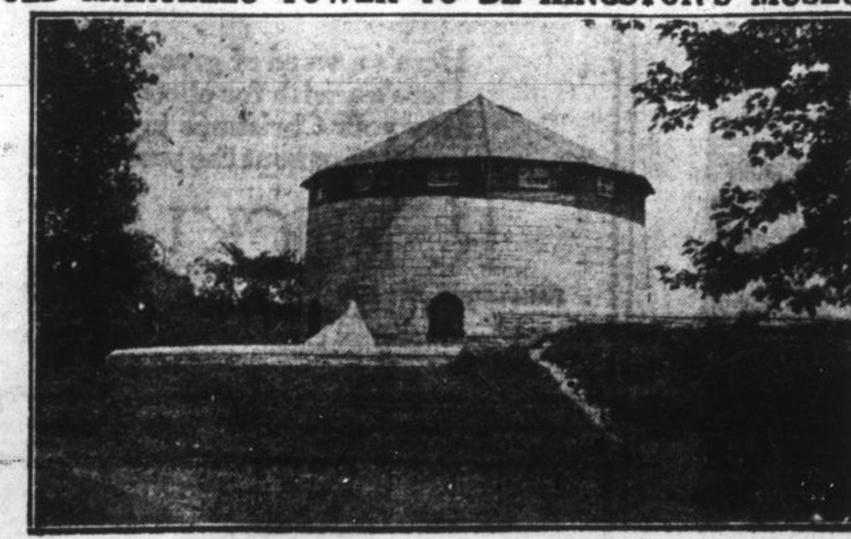
#### OLD MARTELLO TOWER TO BE KINGSTON'S MUSEUM.



The old Murney martello tower in Macdonald Park on King street west is to be Kingston's museum. The Historical Society has secured it from the Canadian Government, and next March the work of renovating the interior will be begun, so that the museum may be occupied before the summer. The officers of the Historical Society are: Honorary president, His Lordship Bishop Bidwell; president, Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonell; first vice-president, Miss E. L. Mowat; second vice-president, Dr. R. Bruce Taylor; secretary-treasurer, F. L. MacCallum.

#### THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REPORT IN 1819 ON DEFENCE OF CANADA

The following is taken from a report of the Duke of Wellington, on the defence of Canada, written at London on March 1st, 1819, and published in the Centenary Volume of the Literary and Historical So-

ciety of Quebec: "The point of the greatest importance after Montreal is certainly Kingston. It is the connecting mend the occupation with closed point between the Upper and Lower Province. It contains the Cok 'Yard on Lake Ontario, and is the most populous town in the Province. and at the same time so situated in relation to Sackett's Harbour as to

degree by works but without hav- need be very capacious or require ing more knowledge of the detail of more than 150 men to garrison the ground, and of the positions of them, but they must be well provid-

the several Islands than I can acquire from the descriptions and plans transmitted which I have perused and examined, it is impossible for me to say what ought to be

"As the attack must be however by a combined naval military operation I would recomworks, sufficiently armed of Snake Island, Cedar Island and Garden Island. Those on the spot would best be able to determine how far this system ought to be carried and whether there ought to be a work be liable at all times to be attacked. on Cataraqui Point and one "It must then be secure t in some Simcoe Island, None of these works

ed with artillery of the largest description and there must be a good Fort at Point Henry or elsewhere on the Mainland as a keep to these outworks.

"I confess that I very much doubt | tain even an equality of naval force upon the Lake Ontario and that being the case I recommend that we should look for our communications forward to the improvements of the inland navigation from Kingston by the Bay of Querte and the Rice Lake, to Lake Simcoe and thence to Lake Huron even if it should be found that a water communication can be established from the head of the Rideau by the Black river into Lake Simcoe.

"It is impossible to form a judgment from the very defective details which I have perused and the confused maps and charts which accompany them how far such a navigation can be ensured.

"It is very obvious however that the object of a military communication can be ensured by the assistance of railways for the necessary Portages.

"If the communication with Lake Simcos were once established whether by the Rice Lake or direct from the head of the Rideau I would recommend you to remove the capital of the province from York to Kingston if that town should not be too far removed from the centre of the higher up the Trent river or between the head of the Trent and the head of Hollands river.

move the capital, and, York should still be the place it must be fortified; otherwise from the probable It buds and blossoms not with the naval superiority of the enemy on the Lake Ontario, it will be impossible to prevent that town from falling into his hands as often as it may suit him to visit it whether in winter or summer. How this town is to be fortified it is impossible for me to say without knowing more of the My winter bloomer! My Christmas

ground than I do at present. "The result of all these measures would be to give us a secure line of PIANO IS PART OF A GROUP communication from Quebec to Lake Huron of less than 500 miles even passing by Kingston, but less than 400 direct by the Rideau and Black river instead of 1,200 miles, and affording better means of defending Noted British soldier who is Canada's popular Governorand maintaining the Niagara Fron-

"The system of defence which I would recommend is as follows: "I suppose the army disposable in the field to consist of 10,000 men cavalry, infantry of the line and artillery, besides 1,000 troops of the line in garrison at Quebec; 500 at Montreal, 500 in the garrisons on the Richelieu, 500 in Kingston, 500 on the Magara and in Pentengathem, besides the militia which may be destined for each post.

"I take this to be about the force which was in Canada when the last war broke out.

"I would divide this number into two corps each consisting of 5,000 men then complete with its field artillery and equipments.

"Each of these corps would of course be joined by the militia not in garrison of the districts which would be the scene of its operations.

"I would place the left of these corps on the Irish Creek which falls into the Rideau river. From thence it could reach Montreal in four days and the frontier of the Richelieu and the Isle and Noix in two more or Quebec in three supposing the more from Kingston or in six or eight if the communication can be established by the Rideau and Black

"The right corps consisting of 5,-000 men with the militie of the district in which it should carry on its operations should be posted on the communication between the Head of Hollands river which runs into Lake Simcoe and the head of the Grand river which runs into Lake

Fancy That! Christmas was first celebrated as a religious festival about A.D. 190. Devonians consider it untucky to wear new shoes on Christmas day. Pictures of robins, holly, and so on came into use on Christmas-

cards in 1862. People born on Christmas day are, according to an old superstition, lucky all their lives.

There is a soft water famine in Stratford and throughout the county CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF C.N.R. PRESIDENT

Expresses Thanks to All Ranks for Their Enthusiasm and Co-operation.

Through the medium of the Canadian National Railways' Magazine, Sir Henry W. Thornton has addressed the following Christmas message to all members of the company:

"Now that another year has rolled by I want to express my deepest appreciation of everything you have done during this year. We have faced obstacles together and we have overcome them; we have encountered odds and have beaten them; we have earnest and cheerful through it all and nothing but success can be the reward of such efforts.

"To those of you who come in contact with the travelling public and those on whom depends the obtaining of freight traffic, I want to voice my appreciation of your work. Courtesy and service, a willingness to do a little more than is absolutely necessary have won for us friends and business. Our competition in the great fight for business has been clean and wholesome and those who have been waging it in the open have been heartily supported by those in the background-that unseen army of Canadian National Employees who have been making it possible to render a service that improves with each day. I refer to those outside the Traffic Department. Whether a man's duties lie in shovelling snow from a station platform or in making the roadbed of a section a little smoother, he is giving a service which is appreciated.

"Conditions during the past year have not been of the best anywhere in the world, and Canada has come in for her share of depression, but with brighter visions ahead and a spirit such as permeates the Canadian National family, we will face the coming year with enthusiasm and courage, and through our determination each of us will justify the work he has done during 1924 and the work to be done during the coming year.

"At this time I want to take the opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year."

Signed. -H. W. THORNTON.

My Favorite Tree.

Which is the best of all trees? Answer, people, if you please, Is it the oak, the king of the wood province, or if it is I would then fix That for a hundred years has stood? the capital of the province either The graceful elm or the stately ash, Or the aspen, whose leaflets shimmer and flash?

Is it the solemn and gloomy pine, "If it should be impossible to re- With its million needles so sharp and fine?

Ah, no! the tree that I love the best, No summer sun on its fruit has smil-

But the ice and snow are around it

But still it will bloom and bear fruit for me-

a group in itself, despite its size.

O blest retirement, friend to life's decline, Retreat from care, that never must be mine. How blest is he who crowns, in shades like these, A youth of labor with an age of ease.

Serene Sixties

-Goldsmith.

- Before It Is Too Late -Consider Endowment Insurance

### MANUFACTURERS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY HEAD OFFICE,

Branch Office 58 Brock Street, Kingston, Ont. M. G. JOHNSTOF Franch Manager Without obligation; kindly forward a copy of your booklet: "Some Day You May Be Old." I would like payable at age

A lamp is essential. But a chair woman who was standing in the come after you." nearby would also make the piano door of her house. group more cozy, and less formal.

Why Children Get Presents

about why children get presents at precious things we have."

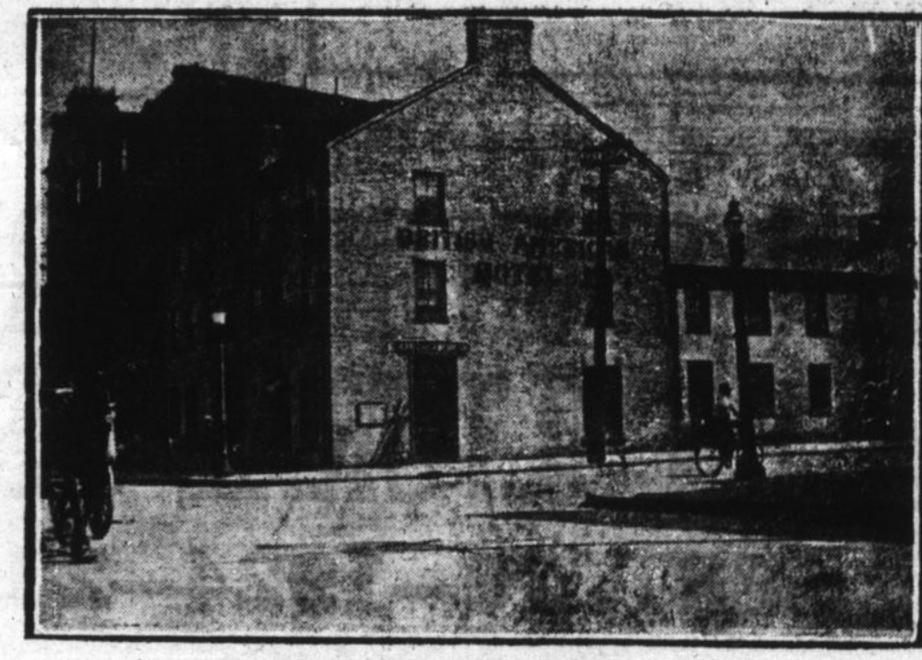
"Where are you going?" she ask- way. ed them. "We are going to find the Christ Child," they answered.

"And what are you carrying?" she inquired "These are our gifts," ter the Wise Men, but they were they said, "for He is born a King, out of sight. She wandered far and The Italians have a petty story and we must offer Him the most wide, seeking the way to the new-

So the Wise Men went on their

When the woman's house was all in order, it was nearly dark. She made ready her gift, and started afborn King, but she never found it. "I should like to go with you, and And now, they say, she comes

They say that when the Wise take my gift to Him," said the wo- every year, with gifts for all the Men were on their way to find the man; "but first I must sweep my children, and hopes that some little Christ Child they were stopped by a house. Do not wait for me; I will child may be the Christ Child.



KINGSTON'S OLDEST HOSTELRY The British-American Hotel at the corner of Clarence and King streets is 138 years old.

## THOS. COPLEY CONTRACTOR

GENERAL LORD BYNG,

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Many Happy New Years.

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