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Latest Styles and Patterns, to suit and please all.

DRESS GOODS

A complete, up-to date assortment.

Ladies' Tailor Made Suits
Ladies' Skirts and Shirt Waists
Ladies' Misses and Children's Coats
Underwear and Sweaters for All
Hosiery and Neckwear
Top Shirts and Gloves

OUR BOOT AND SHOE LINE is bigger than ever and best brands.

Hats, Caps, Blankets, Comforts, Furniture, Carpets, Mattings and Rugs.

Floor Oil Cloths, all widths and qualities.

We extend to all a cordial invitation to call and inspect our goods, and assure you always right prices your money's worth always, as our long standing has established; and we do not resort to the so-called bluff claim of manufacturing, or change soon as discovered to MANUFACTURE ANOTHER BLUFF, and to mark and advertise every article worth three times as much and sold for one-half. This will work for the ignorant all right, but not the sensible.

☞ POULTRY AND EGGS taken in exchange.

Yours for fair dealing and right prices,

H. H. BENEMAN, - MILLINGTON, MD

WELL PAINTED, WELL DRESSED

There is a satisfaction about a well-painted house similar to what one feels in wearing good clothes. It is like feeling at home in good company.

Quality does it. The best paint materials, properly applied, give the house a distinction that it lacked before. The house is well dressed.

Nor is the distinction temporary. A paint coat of

LEWIS WHITE LEAD

and pure linseed oil looks well after years of wear. The quality lasts. It serves both for looks and protection.

We carry the pure white lead guaranteed by the

DUTCH BOY PAINTER TRADE MARK

besides a full stock of oils, turpentines, varnishes, colors and brushes. Come and see us. It pays to buy the best.

JOHN BARTLEY, - Chestertown, Maryland



BUY A USEFUL XMAS PRESENT

Don't throw good money away on something that will last only a few days.

Buy your boy a GOOD SADDLE or BRIDLE.

Buy your wife a WARM BLANKET or ROBE.

Buy your husband a NEW SET OF HARNESS or a WHIP.

All these useful articles can be bought right in Chestertown, at

WALTER T. BRAMBLE'S

Opposite Voshell House, Chestertown, Md



COAL COAL COAL

Of course everybody knows where to buy GOOD CLEAN COAL.

Also, Wood, Lime, Hay and Terra Cotta Piping.

The place to buy is from the coal and wood man

J. D. BACCHUS, Chestertown, Md.


## Christmas With The Pickwickians

NO chronicler of Christmas doings has done it so inimitably as Dickens, and nowhere has Dickens described them better than in the "Pickwick Papers." One might read the paragraph relating to the observance of the holiday half a hundred times and not become weary. The Christmas spirit is everywhere evident in the chapters devoted to the holiday making. From the beginning, when the hero, his three friends and his faithful servant start for Dingley Dell, to the hour of their return there is Christmas in every sentence:

As brisk as bees, if not altogether as light as fairies, did the four Pickwickians assemble on the morning of the 22d day of December in the year of grace in which these their faithfully recorded adventures were undertaken and accomplished. Christmas was close at hand in all his bluff and hearty honesty. It was the season of hospitality, merriment and open heartedness. The old year was preparing, like an ancient philosopher, to call his friends around him and amid the sound of feasting and revelry to pass gently and calmly away. Gay and merry was the time, and right gay and merry were at least four of the numerous hearts that were gladdened by its coming.

After traveling through a wide and open country where "the wheels skim over the hard and frosty ground," slowing up as they draw near a country town, where the horses are changed, then again "dashing along the open road, with the fresh air blowing in their faces and gladdening their very hearts within them," they arrive at Dingley Dell, where we are introduced to that famous personage, the fat boy. He is an old acquaintance of Mr. Pickwick, but to Sam Weller his face is strange. To follow this first meeting:

Having given this direction and settled with the coachman, Mr. Pickwick and his three friends struck into the footpath across the fields and walked briskly away, leaving Mr. Weller and the fat boy confronted together for the first time. Sam looked at the fat boy with great astonishment, but without saying a word, and began to stow the things rapidly away in the cart, while the fat boy stood quietly by and seemed to think it a very interesting sort of thing to see Mr. Weller working by himself.

The conversation of these two characters is too long to reprint here, but not too much so to peruse with the greatest interest. We must pass over the story of the wedding, which was the day before Christmas event at Dingley Dell, at which Mr. Pickwick distinguished himself by a felicitous speech, and get to the story of the dance. Dickens' description of the old sitting room is a gem:

The best sitting room at Manor Farm was a good, long, dark paneled room, with a high chimney piece and a capacious chimney, up which you could have driven one of the new patent cabs, wheels and all. At the upper end of the room, seated in a shady bower of holly and evergreens, were the two best fiddlers and the only harp in Muggleton. In all sorts of recesses and on all kinds of brackets stood massive old silver candlesticks with four branches each. The carpet was up, the candles burned bright, the fire blazed and crackled on the hearth, and merry voices and light hearted laughter rang through the room. If any of the old English yeomen had turned into fairies when they died, it was just the place in which they would have held their revels.

After the dance was over, Mr. Pickwick having acquitted himself with great credit, the reader is told about the doings in the famous old kitchen. Here hung the mistletoe and did its mission well in adding to the jollity of the occasion. The artist whose pictures appear on his pages has done excellent justice to Dickens' text:

From the center of the ceiling of this kitchen old Wardle had just suspended with his own hands a huge branch of mistletoe, and this same branch of mistletoe instantaneously gave rise to a scene of general and most delightful struggling and confusion, in the midst of which Mr. Pickwick, with a gallantry which would have done honor to a descendant of Lady Tollinglower herself, took the old lady by the hand, led her beneath the mystic branch and saluted her in all courtesy and decorum. * * * Wardle stood with his back to the fire, surveying the whole scene with the utmost satisfaction, and the fat boy took the opportunity of appropriating to his own use and summarily devouring a particularly fine mince pie that had been carefully put by for somebody else. * * *

It was a pleasant thing to see Mr. Pickwick in the center of the group, now pulled this way and then that and first kissed on the chin and then on the nose and then on the spectacles, and to hear the peals of laughter which were raised on every side.

Finally we come to Christmas day, which was cold and cheerful and good "skaiting" weather. The party all went to a "pretty large sheet of ice," where Mr. Winkle, having assumed the airs of a man who could "skait" and having shown his ignorance thereof, was smartly reproved by Mr. Pickwick. Meanwhile, "Mr. Weller and the fat boy having by their joint efforts cut out a slide," all hands participated. Says the chronicler of the day's sport:

It was the most intensely interesting thing to observe the manner in which Mr. Pickwick performed his share in the ceremony—to watch the torture of anxiety with which he viewed the person behind gaining upon him at the imminent hazard of tripping him up, to see him gradually expend the painful force which he had put on at first and turn slowly around on the slide, with his face toward the point from which he had started, to contemplate the playful smile which mantled on his face when he had accomplished the distance and the eagerness with which he turned around when he had done so and ran after his predecessor, his black gaiters tripping pleasantly through the snow and his eyes beaming cheerfulness and gladness through his spectacles, and when he was knocked down, which happened upon the average every third round, it was the most invigorating sight that can possibly be imagined to behold him gather up his hat, gloves and handkerchief with a glowing countenance and resume his station in the rank with an ardor and enthusiasm which nothing could abate.

Mr. Pickwick unfortunately breaks through the ice and gets a good wetting, but, being taken on a smart run to the house, put to bed and given unlimited quantities of hot punch, finds himself none the worse next morning, when the party departs from Dingley Dell.

Thus does Dickens tell us of one of the merriest Christmases that a reader could desire. There is no touch of sadness in the chronicle, and all that one could wish for is that the story were longer. Long live the tale, and long may we enjoy Christmas with the Pickwickians!


CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhœa and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles and cures Constipation. It regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of

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In Use For Over 30 Years.

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THE HOME OF PRACTICAL XMAS SHOPPING

It has the center of attraction for Xmas buyers—gifts for everybody from our selected stock of merchandise, the joy they bring is so lasting. If you are in doubt about what to give for Xmas, we suggest that you come to our store, look through our stock, and you will find something useful for all your friends. The gigantic stock of merchandise shall make your selection easy, our guarantee of quality makes them safe, and the low prices gives you handsome profit. Your pocket book need not fear nor strain, because you can buy goods here of standard quality for less money than elsewhere.

Xmas Clothing at Special Low Prices

We are making special offers on our Suits and Overcoats; it is generally known that we sell clothing from three to five dollars a suit less than other clothing dealers; it is simply because we are in the position to both UNDER-BUY and UNDER-SELL.

Men's $18.00 Suit or Overcoat ..... $13.50
Men's $15.00 Suit or Overcoat ..... $12.00
Men's $12.50 Suit or Overcoat ..... $10.00
Men's $10.00 Suit or Overcoat ..... $7.50
Men's $10.00 Overcoat ..... $6.00
Boy's Blouse Suits, sizes 3 to 9, $1.50 to $4
Boys' Double Breasted Knee Suits, sizes from 8 to 11, straight or knickerbocker pants ..... $1.60 to $5.10

Full Line of Holiday Presents

The People's Xmas Store is prepared with an unusual fine stock of clever Holiday Presents. A few suggestions:

Ladies' Coat Sweaters from ... 50c to $2.50
Children's Coat Sweaters ... 45c to $1.69
Men's Coat Sweaters ... 49c to $2.00
Silk Mufflers, from ... 49c to $1.25
Handkerchiefs, from ... 5c to 25c
Hosiery, in plain and fancy ... 10c to 25c
Suspenders, from ... 10c to 25c
Neckwear, from ... 10c to 25c
Towels, per pair ... 10c, 20c, 25c, 50c, 75c
Underwear for everybody—Special 50c Fleeced Lined Shirts and Drawers, each ... 39c

Our Shoe stock is better and larger than ever. You can come to our store and get any kind of shoe you want for yourself or children any grade and prices to suit your pocket books. Our exclusive lines are backed by guarantee of the world's greatest shoe-makers.

King Quality for Men ... $3.50, $4.00
All America for Men ... $3.50
Signet for Men and Boys ... $2.50, $3.00
Hopkins for Men and Boys ... $2.50
Reliance for Men ... $2.00
Mayflower for Ladies ... $3.00
Star Line for Ladies ... $2.00
Maryland Star for Ladies ... $1.25
Everlasting for Boys and Girls, $1.25, $2.00
Marvel Line for Boys and Girls, $1.00, $1.50

You will find here Carpets, Mattings, Oil Cloths, Linoleum, for less money than you would have to pay for same goods elsewhere.

Special low prices on Ladies Skirts for the holiday and Children's Coats at prices less than the cost. You will find a fairly good assortment at way down prices. It will make buying very easy if you will notice the prices we have marked them down to.

The assortment is largest, prices low; we own all our stock at old prices, no advance here. You could buy the best for the least.

Blankets and Comforts at all prices;

The newest and nobbiest Derbys and Soft hats for this season are here at your command. We have them in all shapes and the leading shades. We can fit any head in a hat or a cap, in men and boys.

M. KRAMER

ROCK HALL, MARYLAND



Important Notice

On January 1st we will move to our new stables, 20 and 22 SOUTH PACA STREET, and at the same time we will change our auction days. In the future FOX'S AUCTION will be held every WEDNESDAY. The first auction at our new location, 20 and 22 South Paca Street, will take place

Wednesday, January 5th,

10 30 A. M.

M. FOX & SONS CO., - - Baltimore, Md.

Largest Horse and Mule Dealers in Maryland.



If we Knew how to make DOLLY MADISON Shoes any better, we would do so. If you want the best, buy a pair to-day.

$3.00 $3.50 $4.00

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Fairfield's Blood Tonic and Egg Producer makes hens lay better, causes young chicks to mature earlier and old fowls to fatton quicker, by perfecting digestion and enabling fowls to secure the full amount of nourishment from their food. Ask for Fairfield's New Poultry Book. Sold under written guarantee by dealers named in advertisement on page 1.

Eggs multiply as though by magic when Fairfield's Egg Producer for Poultry Only is fed. The magic in this case consists in supplying the hen with the elements needed for egg production and no other. This can only be done by having a compound prepared especially for poultry. Sold under written guarantee by dealers named in advertisement on page 1.



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FAIRLEE, - - - MARYLAND

For Boys and Girls

Doll Baby Carriages, Wagons, Doll Beds and Cradles, Chairs, Rockers, Velocipedes, Furniture, Hobby Horses, Rocking Horses, Sleighs, Guns, and lots of other Toys we haven't space to name. Come early before our line is broken. Here is another line which is very useful and just the thing for Xmas:

Rockers, beautiful line ... $1.25 to $5.00
Rugs ... 75c to $3.50
Art Squares, 9x12 ... $3.75 to $5.98
Bed Spreads, Table Covers, Table Linen, Sweater Coats
66-Piece Dinner and Tea Sets ... $4.98
Salad Dishes, Cups, Saucers, Plates and Fancy China, Toilet Sets, Pictures, Mirrors.

Clothing, Coat Suits for Ladies

Men's Suits ... $4.00 to $10.00
Boys' Heavy School Suits ... $1.25 to $2.50
Ladies' Coats ... $3.75 to $6.50
Coat Suits ... $5.50 to $12.50

STOVES, ROBES, BLANKETS

Excelsior Cook Stoves for ... $14.25
Small Air Tight Stoves for ... 98c
Excelsior Air Tight, cast bottom and top, for ... 5.50
We can sell you Plush Robes, best you ever saw ... 5.00
$3.25 Horse Blankets for ... 2.50
Choice of any of our Buggy Harness for ... 12.50

Candies and Nuts

Candy, French mixed, lb ... 7½c
Chocolate Drops, lb ... 12½c
Special Mixed, lb ... 15c
Best Mixed, lb ... 20c
30c Chocolates, all flavors, with nuts on top, 5 lb box ... $1.00
Mixed Nuts, lb ... 10c
Almonds, lb ... 15c
Brazil Nuts, lb ... 12½c
Raisins, 16 oz pkge, new ... 7½c
Currants, do ... 7½c
Citron, lb ... 16c
Walter Baker's Chocolate, lb ... 30c

☞ Come and see—all welcome.

KILBOURN & BRAMBLE, - FAIRLEE, MD



Arlington L. Sparks

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Useful Christmas Gifts

Arlington L. Sparks, - Chestertown, Md



Foley's Honey and Tar is the best and safest cough remedy for children. At the first symptoms of a cold, give as directed, and ward off danger of croup, bronchitis, sore throat, cold in the head and stuffy breathing. It brings comfort and ease to the little ones. Contains no opiates or other harmful drugs. Keep always on hand and refuse substitutes. Sold by all druggists of Chestertown; J. T. Powers, Millington, Md.

Hexamethylenetetramine

The above is the name of a German chemical, which is one of the many valuable ingredients of Foley's Kidney Remedy. Hexamethylenetetramine is recognized by medical text books and authorities as a uric acid solvent and antiseptic for the urine. Take Foley's Kidney Remedy as soon as you notice any irregularities and avoid a serious malady. Sold by all druggists of Chestertown; J. T. Powers, Millington, Md.