THE FADING HEART

With silent step and slow, The old year glides into the shadowy As tall ships solemn go Out into ocean's desert, drear and O. with this fading year

Would all unworthy thoughts might now depart! Perish each base-born fear And selfish aim, Lord, cleanse th awakened heart! And with the new dawn, stealing Upon our household homes noiseless feet, Come every generous feeling, All heavenly influence mild, sedate

and sweet. Come with the growing day, Increase of widsom bending from the sky; Come with fresh aids of May, Glad hopes, and grateful pulses bound

Come with the summer hours, Large-hearted love, compassions ful and free: With autumn's falling flowers Come holiest trust and peace an and charity. And when the winter blast

As some young year grown old round us sweeping. Come angel death at last, And waft us hence to God's oterno

RUSKIN'S ECCENTRICITIES

The late John Ruskin, the great English critic, was a man of original and quite independent ways. Sure of his own motives, he did what he wished, when no one was to be harmed or incommoded by his action. He had for diamonds and other gems a great! fondness which had no connection whatever with decorative intention. pocket, and took them out from time to time to play with; as another man might have toyed with a watch chain, On one occasion, while calling on a

on modern literature. stainer, and the watter at his hetel for a time he lay quite still, then sat the "blind man," or the one to hide grace with which they entertained was consequently greatly astonished up and watched the queer little fel- the thimble; the one to guess, or the under the guidance and direction of when, one day, he ordered half a low's antics. At last, however, as he one to be guessed-At last his father the teachers.-Record. dozen bottles of champagne and a bobbed his pointed cap right into Ted- called him quietly to his side and large and deep bowl. The waiter was dy's face and the boy found his voice, said quietly that no one but Teddy ordered to empty a bottle of wine very and said: slowly into the dish, and Mr. Ruskin watched the foaming effervescence until bubbles ceased to rise; then the econd-bottle was-emotied, and so on. until all the wine was in the dish.

"Now." he said to the waiter. will make you a present of that wine -only I advise you not to drink it all happy. I can please, I can please you! yourself." adds: "Like the famous painter who the golden ball up in the air, and by him, following him along the hall long duration. sat all day throwing pebbles into the caught it on the end of his nose. water and marking the ripples that they made on the surface, Ruskin had set all the bells a ringing.

been taking an art lesson from the effervescence of the champagne, at all again. this expense of time and money." Ruskin, wishing to compare the rhythm of artificial music and that of diving under the bed clothes so far nature, engaged a band of musicians from London at a great expense, and made them play on the beach at Folkestone on a windy day when the surf was rolling in.

AFTER-CHRISTMAS JESTS

If the small boy started early for the pantry it wasn't to avoid the jam. For turkey now we do not care, And to our deep disgrace, We would not, if we met one, dare ·To look it in the face.

Turkeys which the public refused to buy at inflated Christmas prices seem to be feeling bad about it. In the butcher shop nearly all of them seem to be hanging their heads in shame."

Maybe that's what's wrong with the

These are moving days. No sooner does a man get his Christmas and ear: New Year's bills paid than he begins "I'm the one to make you happy," saving for his summer vacation, and as soon as he gets on his feet after

ALL IN A NAME

The difficulty of pronouncing successive syllables having a similar sound is well known. Add a little em- very strange, but true, that the time barrassment and publicity, and the Teldy looked at the little man and difficulty may become the foundation listened to him, he (the little man) to me," asked Teddy. Women's Suffrage Association of an shriller. inland city. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, a prominent officer of the Na- father very soberly wished him a hap- when we turn Love away can he enter

was to speak. The local president ross to introduce her and sald: honor this evening to introduce to you breath, "Shut up." His sisters said, Mrs. Charrie Capman Catt-I mean "Teddy has slept too long. We've Mrs. Carrie Capman Chatt-I mean been up ever so long." but his mother from her, and look to Glant Self, she Mrs. Carrie Chatman Chp-ladies and put her arm about him as she said, cannot stay. When you hear gentlemen - (desperately) - you will "Happy New Year, Teddy. I am sor- tingling bells, turn quickly to Love, now be addressed by Mrs. Charrie ry you are late." Teddy gave his and ask her to sing to you that you

name had been used in a play, either man who had come to live with him, which she holds in her hands, and the

I believe in boys and girls, the men and gold, felt a soft touch on his The reign of Love begins. You have and women of a great to-morrow; that band and a whisper made him think crowned the little maiden your Queen, whatsoever the boy soweth the man of his mother. He looked toward her, and she now holds a crown for you." shall reap. I believe in the curse of but was attracted by a hand on his Teddy folded his hands, and with ignorance, in the efficacy of schools, arm and a loud whisper in his ear: in the dignity of teaching, and in the "Oh, no, no; please yourself, please brow, together they repeated: joy of serving others. I believe in yourself; I'm the man to make you | "The Lord bless thee, and keep ther wisdom as revealed in human lives as happy! happy! Take it atl- the Lord makes his face to shine upon well as in the pages of a written book, all-all. Please yourself; please thee, and be gracious unto thee, the in lessons taught, not so much by pre- yourself." And on his chair, quite close Lord lift up the light of his countencept as by example; in ability to work to him, was the little man; bobbing ance upon thee, and give thee peace." by the flydro-Electric Commission. All with the hands as well as to think his head and winking his little oyes. with the head-in every thing that All day long he kept close to Ted- his long good-night kins, Teddy nomakes life large and lovely. I believe dy. At times the boy would catch the ticed on her brow a crown, and as he in beauty in the schoolroom, in the perfume of sweet flowers and fruit, put his arins about her neck, a rose home, in daily life, and in out-of- and feel the cling clasp of a soft hand, gropped from his hand upon her doors, I believe in laughter, in faith, but he shook himself free, and the brenst and nestled there. in all ideals, and distant hopes that nort whisper, gentle touch the gleam . "God is love," whispered Teddy

Me New Year's Story BEBEBE

Teddy's New Year's Choice

EW Years day had come. Ted-1ly and unhappily going upstairs, the old earth rolled slowly into said: the first rays of light, Through the shutters he could see streaks of gray dawn. He listened. No sound steps of strangers passing by. It was much too early to rise so he

settled himself down for a little morn- to work." ing "think," Teddy was fond of these quiet "thinks," as he called them. In the twilight and stillness he often thought over many things, and decided to his own satisfaction many questions which still puzzled older and wiser heads. This morning Teddy had something to think about. Last night heand his mamma had talked about the good old year which had rolled away for ever. Last year would never. never some back, but this year was had seen Teddy's companion, "I am just beginning. His mamma had afraid not, but I will not ask you to go spoken to him seriously about - the if you are tired." New Year. The old year had gone Teddy passed on to the sitting room. back to God with its story of all As he passed his mother he again his thoughts and words and actions. caught a glimpse of the lovely maiden Some were good, many were bad, but gazing at him with eyes full of tears,

must write. Should his new book bo ried Teddy away. What did she mean?

The light was growing clearer, and ing up to run after his mother when Dr. R. N. McBain, of Chicago, is denly sits down, smiling, on the curb- So at the first gray streak of dawn friend, he absent mindedly took Teddy was wondering what time it the little man hopped up on the sofa, spending Christmas with his parents stone, as if he had accomplished what . I'd hurry from my bed, some of these costly playthings out of was, when the door opened softly, and squatted himself on Teddy. is pocket. Curiosity was shown by so softly that no one heard it, and a some one present, and Ruskin there- queer little man slipped in and jump, boy himself, and Teddy could sourcely upon showed the gems, passing them ed up beside Teddy. He had a very move for the weight upon his chest. from hand to hand. One of the most large head, on which sat a pointed capvaluable of the collection fell to the set about with little bells. His over floor during this process, and with the were very small, and peered curiously apparent perversity of costly things, it through a pair of very large glasses rolled into a corner out of sight, and which lay on the top of his big, red nose. In his right hand he held a The friend was in a terrible state brass trumpet, in his left hand was a

of anxiety. Chairs were taken out, a golden ball. Round his waist was furniture removed and the carpet even a belt with deep pockets. His feet came in, and putting away the empty taken up. Meanwhile Ruskin was beg. were only very small, and his clothes basket hurried to lay off her wraps. ging his host not to take any trouble. Were a-glitter with gilt. "He seated "It is gone now-let it remain where himself on Teddy's pillow and looked Teddy thought, he had never before ception in the Memorial Hall. it is," he said, and attempted to at him sharply twisting and turning seen her look so tired and again he change the subject. When at last it his great head about, setting all the caught a glimpse of the little maiden. was found, Ruskin merely slipped it bells a-jingling. He bobbed up and back into his pocket without inter- down, poking his little feet under the rupting the remarks he was making clothes, quite heedless of Teddy's dis- his eyes.

Ruskin was practically a total ab- Teddy was so much surprised that Teddy was not happy unless he was lighted with the unusual skill and

"Who are you, and what do you

"What do you want?" said Teddy

Want to stay with you, to stay with you, to stay with you!" he said, that nothing but the tip of his pointed cap could be seen.

"To stay with me?" said Teddy. But the little man answered not a blankets. Toddy also sat quite still and was wondering what to do next. when up bobbed the strange little visitor, shook his head and shouted: "Yes, to live with you; to live with you; to live with you!"

"To live with me?" said Teddy. "Oh, yes, yes, yes, I am the man to make you happy. Please yourself, I'll always say. You shall always! please yourself while I am here," he shouted through his brass trumpet, as he perched himself on the foot of the bed and looked at Teddy through monstrous remarks, perhaps we would his great glasses. Teddy was now by- you for those you love;" and Teddy The trustees of the Erin school have ginning to feel cold, so he crept down looking up, was startled by the now companion at the foot of the bed.

the little man hopped to the door, and mond and rubles, sapphires and ame. Kinney to take charge of the work on too many airs about it just yet, peoped out, then shouted, "Oh! It's thysts, which sparkled like the frost after the Christmas vacation. as a good many people like turkey on cold, it's cold!" and popped into bed in the sun. From her ears, hung ear- A large crowd gathered at the home side Teddy in a thrice. "It's too cold of pure gold; in her right hand she form of a surprise party to bid fare-

heard the softest; sweetest whisper: saw by his side the sweetest little malden, dressed in pure white. He had only time to notice her beautiful ed Teddy in her arms, the little man left-over Chrisimas beef, too. It does golden hair, lovely targe blue eyes and slowly vanished, the bells giving the a basket of flowers and fruit which last jingle as he faded from sight. she held in her hand, when the little

happy, please yourself, please yourself," and again he set all the bells a- ors, and was somewhat surprised vacation, he has to begin "shopping jingling. "Lie still! it's cold, so cold," and Teddy huddled further under the them, and that quite often they came blankets.

Again the soft, sweet whisper, "Oh! "Keep still will you," said Teddy, as he turned to the little man. Now it is grew . bigger, the bells jingled more It was "ht a meeting of the local loudly, and the trumpet each time was "Giant Self comes very often to every

py New Year, but added, "you have our homes or our hearts. He cannot not begun well." Brother Bob laughed live where Love is." and said, "He doesn't look very hap-"Ladies and gentlemen, I have the py, at which Teddy said under his mother a very cold kiss, for he could may not hear the trumpet or the bells. It was not the first time Mrs. Catt's thing of nothing but the queer little Gaze at her, at the roses and crown

He took his seat sulkily and put out fishness cannot enter. The first day A CREED FOR THE NEW YEAR his hand for the cream jug. Just of the New Year has come and gone, then he caught a glimpse of white and with it has gone the Giant Self.

BY HELEN STIRLING

dy opened his eyes as the little man close behind him, his mother "Toddy, dear, I am so glad you have come in. I have been wishing for some one to take this basket to the was to be heard but the crunching Smeaton's. I am afraid they will Montreal. not have a very good New Year's dinner, as Mrs. Smeaton has been too ill

please yourself," shouted the little man in Teddy's car. "Oh, mother," said Teddy, sharply,

I am so tired, and besides I was goget someone else?" "No, dear," said Mrs. Troop, was the only one in the house who

they could not now be changed. But and holding towards him the basket the new year was like a new scribbler, of fruit and flowers, but the little each day a blank page, on which he man's bells were a-jingling as he hur-

> quickly close, and he was just jump- at \$50,000. He was now almost as big as the "Lie still, lie still," he shouted, "always please yourself, please yourself. I'm the man to make you happy, happy, please, yourself, always please yourself, I say," and he turned a evening last. somersault on the floor in his giec .-As the dinner bell rang Mrs. Troop

could hear-

"I am sorry my little man is unhappy, but he must not be-unpleasant. You had better go to your room Fair. pleasure of everyone. Good night." Teddy quietly left the room, the little man shouting in his car "please and up to his little room. He threw Then he shook his head again, and himself on the bed, and although he he did not drive away the tears or

and I don't care. It's all their fault." word; he lay very quiet under the to make you happy, happy, happy, always please yourself-please-" "Go away," cried Toddy, "it's all

> your fault-go away: I want my Now : 15-Teddy had not had his hear man suddenly grew smaller, and the little maiden grew large and more worship. beautiful. She stopped gulte close to Teddy and whispered softly: . "Oh, Teddy, I love you so won't you let 'me stay with you? See the

beautiful flowers and fruit I give to circumstances, among the blankets and watched his beautiful face he saw bending over "Stay with me, stay with me, oh, a pleasant evening was spent socially. please stay with me," and as she fold - -- Advocate. When Teddy's mamma crept softly

man popped up and shouted in his upstairs she found a sad, but loving little boy waiting for her. As she sat beside him, her hand clasping his, he told her the story of his morning visitwhen she told him that she had seen to her, and that her little man with his trumpet, bells and gifts, gave her great deal of trouble. He came so often, and shouted so toudly that sometimes she could scarcely catch the whispers of the beautiful maiden.

"Will the little man ever come back one of us, If he finds that Love Dr. and Mrs. F. W. Pearce, of State Teddy was late for breakfast. His living with us he turns away. Only College, Penn., who have been visit-

"Will the maiden stay with me?" "As long as we fisten to her slightest whisper and gaze into her loving eyes, by design or seeldent, and she took Oh, what fun he would have with him giltter of the man will look very poor. Keep Love in your heart, and selhis mother's hand, on his fair, young

As she bent over him to give him

Neighborhood News--

GEORGETOWN

The Women's Institute sent baskets for Christmas to the needy families Dr. Walter Langury, of Fort Wayno, be moving about. He is almost burst-Ind., was a guest at the home of his nephew, Mr. Elmer C. Thompson, during the week.

There was a good attendance at the Armenian Boys' Concert in the Town Hall last evening. They put on an excellent programme which was much Mrs. William Noble, of Vancouver. was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Campbell last week.

held its annual Christmas entertainment in the school room of the church, and makes some noises, such as only "Please yourself, please yourse'f; I After a bountiful tea had been served, a boy can make, and no one else am the man to make you happy a very varied concert was given by the would it he could. They do not mean members of the Sunday School all of anything. He makes them-well, just whom performed their parts efficient -

Mr. Castell has been asked by the ing to do something else. Can't you School Board to give one hour and a half more time per week to musical his signals. He is hoping that Jim or instruction in the school, and his salary is to be increased to \$175.00 per is no reply. annum, beginning Jan. 4, 1926 .--Herald.

OAKVILLE

200 acres near Burlington, to Mr. Geo. something. South, of Brampton, including the entire stock and implements.

The municipal rink was opened to sorry when it hit the mark. He did not its patrons last week for the first time mean to hit the dog; in fact, he is very filled with ugly blots and careless. Teddy took some books out of the this year. Quite a number availed fond of it. He threw the stone bewriting, or should it be kept thus clean book-case and stretched himself on themselves of the skating opportunity. cause he and the dog happened to be and white? He would try very hard the sofa. He was very unhappy and The Ontario Gazette announces that there together, and it seemed a handy He, carried the gems loose in his to keep this year free from blots. But kicked at the wall with his heels, mak- Captain James Andrew's shipyard has thing to do. his mamma had said last night that ing a great noise. Between the kicks been incorporated as "The Oakville For a few seconds he stands and it all depended on the choice he made. he heard the front door open and then Yacht Building Co., Ltd.," capitalized looks up into a tree—at nothing. Then And with the joyous expectation.

Messrs. Arthur Thomas and Howard Carson left yesterday morning, motor-

ing for Lakelands, Florida. A splendld one-act play, entitled "On Account of the Lobster," was rendered by members of the A. Y. P. A. in the St. Judo's Parish Hall on Monday Rt. Rev. D. T. Owen, D.D., Bishop of Niagara, and Mrs. Owen, were the

guests at the Rectory last Sunday evening. The Bishop preached to a crowded church at the evening service When she took her seat at the table and afterwards held an informat re-The Brantwood school closing day entertainment, was held on Friday But the Magle of the bells was still afternoon in the kindergarten primary in his cars and the glitter of gilt in room. Over one hundred people, in-

After dinner came the games but children, were present, and were de-

wood log," persisted the tall man, "and voted \$25,00 as a grant to the Fall

for to night; you are spoiling the Miss Ella and Mary McQuarte spent last week with friends in Acton. - Inspector J.-J.-Craig-visited the localschool last week and found everything yourself, please yourself." He was so in order. All were pleased to see the busy with his own thoughts that he Colonel looking so well and able to to make you happy!" and he tossed did not notice the little maiden close attend his duties, after an illness of

The regular meeting of the Coningsby Women's institute and U. F. O. will was quite a big and brave boy, too, be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Mckinnon this (Thursday) ovensobs. As he lay there he thought ing, December 31. A collection will he "no one loves me, they all hate me taken for the Sick Children's Hospital. Expenses of the township Board of "Yes, yes, yes," shouted the little Health for the year were as follows: man, who had perched himself on Dr. E. C. Reynolds, Medical Health Teddy's head, and was making ugly Officer, inspecting 15 schools, disingrimaces at the little maiden who feeting, placarding and for formaline was standing close by. "I am the man \$143. 85; Expenses of members of the Board, \$13.40; expenses of three meetings, \$34,20; sending two indigent patlents to Poor House, \$2.50. After many months of delay,

ituation for the United Church Hillsburg has at last culminated in a way that promises well for the future. seen a very strange sight. The little The congregatione is now united permantly and will soon have a place of Improvement of Asthur McConnell and David Douglas is reported, after

their severe injuries. Both are doing as well as can be expected under the him. On her head was a crown set engaged Miss Myrtle McKinney, the .The breakfast bell just then rong: with the most precious stones, dia- daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Mcrings of pearl, about her waist, a girdle of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hamilton in the held a basket of roses and fruit; in well to Miss C. A. Shaw, before de-"Teddy was about to speak when he her left, a crown of pure gold, while parting from Bisbane, as teacher. her face beamed as the brightest, After presenting her with a mantel "Teddy, Teddy, do as mother wishes, saftest moohlight. Teddly suddenly clock and a cut glass saind dish and please others!" And looking round he threw his arms about her and sobbed: servers and the accompanying address,

MILTON .

Post Office to handle the Christmas mail, which this year was unusually

Mesars. George and Robert Allen, of Detroit, are spending the holidays at their homes here. Mrs. Neville, of Toronto, formerly of Milton, and mother of Mrs. A. L. Chambers, fell recently and broke har hip and arm, necessitating her re-

moval to the hospital. The annual Christmas tree was given the children at the Gordon Home at 10.30 on Christmas morning. A number of citizens interested in the children were at the Home on this oc-

ing Mr. and Mrs. W. Hume, Martin you tell the difference between an ass covered the ramsackle old wooden Street, have gone to Ottawn to visit Dr. and Mrs. George Hume. The elections for the Mock Parliament at the Young People's League on Monday evening was the source of as he walked out. great amusement, and the speeches by the fourteen candidates asking for the support of the electorate were very

clever. The contest was a close one. but resulted in the election of the Mc-Nabb party. The results were as fol-Premier-Mr. Gordon McNabb.

Secretary of State-Mr. C. McEach-Minister of Home Affairs-H. Fay. Minister of Foreign Affairs-M. boys grin?" Minister of Health-Elsie Stewart. Minister of Finance-Miss M. Field.

Minister of Justice-Mr. M. White. The community Christmas tree and festivities was held last. Wednesday evening from 7 to 8 o'clock. The tree in was located at the north-west corner of Dr. Gowland's residence and was ing the same thing." brilliantly illuminated with electric of the class. the kiddles in town who presented wice, "A washed child dreads the themselves wore each handed a bag water." of candy by Santa Claus. Community singing was a feature of the programme, the Band also being present, playing some fine selections in their usual

Town and Country are not to be accounted for, although they may be studied and described. In the morning he uppears at the door of his home bright-faced and happy. He has no particular reason for opening the door and standing on the step except that he is alive and wants to ing with desire to "do something," and must get some of it out of him before bedtime, or he will not be fit to go to sleep. He does not know this with his head but his muscles know it; and, after all, a boy's museles do a good deal of thinking for him.

He stands on the step, and whistles and looks up and down the street. He does not know what he is looking for. In fact, he really is not looking for Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Coo last last week anything, but just hoping something to spend the holidays with friends in will appear that will give him something to do. Then he jumps down On Friday evening Knox Church the steps, two at a time, climbs up on the gate, hangs on it for a moment, because he is a boy, and does not know what else to do. Meanwhile he looks intently up and down the street and listens for a possible response to

Then, as if a sudden inspiration had come to him, he bangs the gate wide open and rushes down the middle of the street, yelling like a young Indian. Of course no inspiration-not even a coherent thought-did come to W. S. Davies has disposed of the late him; he only did that because he had Col. William Hendrie's stock farm of nothing else to do, and simply must do

He picks up a stone and throws fit at a dog, and then winces and feels

NOT UNREASONABLE AFTER ALL

grocery store, exchanging the confidences of the fishing season, and as the conversation progressed the stories increased in size. At last the tall, hank man on the cracker-barrel pulled himself together and began:

"I went down to the river this morning, and although the water was nigh almost to a flood. I took a ten-foot "Stop there," exclaimed the fat man with the corn-cob pipe. "Tell us you took an eight pound trout, and I'll sit | One day she ran away with dly by. But a ten-foot pike, never!" "I took a ten-foot pike-pole," continued the unruffled man on the bar rel. "and in less than five minutes I hooked out a fifteen-foot bass-" "See here! See here!" shouted th owner of the grocery store. "You" have to go away from here to finish that story. I haven't any lightningrods on this store yet." "I hooked out a fifteen-foot bass-

think I can get for it." ORIGIN OF "ROD IN PICKLE"

annual slaughter resultant ong made the brine tub necessary as To rural Britain the third Sunday in Wovember was long known as "Salting Sunday." In bygone days the saltings along the Essex coast were valuable properties, for salt being then obtained by eyaporation only, the deposit from the tidal waters year after year, amounted to no small quantity. Year after year to the saltings came the farmers in their hig lumber wagons, bent on exchanging their surplus live stock for the necessary preservative at the then current rate of one sheep for two bushels of salt. It can be understood from this how the spilling of salt came to be regarded with superstitious feelings, and to be deemed unluoky. Another old saying; "I have a red in pickle for you." also priginated about this time. Children in those days were sternly dealt with, and a bundle of twigs was quite often kept in sonk-

render it supple AS GOOD AS HE SENT

That the request discourteous courteous reply, is the moral of the following little story: through one of the Eastern States. At simplicity—shall we say? of the old and everywhere created a sensation a cross-road some miles from Boston days. he became uncertain of his route. An aged country woman with a basket was the only person in sight. He stopped his car, and called out to

"I say Hey, you!" . The old woman put down her baskel, and stood at indignant attention.

With every evidence of resentment, she picked up her basket and screamed back: "Well, who's a-hindenin' ye?"

THE DIFFERENCE

One day a bishop chanced into a shop a joke on somebody else. The druggist, wishing to have a joke at the ex- dered how they could get a plank that pense of the Bishop, said: Bishop, can you tell me the difference between an ass and a bishon?" gauzy skirt really jumped through The Bishop could not. "Well," said the druggist, smiling all over, "an ass carries its cross on fire. (burden) upon its back, but the hishop

and a druggist?" After some hesitation the druggist answered: "No sir I can't." "Neither can I!" retorted the bishop

HARD-BOILED KIDS

Wanted-Three or more furnished wo indestructible children. Just because a woman is a grans widow is no sign she's green. Important question of the month:

ANOTHER "DRY" VOTE

A burnt child dreads the fire." anounces the teacher during the lesson rattled on its way to the show grounds proverbs. "Now, give me a senlonce different in wording but mean- and many of our elders too-was a A grimy hand shot up from the back committees which used to arise at 4 "Please, teacher," came u

A FACT

"BEING A BOY"

THE OLD HAN OF THE

HE SHOWBILLS ON THE SHED

Most any rural doings for me had passing charm: then I, a rough-and-ready lad, liv ed on my grandad's farm; dance and ploughing bee, boyhood days were great and all attracted me: But the event of all events which served to turn my head,

on the roadside shed. never could pronounce the word: they printed on the bills. and often wondered what they meant . I'm ignorant of that still; The gaudy colored pictures, though,

Was when the circus bills were pasted

For weeks before the show I'd I'd keep the garden free from weeds, I'd start a little private bank and I'd And had I practised it till

Loften wish some guiding

lured me on ahead

With hopeful expectations as those showbills on the shed. strive to learn the knack Of turning somersaults and such nearly broke my neck: She jumped the bars and L fell off, bruised and bleeding wreck. This dampened my ambitions, but

nursed my wounds and said: "Some day I'll be a rider, and have my picture on the shed." When show day came I'd rob bank of all its hoarded tin. And bright and early reach the field to see the show come in: I'd dissipate in lemonade and peanuts crisp and sweet.

I was going to ask you how much you And watch the grand procession it passed along the street. With golden vans and playing bands and steeds with sprightly trend, o-me-'twould-be far grander than the posters on the shed.

from the British shooting season, has Though from the show way I have strayed and chosen-another track. Yet in my musings oft I find myself go winding back; And though to big and proud perhaps to tag the circus band. Yet memories of that happy still at my command childian for possesses me though youthful days have fled, I'm happy when I see the showbills on the wayside shed.

> Two weeks ago I gave part of a 50car-old story written by Mr. White, of Victoria, B.C., for the Barrie Examiner on memories of circus days

THE OLD-TIME CIRCUS

as now, for every movie announce- big, powerful mulles doing the heavier ment from Milton Sills' "The Sea work, and as these overnight hauls ing in the family brine-tub in order to Three Musketeers," down to the les- smaller places, unlike now, had their greatest interest to those old-timers, those circuses were noted especially route bill was the limit. Therefore one color, except the performing one way have the movies robbed ways coal black steeds, while Dixon's

tations of fearful antediluvian dinisaurs and their several relations must the old-time circus and managorie of have been of the same family as those fifty years ago. depicted in the present moving picture, "The Lost World," which I note is showing in a Barrie picture house "We want to go to Boston!" he this week, so a fairly good idea may easily be gained of the terribleness of those old-time circus billboards. "And every old boy will remember"

how his hair stood on end as he viewand ed those lurid pictures of those ferocious animals and wondered if a wasn't really one of those terrible creatures which had escaped from formerly visiting menageric that was really the sea serpent which was so f a druggist who was very fond of frequently seen in Kempenfeldt Bay back in those days. Then, too, he wonwas strong enough to hold that massive elephant, or if the girl in the hoop of fire, or if she did show how she managed to keep from catching

. "Those billboards which were the carries his cross (of gold) on his most prominently located, at least so far as the writer was concerned, were "Very good," replied the bishop, and greated at the gore where Elizabeth then continued: "Now, my friend, can Street turned into Allandale road, and uildings which at that time stood there; adjoining the corner of Elizaboth and Mary Streets, both sides; and all around the Market Square, where the Public Library now stands. And during the couple of weeks or so each season they were in use they held an interested, goggle-eyed, wide-mouthed audience of schoolboys for most of rooms for light housekeeping. Have the time, and mighty little attention was given to lessons either at Public School or Sunday School so long as a boy had to pass them several times

each day, leaving a lingering impres-"And glimpsing back to that time "Why do little girls smile and little when finally the day arrived for the appearance of that circus; he's a queer old curmudgeon who doesn't even yet remember the thrill of getfing up early in the morning and trudging out to meet that show as it in Queen's Park. Nearly every boyvolunteer member of those reception a.m., by prearrangement, getting snoozes, through the night for fear he might not wake up, and hustle three defraying the cost of construction of places, where others have to have law or four miles out into the country to ticular gang it was the general pracand then hang the cord out of the County of Halton on the 10th day of and do not annoy or pest customers in all ideals, and distant hopes that woll whisper, sentle iqueb, the gleam disperium of gold and the perfume of gold and the gold and the perfume of gold and the g money did no bring happiness. We window, and the first one up agted as December, 1925. think of that sometimes now, with a sort of call-boy, and in turn visited Any, motion to quash or set aside by sending out ignorant agents solicit-Soft come are difficult to eradicate of disconteniment and disout Holloway's Corn Removed Corn Removed Residual to end of the made happier of the made the made happier of the made the made

dressed and wiggling into their clothes as they hurried along. In those days the circus did not travel by train, for the wagons were all drawn by horses from one show place to the next one. And part of the show, the menagerie, sideshows, etc.—was on its way to the next stopping place while the circus night performance was still going on and in case of accident or delay, by washout, broken bridge or bad roads, t was an impatient bunch of boys foosting upon the top of some rail fence waiting for the straggling part PHONE 88 ade to come into view. "There was usually elephants in the lead of that long procession of wage ons, one of which would always test the strength of any weak-appearing culvert or bridge before the heavy wagons were sent over. Everyone must have noticed that an elephant is always careful where it steps, even walking along a paved street, and Phone No. 22 never loses its footing upon one place

and invariably refuses to cross bridge or culvert without thumping ! with its trunk or testing it with its extended foot to assure itself of safety. And in case of any doubt-it will retrace its steps and scramble down the side of the bank, wade the stream and climb the other side to the solid roadway again. . Thowehaky bridge on Bradford Street, at Breen's Pump Works, was usually held in suspicion by those elephants who had to cross t on these passages. "There was always an elephant or DR. J. M. BELL, D. D. S., L. D. two at the rear also, those which had

of security until another is gained,

been used in the circus performance and had left with the last section, to An auction sale, the district fair, the be used to push out of the ruck any wagon which had become stuck or desired. could not be moved by the attached horses-and it surely was an unwieldly load that would not move when the big square head and massive body of several tons of elephant "hefted" it.

THE CIRCUS OF YESTERDAY in the days I carried water to the thirsty elephants Or wormed a surreptitious way beneath the circus tents. It seems to me the camels were a tall er lot than now: The lions' fretted roaring was more terrible, somehow; The peanuts were a crisper

lemonade, I think, Was very much superior to what you get to drink At any circuses to-day-in short, I'm frank to say. The circus of my boyhood was much better than to-day. The seats are so much harder new: the tent is not so high; The elephants are not so big, as they

go shambling by; The toy balloons are not, I'm sure, as brightly red, and blue sprightly kangaroo Seems not, by half, as wonderful as those I used to see; The Polar bears are not as white and do not interest me They do not have such funny clowns; the show is not as vast: don't think they've improved upon the circus of the past.

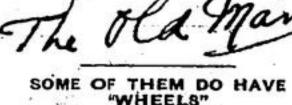
The sideshow tent is smaller now: the banners out in front Don't bear such splendid pictures was formerly their wont: The hair of the Circassian girl is no as long and queer,
She isn't half as pretty as she - that bygone year, The tatooed man has faded some, the Punch and Judy show Lacks half the bubbling humor that _it had so long ago: The wild man caught in __ tame, and when I see Him smile, I know the circus is not what it used to be.

death-defying feats terror in their seats: But as they feed the animals when the big show is through My hair stands not upon its end it always used to do. do not feel that anguished hope-I know it was a sin-That bade me stand out front and say, "Please, Mister, take me in." Nor do I seek the circus grounds, when all is moved away. to mourn the vanished glory of the

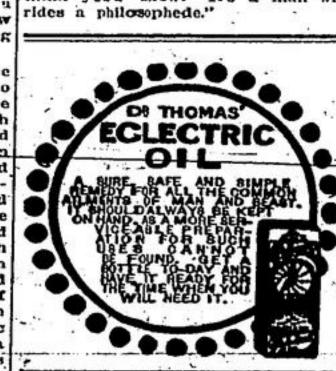
know they do the loop-the-loop and

gladsome, yesterday. "And while those shows of that in his boyhood. Here follows the rest of the present day, there was a much time were , smaller affairs than those larger proportion of horses necessitat-"It will be remembered that gaudy or through having to haul the entire show bills were not as common then outfit from town to town as well as Hawk" or Doug. Falpbanks' "The were anything from 20 to 40 miles the ser important attractions have dis- regular visits of those tented shorts, plays that would have been of the and through that necessity some of when a half-sheet, auction or horse for their magnificent horses-all of the genuine excitement among old and horses, of course. Stone's Circus used young when those flaring bills were only cream-colored ones, Kemp's had pasted up all over town. In more than iron-gray ones, Robinson's were al-Mr. L. was touring with his family especially country people of their for a time were of the pichald variety

And this gives a good description of



Little Mary is a born searcher after information, and Tommy, her brother. is always ready to supply her with it. Mary was poring over a large book she had seen her father reading the night before. "P-h-i-l-o-s-o-p-h-e-r," she spelled, laborlously. Then, after a moment's inward struggle, she said, "Philosopher. What's that, Tommy?" "Huh!" said Tommy. "I should think you'd know. It's a man who



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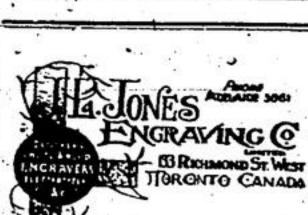
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