# The Acton Free Press

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charged accordingly. H. P. MOORE. Editor and Publisher

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## **Business Directory**

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qui Association, etc. Office-Frederick Street, Acton, Ont. DR. J. A. MoNIVEN

Physician and Surgeon Office and Residence-Corner Bower Avenue and Elgio Streets, the residence formerly occupied by D. M. Hen-

derson, Acton, Ont.

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Hillsburg. Sales entrusted to R. J. Kerr re-ceive attention from date of listing to date of sale. List your sales with me. Residence - Young Street, Acton Phone 16, Acton. Call at my Expense

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19 This is a thrifty bunch of Shoats. They are owned by Donald Lettch

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registered letter. and gladly assist him in every way possible.

We will welcome your account.

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Our Prices are Right and Our Qualities Superior Repairing Promptly and Neatly

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One of our Made-tu-Measure Blue Suits, toade from Pure Wool, absentately fast die liergo Clothe. Audo to measure for ---- 349 up

For winter comfort nothing is nicer or more comfortable than one of our Ture Woot Sootch Tweed Bultings, fast color, Made to measure for

. ... \$15 up - ... OVERCOATINGS Are of the best range of cloths for winter wear in the trade, We make them to your order. First class-in any style, from

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We understand the farmer's problems

Makes an Excellent Christmas Gift

Jardinleren-\$1.40, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.25 2.50, \$3.00, \$4.50, Fern Pots-\$1.00, \$1.40, \$1.50, \$1.85. Ash Truys-650, 76c, \$1.15, \$2.00. Bruss Kettles-\$2.00, \$2.25, \$4.00. Nickle-Plated Copper Tea Pots-\$1.75, \$1.90, \$2.10, \$2.25,

Nickle-Plated Copper Coffee Pots-\$1.60, \$1.75, \$1.90, \$2.00. Nickle-Plated Copper Tea Kettles-\$1.90, \$2,10, \$2.00, \$2.76, \$2.90. We Have What You Want

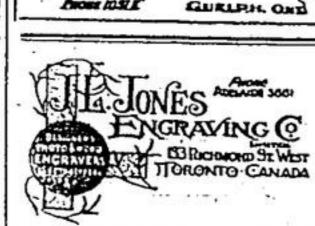
The BOND HARDWARE CO. Ltd.

Phone 1012 - - GUELPH Common Sense Tells You

portant function. If eyesight is all important, then full seeing power is vital to your welfare and should not TO PROTECT YOUR EYESIGHT -from being injured or impaired through excessive strain, uncorrected defects, or weakened muscles, you should make up what you lack

in your eyes WITH CORRECTLY FITTED GLA88E8 Savage Optical Service makes you









The Bell Piano has been sold by Kelly's for forty years, and in that time we have

sold hundreds in your

district. No piano has more endorsements from Schools of Music, Colleges, Teachers, and purchasers than THE BELL. Write for our cat-

alogue and prices.



# The BOND HARDWARE CO. Ltd.

Brassware

to southern Idaho and bought wright's neighbors. Gold Brick Ranch-Afteen

here's a row of little facen

Cager, wiatful little faces.

Every night outside the store

Looking at the heaps of toys,

To a host of girls and boys.

Tattered children, in a tow, .

That they possibly can know.

Thin and hungry little children, Borrowing a brief delight

rom the wonders of a Christman

Of how happiness might seem.

for they sadly need somebody

funt a swiftly passing vision

Which to thom is just a dream,

You will hunt up Banta Claus,

Banta Claus has swarma of children On his Christmas waiting list.

But he'll add a few names to it

Holl be glad to add your mite

To the fund that he's inventing

And these little, wintful children

Will be grateful all the year

For their share, so long denied them, Of the blessed Christmas cheer.

HOW RODNEY FOUND

THE GOLD IN THE

"GOLD BRICK"

-New York American.

In the spreading of delight.

If you see him and insist. Help the old man out a little;

Who knows how to plead their cause

coking at the only Christman

look thom over, Mr. Shopper,

hat will bring a merry Christman

Every night they stand there watching

When you walk down town to-night,

Where they never draw the curtains

eriority of good nature that carries farm brains in a city boy-they don't a sting behind a laugh. "Gold Brick's know how to make the country pay." been waiting for a city boy with ready money for ten years." was all right-good, southern Idaho and disappeared among the rocks.

hedged in on every side by ridges of ly, it was not a great task. Six acres charitable society in the city. juniper trees or ridges of rock. It of Gold Brick Hanch lay in summe. Mildred ran into the house could only be reached by a series of fallow that year, and twenty-five had to the play-room. land could not be cultivated. They had road. been built of the rough-hown posts in the first place, and had never been cut down to equal height. Zig-ragging along the road they went, many broken, some gone entirely-an impeachable testimony to neglect and decay. : Worse than all else, the farm bade fair to run wild with Russian thistle, for the indolent and hopelean

allowed it to get a foothold and efter that it conquered the place. little take, and furnished pure water trying to seil flold litick. for stock and for household alike. But even this treasure, priceless as it farmer. They know what's what," said showed hard usage. The lake had been beaten down, and the proper outlet dammed with sun-baked clods bricks."

one neighbor. "Get hold of a city man, l'armers don't luvest in Gold pricks." patient feet of the stock running loose they will." was the conservative an- run about, but it seems impossible to on the range, finding casy entrance tweer. through the dispidated fences. The free by a tangle of weeds and sagebush.

East, with his carefully hoarded cornfarms were beyond his figure, adling gun looking for another homestead. us they did for five to seven thousand

Rodney Arkwright's hands were face, though rugged and clean-cut buya." showed the clear pink common to city offices. But Rodney Arkwright's eyewere keen. They penetrated the soll of Gold Brick. They looked at the owner, here and there, made a few exercise serves to keep the body in cuts in the soil, and the sharp turns do wonders in keeping us in proper and hope, lay in peaceful doll sleep in difficult of passage for a four-team trim. notes on his pad of paper.

The neighborn watched, and laughed, neighbon, and this city chap foust any work in the twenty-four hours. into overalls and went to work. It was summer time, the spring work from degenerating, prosperity Gold Brick Ranch had nover years. stock followed, then shelter for ma- book that all your friends are talking to town again, Rodney began to paint. a close inspection, but paint lends a distinction that in unmistakable, Rednoy was well pleased. --

-for Rodney was only "Broadway" to cally, or mentally.

AT THE TOY STORE WINDOW these men of the soil, "He's not cleaned out financially yet-he munt have a couple o' bundred left." Rodney laughed, too. He looked at the pad of paper in his pocket, and When the watchman locks the door

lingled a few loose nalls, and laughed again. Over on the cant slopes they were beginning to head the wheat now, and the bons of one of the crews, noting "Rod's" infalling cheeriness of manner, and noting, too, the rugged muscles of the slender, lithe figure, offered him a place on a header box. But

Rodney shook his head. "I haven't the time," he said. The been of the header roared with laughter. "You'd better get a job and carri some money, Broadway," he said, "You

can't live on air down there at Gold and perhaps when you have seen them, Brick." "No, I can't. That's why I'm busy. 'm digging for gold." They wished him luck a trifle sneerthe header crow, and wanted him.

ingly, for they were short of men on But Rodney went placifly back to Gold Brick and set to work. "Along winter time he'll begin to

want a job when there hin't no jobs to have. Let him enjoy his gold brick while the weather's good." Rodney was buildling a road from the highway back over the ridges to Gold Brick, Many hours he toiled. sometimes hauling dirt or pebbles to make a solid bottom, sometimes shovoling patiently with his spade. He changed the direction of the road several places, and then was obliged to change the fences. His neighborn did not object to that, the rock beds and juniper ridges were no good anyhow-the fence might as well be ten feet to left, or right, as not. Only, Rod must do it-they hadn't time to bother building fences for a gold brick. Rodney did not complain. 'He put in new posts where the old once were

out or broken, mended the wire where it had been cut, and mawed off the tops of the posts, making them uniform in height. The Gold Brick could row be approached without shame, at A thoughtful look began to grow IIEN Rodney Arkwright went on the faces of some of Rodney Ark-"He's some little chap, that Broadhundred down and five hundred | way," they raid, half approvingly. "If a year for two years—the neighbors he just had a real ranch now, and laughed. "He's a city chap," they worked like that he'd be a rich man

said, good-naturedly, with that sup- in ten years. But you can't expect At last Rodney turned his attention to the spring. He carefully excavated The Gold Brick Ranch was not the it, built a small shed over it for promost prepossessing place in the world, tection, and ran from pipes down to a through the parsonage gate. "How most certainly. On the other home- big trough at the edge of the rock levely that we have enough ready to steads, trim farm houses and barns ridge. He fenced about this very fill it in time!" cried one little Boo. had supplanted the ramshackle shacks carefully, determined there should be She was not thinking of a hive, but of and have a rink arranged on Hender- atcal on his brother.—Solomon, in Shoe of homesteading days. But Gold Brick no more mud holes filled with stag- a barrel, For these "Busy Beecs" were, son's pond. Ranch stood as it was when the first nant water on Gold Brick Ranch. And after all, only little girls who met tosettler proved up and sold his claim the pure spring water nourished on gether every week to learn to do useful pretty well filled with entertainments ten years before as it was, except couraged, and given space, bubbled things. For a long time they had To-night, St. Alban's Sunday School that it had grown more disreputable out and filled the trough, and the been making warm garments under entertainment, the cantata "Santa with every passing year. The soil trickled down into a little rocky gully the guidance of the minister's wife. Claus is Coming." To-night, the But by some curious freak of fortune, threshing was on. And Rodney, as their own wardrobes, was to be packed and Shades of London," by Rev. W. J.

half-broken roads, seeming to seek been plowed down, a sacrifice to the Rodney spent the winter comfortably mured. alone on Gold Brick Ranch. He fixed the house up on the inside, calcimining

and varnishing. And the neighbors, who were now more lenient toward "Broadway," admitted, "It fun't a bad little Gold Brick, after all." During the winter months, Rodney sent away farmers of Gold Brick Ranch had a good many carefully worded advertisements to farm journals circulating through Washington and Oregon, and cast to lows and Missouri. Yet Gold Brick Ranch had one ad- Early in the spring, strangers began vantage over all the farms in the to come from different parts of the community. A bountiful spring gushed country "looking things over," and it from a ledge of rock down into a was noised about that Rodney was "You can't sell Gold Brick to

Early in May, wher the winter whout ed a Christman box and lifted out Milflow of the spring itself was hindered was showing fine and green over the dred's doll. slopes of the Gold Brick Ranch, the It was to this ranch that Rudney farm changed hands again, and Rod- it on the pillow close to the child's face, Arkwright came from the city L. the ney Arkwright, with three thousand and stepped aside. She opened her even dollars in cash and notes for oft sen ings of the 'ast aix years. The other nundred payable in three years, bedollars. He could not even consider the consensus of opinion among the them. But Gold Brick Ranch was ranchers in south-castern Idaho. "You found real gold in Gold Brick Ranch." "I didn't find it," came the quick white, his fingers firth and stender, reply. "I dug for it. Digging payshis naits carefully looked after. His even on a ranch. It's the digging that

## KEEPING FIT

It is surprising how little systematic notes on a pad of paper. The eyes good condition. If it were necessary inspected closely the fences, and an to spend hours daily in the gymnusium the youth slowly walked the road that in order to keep "fit," few of us could led to the highway, they took notice but the price. But ten minutes in the

load of wheat: Hut Rodney Arkwright's A great many young people when syus rested longest on the spring, their they leave school, begin to lose ground gaze going down into the muddy, intellectually. The bright student of allmy water of the stagnant pool. It the high-school, and even of the colwas there that Rodney made more lege, may, in middle life, show very little mental keenness. And the reason is that their brains have not been working for so long that they are abut made no comment until the dued flabby as a muscle that does hardly look out for himself. It be had fifteen up the routine of study practiced by hundred deliars to invest, Harvey Origination of study practiced by students, after leaving school. But seen ought to get the money. Hadn't that is not necessary, Just as a few Of course it is impossible to keep he starved on Gold Brick Ranch for that is not necessary. Just as a few four long, bitter years? The papers veloped youth from growing flabby, so became a landed proprietor. He got loss, will keep the intellectual powers. that is not necessary. Just as a few less, will keep the intellectual powers

was over, and the hurvest was not yet teen or eighteen. If you want to confive acres of spring wheat where the Russian thistic ran riot. Then with the hoe, and a boy to help, he went to her t reading. Every day do his hoe, and a boy to help, he went a little har t reading. Every day do patiently over the entire farm, cutting a little har I reading. Keep a book out every wood in advance of its which will be a distinct acquisition. seeding time. He got a carpenter from town, and hauled a few loads; of drop your courses in English. Darwin for the glory of lits Name, and for the lumber. Between them, they put up did with the result that he lost his maintenance of His true religion. a house, a very modest, unpretentious ability to enjoy poetry, when he took one, but it seemed to flaunt an air of it up again after a lapse of many

Its to natural to want to read the chinery. After the carpenter had gone about, but do not neglect the chanica He had never painted before, and his right port of reading means that your handlwork might not have endured intellectual powers will keep at high water mark, and you will acquire culture without knowing it. Trying to make up for years of neglect is a dis-The neighbors laughed. "Good for heartoning task, but it takes wonder-Broadway," they said, good-naturedly fully little effort to keep us fit, physi-



OLD BANTA'S COMING Tinkle, tinkle, tinkle ! What is that I hear? Jingle, Jingle, Jingle I Sleigh bells drawing near ! All the earth is snowy white;

Overhead the stars are bright, And well I know the merry tune, For Santa Claus is coming soon. Jingle, Jingle, Jingle They're coming nearer now. Tinkle, tinkle, tinkle ! I wish he'd tell me how When he comes in such a hurry,

With his reindeers in a flurry, He can stop to fill up so. Every stocking in the row. Tinkle, tinkle, tinkle I He's coming up the street. Jingle, Jingle, Jingle 1 I'd better best retrest. Dear old Santa's always shy.

Would, I fear, be passing by

If he knew that sitting here

I had watched him drawing near-

#### MILDRED'S GIFT

The 'Busy Bees' came swarming out From the Issue of the Free Press o The fruit of their labors, with what- Baptist Sunday School entertain-

"And there is not a single doll going Rev. Thos. Wilson, London of their own accord the roughest and ravages of Russian thistic. But the in that barrel," she murmured. Then A company of between thirty and meanest spots over the hills and now road was a great success. No her face grew grave with a great re-forty of our business men and citizens

> singing a lullaby. "Now, my precious Violet," ahe said. cil was composed as follows: W. H. "I have decided to trust you to be my Storey, Reeve, John Speight, Asa Hall, messenger, to carry Christman happi- Chan. T. Hill and Dr. McGarvin with ness to some little girl who has no one James G. Hill as first Clerk and Treas-And that is how Violet went to the city in the Christmas burrel Even RYAN-Suddenly, at Georgetown, on into the words of the children's hospital the Christman feeling had crept. Little faces, saddened by suffering, brightened as the spicy green trimmings were hung about the walls, in

preparation for the day But in a quiet corner the house physician looke. down gravely at a still little fig 're on one of the cota

rouse her." Just then the nurse open-The doctor quickly took the doll, laid and gazed at Violet as if still seeing dreams. . A light of joy and wonder leaped to her eyes. She drew Violet "Broadway, you're all right," was to her heart, feeling with cager fingers the soft fluff of yellow hair and the rustling silkiness of the dress. As she caught sight of the doctor and nurse she held her reath in a sudden fear that her treasure would be claimed by some

one. But she read a promise in their "How do you like your doll?" asked the doctor, in an easy tone. "Is this my doll?" The wonder in the child's voice told how barren her life had!

As the happy light again' set her eyes shining and the doctor whispered. Day by day she grew stronger, and so Mildred's little Christmas messenof the rough rises of rock, the deep morning, and another ten at night will ger, having given her measage of joy

her new mother's arms .-- Mary C. Cat-

lun, in Youth's Companion.

NOBLE SAYINGS and childish; to rage and be furious in brutish; but to prevent and suppress is manly and diving .-- Watts.

checrful. Trouble and sorrow are friends in digguine. Nothing but Folly goes faithless and Courage forever is happy and wise -Martin Tupper.

All's for the best! be sanguine and

lda Heatt Tuylor, l'utent is He that promised to be

## BROKEN IN SPIRIT

"I suppose you always prefer to collet men who are not married," rumarked Jones to a sorgeant at the recrutting station.

TWENTY YEARS AGO Thursday, December 22, 1898

-Waldo.

Christmas week as usual will wheat land in the dry farm district. The wheat was headed now, and ever gleaning they could spare from mant, lime-light pictures, "The Lights fence between two farms. One man when the claims were filed, it had soon as his wheat was ready, began in a barrel the next time they met, and Scott, Toronto, .. Christman night, the been shut off from the main roads, hauling it in to market. Unfortunate- sent as a Christman remembrance to a Methodist Santay School cantata "The of just that amount of land. His Mensage of Peace." New Year's night neighbor would not admit this, and so Mildred ran into the house and up Knox Sunday School, lime-light exhibition, "Among the Cannibate," by

through the guilles. The fences bord- more of the old terrific physical strain solve. "One of you must go, my sat down to a splendld oyster suppor at ering the rock, and Juniper ridges on horses, and nerve strain on drivers dearn," she said, as she looked at her Clarke's Hotel on Monday evening, were naturally neglected, since that Just a steady pull out to the main largest and lovellest, Violet. "It seems They had met to say farewell to Mr. as if I couldn't let you go," she mur- E. B. Collins who is removing with his family to Buffalo. A minute later she was sitting in 1808 the twenty-fifth year of in her little chair with Violet on her lap, corporation as an independent muni-

cipality for Acton, Acton's first Coun-

December 18, Charles Ryan, Cus-

AS THE BAND WENT BY The band moved down the street the to meet the difficulty. Suppose tha inspiring music bringing every child new man had taken up the quarrel within hearing on the run. And as the where his predecessor had dropped it. There is no reason why she should uniformed, are marched on they were Another generation might have carnot have a satisfactory recovery," he accompanied by remarked on they were Another generation might have carnot have a satisfactory recovery, accompanied by remarked on they were Another generation might have carnot have a satisfactory recovery. who hopped and skipped and laughed. as if the music made them so happy motte for is to remember. It will saye

> dier, who had been -croeping from -Edgur L. Vincent. house to house, offering needles for rate with an air of anticipating refusal stepped out with now energy, as if he felt a man again. And a scolding woman in one of the houses, stopped in the midst of a tirade and began to hum the air the band was playing. And an invalid turned on his pillow to listen, and then fell aslesp and dreamed he was well again.

street. Waking new joy in those they just an-" pass, inspiring the discouraged, showing the ignoble the better way, cheering the sad, blessing the children. Every step of their progress in this world is with flying flags. They move on keeping time to music, and making music for all about them. And since some do this, why not you?

## A BALVAGE DEPARTMENT

A salvage department is proving good thing in a large plant, "Shipping" reports that in shippard in New Jersay the revenue from the sale of the baled waste paper alone more than rivet barrels were a source of incomes pocan mammal was looked upon as a the staves knocked out and sold for rising resentment is wise and glorious, kindling, the bands sold for scrap fron; old copper was atripped and the inautation sold for rubber; the copper in the ends of broken electric-light hand in popularising many such hith bulbs was found to be well worth saving; old 'bolts, burnt rivets, odd erto despised foods," mused the grocer. But the threatening famine in Europe picces of scrap iron, steel, and lumber was probably a more important reason. in many cases it was found that the bolts could be rethrouded and the nuts retapped and used over again. Lumber which could not be used for any other purpose met a ready sale at whiten the souls of all mankind, this from one dollar to two dollars and a should be the aim of every one of us .- half a lead. From all these sources the astenishing sun of \$5,500 was roulized in a single week.

## LIFE-BAVER FOR RAILROAD MEN

A life-saving apparatus in the form of large steel cylinders intended to provide means of escape for ratiroad firemen and engineers has been perfeeted. The cylinders are so placed that with a few neconds' warning the men can drop into them and be thrown degrees?" from the truin.

.The interior of the tank is fitted with patternatic cushian aprings and asbes- he was answered, "I am in health," and "No; you're mistaken there," the tor. Even the weight of the engine when anked how rich he was, replied, latter hastened to reply. "I prefer likelf against the cylinder will not "I am not in deld." married men every time. You see, we crush it or injure the men within the don't have to go to the trouble of cylinder. The cylinder will float and teaching married men to obey." -- Lon- sustain a burden of 600 pounds. Air valves are open from the inside.

#### Single Copies-Five Cents

CHEERING SOME ONE ON lon't you mind about the triumphs Don't you worry after fame; Don't you grieve about succeeding. Lot the future guard your name. All the best in life's the simplest, Love will last when Wealth the gone;

lust be glad that you are living, And keep cheering some one on at your neighborn have the b'espoma Let your comrades wear the crown; Nover mind the little setbacks, Nor the blows that knock you down. You'll be there when they're forgotten, You'll be glad with youth and dawn,

#### you just forgot your troubles, And keep cheering some one on.

- Balumoro Bun. IT WILL COME OUT Deck a pig in satin and he will run his nose into the first swill trough he necu; put un ans into the finest trappings money will purchase and he will wag his carn and bray when he smells the corn crib. Money may buy good glothes, and good clothes may afford an entree into decent society, but the human porker in a dress buit is no different from his brother in bristles. he will grunt when you touch him at the right spot. You may wash, regenerate and sanctify a mean skunk until you can hardly tell him from a

consistent Christian, but when the chance comes for him to air his true nature you will find him all there. He may sing Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present for too small." but you just watch him when the collection in taken up and you will noo him drop his five-cent piece on the

plate with an expression of sad resignation on his face that suggests the other hymn, "When we asunder part It gives us inward pain." The gospel should not be judged by some of its supposed products. The largest, broadest, biggest man that ever trod this carth was Jesus of Nazareth, and he had the meanest skunk of a disciple that ever polluted the pure atmosphere of godliness. There was only one amongst twelve, and, thank God, the proportion is not any targer to-day, but that one was enough to break the heart of the Bon of Man. Nothing under heaven so retards the growth of the Kingdom of Righteousness as the mosquito-souled, billous-livered, sneak-thief Iscariots that seek the upperment seats in the synagogues and the chief scats at the gospel feast. Meanness is the toughest proposition with which God Almighty has to deal. He could make a thousand worlds while he is trying to work meanness out of the hide of a sanctimonious hypocrite that rolls his eyes Acton bockey club has re-organized and sniffles while he contemplates a & Leather Journal.

#### "SET THE FENCE ON MY SIDE"

In the courts a suit had been pending for years over the true place for a line the mutter was taken into the courts. were old. Of course, while the trouble over the boundary was smaltiled, there tween the families that mile strip of

At last a newcomer bought out one of the farmers. The other expected the same old difficulty about the line would at once come up, and he pared himself accordingly. Thetwo men went down to the boundary, and the old resident set forth his claims in language loud and long. When he was done, the stranger quietly said: "Lot's set the fence four feet on my side, and then there can be no question about it. We will not have any

trouble over this line. We can't afford tom's officer, in the 67th year of his it." The victory was won. The neighbor's heart was conquered. He gave up his claim, and the two were the best of friends. Now that was the best possible way

"Set the fence on my side," is a good that sedate movements were impos- many a bitter hour if we do remember and act up to it. Life is too short But it was not only the children who and too precious to be wanted in were affected by the music. The ped- cherishing lil-will over fancied wrong.

## TRY A CAN OF WHALE

"Madam, I would suggest that you try a can of whale," said the grocer. "You will have heard that 100 per cent. of the sockeye and red salmon and 75 per cent, of the cohees of the Pacific coast have been regulattioned by the British government," he continued, "so Some people go through life as that that salmen is hard to get and even band of music marched along the harder to pay for. But whale meat in

"Oh, please don't try to tell me that

it in just as good as salmon. I did so

want to get some nice canned sockeye

"Well, I am sorry madam, but it is

not to be had for a few days at least.

salmon. It always is so good."

I was going to say that cannod whale meat reaembles, and some people think it is just as good as tender, lean boofstoak. Wo. are having quite a demand for it. Thank you, madam: I will send up two cans. It is only twenty conta a can." And so this Botten grocer found another oustomer for Canadian canned whale. Fill recently the canning of the flesh of this great, warm-blooded. doubtful experiment. But, during the past south, it was sold by the carload in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and other cities of the United States. "Perhaps Dame Fashion has had a

In buying for your brothers. Your elsters, and your nunts Remember there are othern And give the poor a chance,

If so, I hope helt come for me For I'ma little dear. When the small boy starts early for he pantry it isn't to avoid the jam.

"Mammu," said Johnnie, "If I swal-

lowed a thermometer would I die by

Perhaps Bt. Nicholas will need

Another steed this year.

A wise man on being asked how old

Often the Cave-Too often Me wife's yearning capacity to larger than the husband's earning capacity.