Bend goods on approbation, Or incur other expense.

Carry your parcel home.

Is it necessary? Delivery service is expensive, and ultimately you must pay for it. If the service is not necessary you are not only wasting your own money. but the resources of Canada as well. Canada is in urgent need of econ-

There is an old engraving hanging

in many homes depicting a young and

ragged urchin stepping up to a lady

and naking if he may carry her parcel Times have changed. To-day that same little chap might have difficulty finding a parcel to carry; and Bocause fashion has decreed that we may carry, almost anything but a parcel. The result has been heavy same percentage of profits as is carried by the goods themselves. Because it does not show separately in the bill, it is not recognised an an

## tago to those who paid cash and carlivery would soon show a decrease.

additional expense. To a large extent

merchants are to blame for this. If

THE NEW YEAR Do you remember what says of old January? "Yet did he quake and And blowe his nayles to warm ther if he may. For they were numbed with holding all the days an hatchet keepe with which he fellow

wood

lease apray." So he comes to us in cold Canada. The snow flings its floory clouk across the barren ugliness of bare ourth, or, stump and rull and bush a murble

And from the trees did lop the

monument as if to mourn the death of How truthfully the old Romans represented the delty Janus, with his two faces, one looking back to the bygone time and bidding farewell to the past, with its regrets, its sorrows, and its pleasures - the other casting a hopeful eyo into the future, with all

## Joys! QUITE A DIFFERENCE

"dond"? anked the Bunday Behool tea-

"I'teame, ma'am, the 'quick' are ones

"Well, Willia"

TURN ON THE HOME LIGHTS

000. William J. Johnson explained the Wherever anloom ure darkened the summer. homes are brightened.

A BLUE RIBBONER

says William Furnum, "when I hapits unknown trials and triumphs and pen upon a crowd of small boys. The other day I saw several sitting in a velopment of vegetation. We do not ring with a small dog in the center. When I came up to them I asked: What are you doing to the dog? "'Nothing,' said one boy. 'We're forence between the "quick" and the told us in the old fable, is a valu- telling lies. The one who tells the

tage. Henry van Dyke expresses it I said. When I was like you I never

"There was silenes for a while, until that got out of the way of automocontent with yourself until you have one of the boys shouted: 'Hand him biles. The ones that don't are the

Your faithful friend,

cents to the mite society. Thank you very much, My! What a lot of things one can of people to whom a gold piece at do with \$20. I used a rolling-pin on clasped in two strong once, and eyes have been teas polsoned than many Christman would be, at least, some- that coin, and spread it very nearly whose tears were long since shed look- prominent German officials, who, day over the world. I wan't weary you ed kindly into those that were now in and day out, are kept irritable by by the consumer, together with the "Do you mean that you intend to with items, but I sept Christmas and overflowing. distribute one hundred dollars anony- New Year cheer to over 150 people. mously, and expect thanks? queried I felt like an oil magnate. I enclose dear, I just wished to help you-to into the fearful problem, Prof. Daly "Who said anything about expect- sand the paper for one year to ---- son." ing thanks?" replied John: "An ob- I want my brother to see what kind portunity will most certainly be given of paper is printed in my home town. for rapturous expressions of gratitude I sent over fifty postcards, and I have and kiss him, dirt and all,"-Advance. but who said unything about expect- \$1.05 left for charity on New Year's

Your devoted servant, and grateful I stood at the door of a candy shop for two hours on Christmas Eve, and the pen in his hand, and left him to they all said "Thank you," and made John came forth from the library, time, now, and the V made it possible

My best thanks to the denor-was it you or someone else? No matter, but out with underwear and hoalery; 11 "You know what I said about divid- sent five deliars to a Bettlement house ing the one hundred dollars into gitts and five to the County poor farm for of fives and twenties. How many tobacco for the men; I bought a secfives and how many twenties is to be outliand wheeled chair for a sick girl, left to the judgment of the editor. He I know, and I spent a whole dollar on held.

A five for Christmas choor!