



**OUR WISHES**  
The best of all life's blessings,  
The warmth of yuletide cheer  
Be with you this glad season  
And continue through the year.

**A. SHAHEEN**  
19 Pine Street South Phone 605 Timmins



With our best wishes we are sending to our customers, old and new our season's greetings and thanking you for past favours we include the old saying "A Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year."

**I. K. PIERCE FURNITURE CO.**  
42 Third Avenue Phone 302 Timmins



O "Bells of Yule"—ye golden bells  
Chime from your frosty towers  
A joyous Christmas canticle  
For unforgotten hours.

**JOHN W. FOGG, LIMITED**  
HEAD OFFICE AND YARD: Timmins, Ont.—Phone 117  
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**SKY BROTHERS**  
and  
**THE DOMINION DOLLAR STORES**

Our entire organization joins us in extending to you our sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

South Porcupine Schumacher Timmins

**Music of the Bells at Christmastide**

The Quaint Story of the Boy that Found Music at Christmas Time, When the Bells Rang.

In the December issue of The Canadian, the monthly journal issued by the Ontario School for the Deaf at Belleville, there is the following quaint Christmas story, of two boys, a Christmas gift, and the gift of music:—

**The Christmas Bells**  
In a land far away there was a beautiful church. Three bells hung high in the tower. They were wonderful bells.

There was a great bell that went Clang! Clang! Clang! There was the middle sized bell that went Cling! Cling! Cling! and the little bell went Ring! Ring! Ring! These bells rang only on Christmas eve.

No one knew who rang them. Some said it was the wind. Others thought fairies touched the bells.

The people loved to hear the bells ring. They sat very still in the beautiful church. They listened for the music of the bells. How happy they were when they heard them ring!

But one Christmas eve the people waited and waited. The bells did not ring. Then how sad they were!

Christmas came again and the people listened for the bells. But the bells did not ring.

Again it was Christmas. The bells did not ring.

Every Christmas eve the people went to the beautiful church. They listened for the music of the bells. The bells did not ring.

One Christmas eve two little boys were playing in the snow. They were Pedro and Little Brother.

Little Brother said, "O, Pedro, can't we go to the church tonight? Perhaps the bells will ring." And Pedro answered, "Yes, Little Brother, we will go."

They started for the church. The snow was falling fast, but they trudged along.

A low cry was heard. What could it be? Little Brother was afraid. He asked, "What is that, Pedro?" Pedro said, "I will go and see." He ran across the road, and what do you think he found? In the snow was a little dog. It was cold and hungry. Pedro took the poor little thing in his arms. He tucked it under his jacket to keep it warm.

"You go to the church, Little Brother, I shall take the dog home. It must have food or it will die," he said.

"Oh, Pedro, I don't want to go alone." "But you will go, won't you dear? You will carry this money to the altar for me? I have saved all my pennies. I changed them for this bright dollar."

"Yes, Pedro, I will go." Little Brother took the silver dollar and walked to the church alone. He walked slowly in and took a seat. All the people sat listening for the bells. The priest was there in his snow-white robes. He said, "Bring your gifts to the altar."

The king brought a golden crown. All the people listened but the bells did not ring. The queen gave her jewels. The people listened but the bells did not ring. Rich men laid money on the altar. Still the bells did not ring.

Little Brother thought, can I go up there with this one little dollar? Yes, I told Pedro I would go, and I must.

He went slowly up to the altar, and laid Pedro's dollar on the very edge. And listen! The Bells!

The great bell went Clang! Clang! Clang! The middle sized bell went Cling! Cling! Cling! and the little bell went Ring! Ring! Ring! The waiting people were very happy.

Little Brother ran from the church. Pedro had warmed and fed the little dog. He was coming to meet Little Brother. Little Brother ran to meet Pedro. He said, "Oh, Pedro, the bells! I wish you had heard the bells!"

"I did hear them, Little Brother. Their sound came over the snow to me. It was the sweetest sound I ever heard."

Years went by. Pedro became a great musician. People wondered at his music. They said, "We never have heard such music before," and Pedro answered, "Ah, but you never heard the Christmas bells as I heard them long ago."

**Some Odd Superstitions About the Christmastide**

Dreams which one dreams on Christmas Day are said to come true, for then "no fairy takes, nor witch has power to harm."

"Put a pinch of salt on the fire and put an egg in the henhouse," runs a country saying concerning Christmas Day, then you will never lack of friends and your hens will lay all the year round.

To eat herrings, fresh or salted on Christmas Day for a first meal is to bring good luck. You will then have money in your pocket all the year round.

Do not look in the mirror on Christmas Eve, or you may see ghosts.

In the Isle of Man, Christmas Eve is called the Eve of Mary, and a strange carol, "The Carol of Evil Women," used to be sung in the churches, followed by the "Child Carol."

Christmas weddings are believed lucky, but anyone born on Christmas Day is supposed to be fated to see ghosts. Nothing planted or sown on Christmas Day will die; money received on Christmas Day brings luck all the year. Our custom of exchanging gifts is probably allied to this superstition.

The biggest private Christmas tree ever seen in Britain was one which the Duke of Norfolk had cut from his own estate. It stood 70 feet high, weighed nearly four tons, and bore on its branches presents to the value of \$22,500.

**Christmas Trees on a Commercial Basis**

New York State College of Forestry Indicates Results that May be Expected in Raising Christmas Trees.

A Christmas tree garden planted and managed by the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University indicates some of the results that may be expected in raising Christmas trees on a commercial basis.

The trees in this plantation are Norway spruce, planted three feet apart on land rather badly exhausted from continuous planting of corn and potatoes. The soil is sandy loam. The second and third years the plantation was cultivated, losses did not exceed 10 per cent. These were due to drought and poor soil, certain small areas being quite stony. There was no loss from insects or disease. The stock used had been grown two years in seed beds, then transplanted and grown three years before being set out in the plantation. It is not necessary, however, to use five-year-old trees in establishing Christmas tree plantations. Trees that have grown two years in a seed bed, then transplanted and allowed to remain two years in the transplant bed are ideal for this sort of enterprise. Three-year-old trees that have been transplanted only one year may do very well, but the four-year-old tree is preferred.

The plantation has been in existence eight years. During the last four years the tallest trees, some of them twelve feet, averaged an annual height-growth of approximately two and one-half feet, but three-quarters of the trees are between six and eight feet; these are more symmetrically formed and are the size most frequently found in the market.

Profits obtainable from Christmas tree plantations may come first from potted trees after the trees have been in the plantation two or three years. Trees for ornamental purposes may be sold from time to time. For the Christmas market, trees seven and eight years old bring fifty to seventy-five cents apiece and sometimes more.

Christmas tree plantations should be located within reach of a good market and the owner must expect to protect the plantation during the season when Christmas trees are being cut and sold.

**Holly Used as a Symbol Back in the Fifth Century**

As far back as the fifth century Christmas invested holly branches with a symbolism that helped to keep sacred memories alive. The crimson berries symbolized the blood shed on Calvary by the Founder of the Christian religion; the prickly leaves held remembrances of the Crown of Thorns and the bitterness of the holly bark was symbolic of the draught of which Christ partook while hanging on the Cross.

Once, in fact, there was a custom of making a decoction from the bark, and drinking it in the midst of the Christmas celebrations so, that—in the words of an old writer—"Ye shall not forget the Cross as ye rejoice in the Manger."

To show how tradition grows, it was not long before the simple symbolism of the prickly leaves passed into a belief that the Crown of Thorns was itself formed of twisted holly branches. From that sprang another belief—that it was not until after Calvary that holly berries were red. The change came, it was said, because the green berries on the branches used for the Crown of Thorns were covered with blood.

The oldest belief connected with holly in that it was the "burning bush" referred to in the Old Testament.

**The Star of Bethlehem**

It was the eve of Christmas  
The snow lay deep and white,  
I sat beside my window,  
And looked into the night;  
I heard the church bells ringing,  
I saw the bright stars shine,  
And childhood came again to me  
With all its dreams divine.

Then as I listened to the bells,  
And watched the skies afar,  
Out of the East majestic  
There rose a radiant star;  
And every other star grew pale  
Before that heavenly glow,  
It seemed to bid me follow  
And I could not choose but go.

Street to street it let me,  
By many a mansion fair,  
It shone through dingy casements  
On many a garret bare;  
From highway on to highway,  
Through alleys dark and cold,  
And where it shone, the darkness  
Was flooded all with gold.

Sad hearts forgot their sorrow,  
Royal hearts grew soft and mild,  
And weary little children  
Turned in their sleep and smiled;  
While many a homeless wanderer  
Uplifted penitent eyes,  
Seeming to see a home at last  
Beyond those starry skies

And then the gates rolled backward,  
I stood where angels trod;  
It was the Star of Bethlehem  
That led me up to God.

Henry J. Moore, noted Canadian horticulturalist writes:—So are we but links in a chain. We link the past and the present to future generations, and so to eternity will be handed down the love and kindness which characterize the Christmas spirit, and which emanated from Bethlehem at the birth of One whom we shall honour on Christmas Day and who asked the world "to consider the lilies of the field."



In extending my greetings at this season of the year I wish to express my appreciation and thanks for your patronage in the past year and trust for its continuance in the one drawing near.

**MRS. J. PLUTA**  
LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S WEAR  
25 1/2 Pine Street North : : : : Timmins



Merry Christmas and Good Wishes to All with an added thought for a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

**HILL - CLARK - FRANCIS LIMITED**  
Timmins New Liskeard



May Christmas be the merriest,  
The happiest of days,  
So you'll be very richly blest  
In many happy ways.

**FRANK FELDMAN**  
GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS  
112 Pine Street South : : : : Timmins



Wishing all our customers and friends sincere good wishes for Christmas and all the Coming Year and hoping that health, wealth and happiness be yours this time.

**SHANKMAN BROS.**  
92 Third Avenue Phone 207 Timmins