

Alex Russell THE BIG STORE Alex. Russell

JUST THINK OF IT—Only eight more days to Krismas. Select your gifts at once and have them useful as well as ornamental.

Gifts for Men

- Suspenders put up in boxes 50c pr
Kerchiefs, satin lined at 75c, \$1, \$1.25
Neck Ties in Puffs, Ascots, Derby's,
Strings, &c., from 10c to \$1.25
Gloves, silk lined for.....\$1.50
Fur Caps, Fur Coats,
Silk Handkerchiefs, Initial.

Gifts for Ladies

- Kid Gloves in any shade or color
for \$1.10 and.....\$1.35
Silk Handkerchiefs, Initial
Sable Ruffs at...\$10, \$15, 20, \$22
Sable Muffs\$6, \$8 and \$15.
Fancy Collars
Fancy Belts at 25c, 50, 75, \$1, \$1.40
Fancy Handkerchiefs from 5c to 75c

LOOK AT OUR NORTH WINDOW—For some suggestions in Fancy China Gifts. The largest, best selected and cheapest Stock of China in town.

GROCERIES FOR XMAS

- RAISINS—Seeded, Seedless, Layer, &c.
PEELS—of all Kinds
NUTS—Almond, Walnut, Hazel, Peanuts
CANDIES—Fancy or Mixed.

Shop early and avoid the rush that naturally comes the week before Christmas.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ALL PARTS OF TOWN.

Alex Russell

SUCCESSOR TO J. A. HUNTER.

Rush in Your Fowl as soon as possible and get the big Prices.

The Season's Problem

—AND—

Its Solution

THE PROBLEM: What shall I give this Xmas? Something useful and at the same time suggestive of the season will be very acceptable.

Our Christmas Goods

Differ from the ordinary lines in that, they are more of the nature of novelties than goods of the same class, carried at other seasons. They are put up in tasteful boxes with HOLIDAY DESIGNS "Christmas Greetings," etc.

THE SOLUTION: Following are a few suggestions for the Gift Buyer, all of which, are what can be called Christmas Goods and suitable for Gifts.

For Your Gentlemen Friends:

- Ties, Cravats, Mufflers, Chest Protectors,
Gloves, Suspenders, Underwear, Silk Handkerchiefs,
Pyjamas, Fancy Socks, Pins, White Waist Coats,
Cuff Links, Silk Garters, Collars, Woolen Gloves,
Shirts, Silk Squares, Patent Shoes, Hats & Caps, etc.

For the Ladies:

- Handkerchiefs, plain and fancy, and in Fancy boxes, Kid Gloves,
Lined and Fur trimmed Gloves and Mitts,
New Fancy Silk Stocks in Persian and Military effects,
Neck Ribbons, Silk Cambric and Bolting Cloth Collar Tabs,
Fancy Garters in dainty boxes, Silk Belts and Corsets,
Silk and Crepe de Chine Mufflers, and White Wool Mufflers,
Umbrella Shawls and Opera Wraps, Beautiful Finette Laine Blouse Lengths,
Patent Leather Shoes and Hosiery.

For Your Mother or Married Friends:

- Cosy down Comforters, White and Colored Comforters and Quilts,
Reversible Wool Rugs, Table Linen and Table Napkins,
Table Cloths and dozens of other things which go to make the home bright and comfortable.

We will spare no effort to please our customers. You are invited to come and look at things, you will not be pressed to buy and our suggestions and experience will be at your service.

We have a full Stock of Candies, Nuts, Table Raisins, etc. Come early and get one of our Beautiful Art Calendars.

H. H. MOCKLER

THE FASHIONS IN NEW YORK.

This is distinctly an 1830 Winter. The skirts are fuller than we have seen them for years and nearly all are trimmed with ruffles. They are now made shorter in the back and longer in front, indeed, practically round. They rest fully four inches on the floor in front and hang only three inches longer than this in back. They fit closely about the hips, descend in full sweeping lines and have all the trimmings massed around the bottom. The trimming on the full skirt is nearly always put on in "running-about" lines, but the vertical line may also be followed. Women have come to appreciate so thoroughly the

comfort of the short skirt that it is being universally adopted. Possibly the passing of the long coat may be traced to a similar desire for comfort. However this may be, it is certain that the long coat and all tight effects will presently disappear before the 1830 Eton coat, with its full sleeve and lack made in one piece, and the loose short coat that reaches just below the waist line. Another feature that is wholly new this season is the high girde, about seven inches deep absolutely round across the back and carefully fitted into the figure. The continued popularity of the flat effects and long lines from the shoulder downward enables the straight front corset to more than hold its own.

EARLY DAYS.

A Racy Narrative by Robt. Cochrane

Dear Sir, In your issue of two weeks ago, you spoke of the death of Mr. Henry Brown, of Elderslie, Co. Bruce, the man who, in '22, was a resident of Egremont, and who was one of the principal performers at the first concert held in our town, and who, along with myself, many, many years ago led Walkerton in a blinding snow storm, on a raft and came near being wrecked by the way.

That remark, Sir, has brought very forcibly to my mind the incidents of that trip and many others of a similar nature that my departed friend and I were mixed up in and it just occurred to me, a man not much used with letter writing, could I put those incidents together in a sort of intelligent way, that it might be a little interesting to your readers of both Grey and Bruce.

The people of Bruce have their old pioneer gatherings every year, and we often come across reminiscences from the pen of some of the old settlers, who like to talk of those old days, but how seldom have you seen anything of the kind written by any of the old pioneers material to work upon. Although I still I am not one of its pioneers, but I certainly claim to be one of the pioneers of Bruce, and although it is many years since I left it, I still have a warm heart towards the old spot, and having lived in both places, what I have seen and what I have gathered from many of the old, old settlers, who have long since passed away, convince me that the pioneers of Grey had many more hardships to encounter in the settling of this country than had the settlers of Bruce, and still I never saw a line written upon the subject, by any of them and now to my mind at the eleventh hour I am going to try my hand at it, the idea of so doing originating from the name, Henry Brown, in one of your last Rays. My first experience of bush life, Mr. Editor, was in the Peel bush between Fergus and Fergus, on the way to the township of Egremont, I and my mate came through it in the dead of night. Up to that time I was a town-boy and I dressed I suppose as town-boys usually are, and my biggest trouble that night and digging my slippers upon my feet when I reached home I ever saw in some of the blackest bread I ever saw in my life. The following day my father and young brother were going to Dundas mill at the Rocky, with a grist. Curious, I suppose, to see the mill that had turned out such beautiful bread, I decided to go with them, the oxen were hitched to the sleigh and we started the sleighing was poor, but the grist was light. Five bushels, in those days, was considered a pretty fair grist and the getting of that amount, more especially if the wheat was rusted incurred a good deal of both time and labor. It had to be battered out in bags, then taken then shovelled into bags, the most of which had to be borrowed, then taken away to some flaring mill to get cleaned, and when the flour arrived too often there would be but little of it left, when all the borrowed thing was paid back. Well Sir, we arrived at the mill and I have no recollection what it was like. I never saw it again, but I will recollect when leaving of a man coming to the door and asking father if he would take his grist and he was told to throw it on, in a few minutes he returned carrying, in the whole of it, contained in 2 bags, in the one was the flour and shorts with a bit of a string around it to separate the one from the other and a wee huc bran in the other. That man, Sir, was Archibald Hunter, the founder of our town, the builder of the old British, the owner of the fine farm it stands upon, and the man who passed away, worth a large amount of money. You are not to think that we were entirely dependent upon the Rocky mill, we had one in Fergus. Father and brother attended

to the milling business and took in the Fergus trips, but later on I was sent to Arthur with a load of oats, that I think was the first grain I had ever taken to market and the first I think we ever sold. My team was very poorly matched, Bright was a splendid animal, Buck a lather, got along with them very well as long as they had something to draw, but when relieved of the load old Buck commenced to crowd and crowd until he came to a deadlock and to get him started I had to load him up with stones (not the curling stones, Mr. Editor), but the real get away, I can't think where I dumped them, I threw them out gradually as I moved along.

I have already told you where I got my first taste of mud. My second taste upon a much larger scale was got some seven or eight miles this side of Paisley. My old friend Henry was about hiding farewell to Egremont, or rather Varney, for had he been there to day he would have been a near neighbor of friend Crawford. He left with two teams, till own and another that he had hired. I joined them with half a team. Old Buck was left behind and Bright put into the shafts for the first time. The rig was a get up of my own, I never had seen anything like it, either before or since above, nor in the earth beneath, nor in the water under the earth, could you have found its equal. Had the Kays Brothers been around the morning I passed through Durham they would have taken a snap shot of me sure. The second day we were joined by a fourth team, one I think Mr. Brown was hired to take a part of his load. We fed by the side of the road, some 7 or 8 miles from home. When about to start the stranger pointed the way ahead, "Yonder" he says is the "Devil's Forridge Pot," how will we get through it, they took the lead, got through, and left it at a fine shape for John and I to wallow in, when it was nine o'clock at night before we reached the shanty, 2 miles from where we had fed. You would wonder, Mr. Editor, how a man could ever get a laugh stuck in a mud hole like that, but I got lots of them. John was a very serious looking Scotchman new from the old country and it had been his first experience of a Canadian mud hole. He just had the two remarks, "The one was 'Bob, I widna tak' a' thousan' acres of your lan' for naething and leave on't,' the other was 'Bob, that near ox mine is near fauched out.' He had a pair of Old Country 'shoon' on the soles of which were covered with mud, the mud and slush froze and accumulated upon them till the load became enormous and I never saw him make the first effort to kick it off the feet and the serious expression on the face was a comical sight, one I never dare look at when I had a load on my back. The other day his son-in-law, George Watt, was telling me he never forgot it, and gave them a history of it a short time before his death.

Any little hardships I encountered down there I countenanced, whatever the cause was, had Henry Brown for a companion. The founders of Paisley, Rowe and Orchard, were squatters upon the property before it was reserved for a town. They had possession and of course wanted to keep it, and were a lysed to go to Southampton and tend the price of it to the crown land agent. Henry and I went along with them, the money was offered and refused. We returned in the morning, and picked up a \$10 bill and reached to the agent, who thanked me very kindly Orchard went out and returned claiming this bill, which was handed to him. Don't think Mr. Editor, I was an honest young man, it was not honesty but downright stupidity for I was convinced when too late, from the way the bill was trumped up, that it did not belong to either of them. That \$10 bill, that morning, would have been more value to me at that time than all the money I have got invested in the Durham Furniture Factory and in the Durham Oil Well put together, who will give me a bid for the lot? Well I am getting away from the subject. I was going to tell you that we left Southampton in good time in the morning, intending to reach home about noon distant 15 miles, but instead it was near noon the following day, the snow got so heavy that we had to take it Indian fashion, one after the other, time about. We struck a shanty long after dark, there was a chain and padlock upon the door, we bust it, the first case of house breaking I ever was mixed up in and when we got in there was nothing to steal, but a pot and an old fashioned iron teakettle. Some of them had a pound of tea, so we filled up the old kettle with water and when near the boil it popped over and didn't rise again that night. We ruffed across the river and reached Orchard. Mrs. Orchard was baking oat meal cake. We made a grab at it, the first bite of anything we had got since leaving Southampton.

R. COCHRANE. To be Continued.

THE LATE MRS. JAMES YOUNG.

Another pioneer has joined the great majority, Mrs. Jas. Young, who died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Gillen Boyd on Nov. 24th, 1903, aged 91 years. Mrs. Young was born in Glasgow in 1812, was married in 1846, and with her husband, emigrated to this country in 1858, settling in a short time in Gallop. In 1860 they moved to the bush and settled on the lot on which now stands the Latona schoolhouse. They lived there about three years when Mr. Young took up 2nd div. of lot 10, con. 1, W. G. R., Benack. Mr. Young predeceased her about 12 years ago. Mrs. Young leaves to mourn her loss six sons, David, Joseph James, Archibald, John and Robert, and one daughter, Mrs. Boyd, with whom she lived for 8 years. Deceased was an honored member of the Presbyterian Church, of a kind and unassuming disposition, had a good word for every one with whom she came in contact and was ready and willing to meet her God. Among those who followed the remains to their last resting place were two sons and three grandsons from W. Superior, U. S. The funeral took place Saturday, 28th Nov., to Latona cemetery and was followed by a very large number of friends. She died as she had lived a good and faithful Christian, she was one of the pioneers of Bruce and a noble her troubles and trials without a murmur. The sympathy of this community extended to the bereaved relatives.—Com.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS

Of course we refer to Xmas Presents and at this season, of the year the puzzling question is "What Will I Get Him?" That will be easier answered after you have our stock of Men's requirements. We will give a very small list below which may help you to decide.

- Men's Xmas NECKWEAR Four-in-hand, knot, puff, bow and ascot shapes. Correct styles & coloring, 25-75c
Men's SUSPENDERS Rolled leather ends; neat, solid brass buckles; Fancy webs.....50c
Men's Oxford MUFFLERS Fine silk and satin, with quilted satin lining. Neat fancy Patterns and plain blacks,.....50c to \$1.50
Men's Full Dress MUFFLERS Fine satin with corded silk lining; the noblest muffler shown, \$2 to \$3
Men's GLOVES Kid and Mocho, unlined and silk and wool-lined; all colors.....50c to \$2.00
Men's SLIPPERS Embroidered, alligator and opera.....85c to \$1.25
Men's SHIRTS Hard and soft bosom, very new.....75c to 1.25
Men's SHOES Slater's Invictus and Cork Soles.....\$3.00 to \$5.00

The above is only a small list of what we can show you in the line of presents for men. Not luxuries, but useful articles.

Just Comes in Right OUR SALE OF BOYS' CLOTHING. Look up the list of the week before last, a chance to give him a nice Suit at a low price. And while we are talking, if the man requires an OVERCOAT, our special \$8 and \$10 coat can't be beat if equalled in the County.

Give us a Call; The Store for Men's Wants.

Theobald, The Clothier.

It is True that

In Business or Pleasure

The wise man is equally careful to have his Clothing correct—absolutely. Come to us and buy a prosperous looking Suit, — It won't cost very much,—and we know you'll come again. This is an

All the Year Round

Store The same good dependable merchandise for all people and purses.

We invite inspection of our goods—bought carefully, to sell correctly, to please constantly.

Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Groceries. Farmers' Produce taken as Cash.

ROBT. BURNET

HOLIDAY PERFUMES

When you need Perfumes either for personal use or for Holiday giving, we ask you to make your selections from our present Stock, which includes practically everything worth while in the line of domestic and foreign goods. These Perfumes we have in fancy packages of all sizes as well as in bulk. We give below a few suggestions in other Goods that will help to show you the extent of our assortment.

- Leather Goods, Games, Mirrors,
Smokers' Goods and Sets, Fountain Pens, Brushes,
Travelling Sets, Ebony and Celluloid Goods, Wrist Bags,
Shaving Sets and Mugs, Purses, Wallets, etc., Box Papers,
Lamp Goods, Bibles, Ink Wells, Hymnals,
Prayer Books, Confectionery

Parker's Drug Store IF YOU GET IT AT PARKER'S, IT'S GOOD