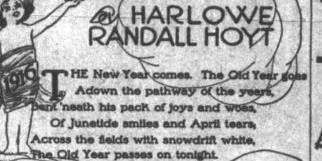
THE HERTFORD COUNTY HERALD



Ohe OLD YEAR

and the

TWELVEMONTH past we welcomed him-A New Year he, one year ago, now his eye is weak and dim, He totters on with footstep slow, His voice, complaining on the breeze, Comes in the groaning of the trees

The watched him grow. The wintertim Ebbed into spring, and summer, then We saw him pulse with virile pride When autumn fields were ripe again And now, we view him at the last, Nipped by December's chilling big

ELL let him go. His rope is fun He was a gootily fear inde So let us toast him, every one, And bid the wanderer "Goo erer "God-Old Year, a final health to you! You were a comrade, tried ap

HE Old Year goes. The New/Year Before the door and watte us here. Ho, bring him in with welcome hands. ve the Y The Year is dead! Long it



Tonight will be a good time to tell am about my New Year's resolu-.....

ILS CULTO The cosy little dinner party was over Sister Madge and Phil-"Hub" shi patronisingly called him-were some ere out in the back of the house They had left Roger and his old chum Betty alone tete-a-tete in the dimly

How that girl had grown and proved" during these five years that Roger hadn't seen her! Why, she had developed into a positive little peach! What a sensation she would make at

De Lysle Ferree Gass

coat was still brightly speckled with

red, yellow and blue confetti; there was a battered tin horn protruding

from one pocket, and a particolored

fool's cap made of tissue paper was set rakishly askew on the bronze bust

In the hazily-recalled grotesquerie

of last night's homecoming, Roger had.

denuded himself progressively, be-

ginning with his shoes at the door, his hat and waistcoat beside the

dresser; trousers and linen at the

foot of the bed and, last of all, his

scarf tied in a beautifully neat bow

Roger sat up regarding all this

whimsically for some time and won-

dering dully how it is that morning

daylight always imparts such a hag-

gard aspect to the rosy visions of the

night before. He yawned and

stretched prodigiously; then made a

bound for the washbowl and imersed his head in gratefully cold and

refreshing water from the tap. "Heigh-ho! New Year's morning

and my fortieth birthday all in one!

The good Lord knows that I don't feel that old, but these periodic 'par-

ties' sure are beginning to pall upon me. If I were to do the conventional thing now, I'd begin the new year by

making some amazingly moral resolu-tion and then- But, after all, why

break it, either! I'm forty years old today and as comfortable a bachelor

as any I know. Hereby I do solemnly

avow a placid life of celibacy. No wedding bells for me!"

ness conferences at the office all day

long; he liked vivacious femininity

in the evening. But as for actually burdering himself with one woman for

life-as for voluntarily domesticating himself, eschewing the good fellows at

the table when he dined out

111102

Roger dressed leisurely, not a little

I'll make a resolution and not

not?

beneath the nob of the bedpost.

of Beethoven on the plano.

rose late on New Year's

OGER

weirdly

FEATHERSTONE

What a sensation she would make a one of the club dances! She hadn't forgotten about their old days together, either—recalled lots of little childish intimacies that had morning with the barest suggestion of a headache. That was the aftermath of the previous night's celeslipped even Roger's memory. Why, those fuzzy little tendrils of hair curlbration, memorabilia of which were scattered all ing at the nape of her neck were pos about the apartment in a incongruous way. Roger's



Old Days. tively adorable! Yes, and liquid, mischievous eyes of hers! Deuce take it! what was that elusive

cent she used? Did it come from that fuffy hair, or the gown, or-Roger was in the midst of telling her about his resolution to eternal bachelordom. He had intended to do it humorously, epigrammatically. But the warm, physical proximity of the girl was an indubitably permeating thing-went to one's head-and that little-pink-nailed, soft hand lying pas-

pleased with the positive formulation of the idea that really had been in sive so near to his wasthe back of his head for months past. He liked and admired girls, of course "So when I got up and remembered that today is New Year's and my for tieth birthday, I said to myself--" -what real man doesn't? But it was in a detached, impersonal sort of way. "Yes, Roger," - oh, the subtle He enjoyed their chatty conversations amused, encouragement of that inflet as mentally restful after weighty busi-

tion. It piqued him strangely. "I said to myself that-" "Yes, Roger-

The man stared at her confusedly and all at once was accusingly con-scious that, somehow or other, that soft, warm little hand of her was nest ling comfortably within his own trem ulous grip.

"You were saying, Roger, that you told yourself that-?" "That I've been needing you for ever so long, dear," mumbled the man, red-

faced. And she: "Oh, Roger! What a per-And she: "Oh, Roger! What a fectly lovely New Year's resoluti

NEW YEAR'S DAY IN CHINA

Occasion When Whole Country is

New Year is the national payday in

China. All accounts must be squared

up at that time, and the man who

can't raise money enough to pay his debts has to go into bankruptcy. The

laws are such that the creditor can en-

ter the debtor's house and take what

he pleases if there is no settlement.

To prevent such action families club

together and make all sorts of com promises to keep up the business rep-

utation of the clan. New Year is a

great day for the pawnbrokers; their

hops are crowded with people who

want to redeem their best clothes be

fore the New Year. There are crowds.

also, who want to pawn other things

in order to get money to pay their

debts. Pawnbrokers receive high rates

of interest, in which they are protect

Year's day, in more senses than one. Red is the color which with them de-

notes good luck and prosperity, and all the New Year cards and invita-

tions are on paper of that color. Every

child gets its New Year's pres

All

Painted Red-Time When Debts Must Be Settled.

NEW YEAR "NEVER AGAINS'

gestions for Husbands, Wives and All Lovers, Married or Single, That Are Timely.

If you haven't thought up any, here are a few timely suggestions:

For hubby: Never again to spend a moment out of the presence of the wife unaccompanied by a trustworthy guardian appointed by her, who will report faithfully all of your doings, avan to the irresults output of the states of even to the irregular quiver of an eye-lash, or the drinking of soda instead of buttermilk.

Never again to be such a brute as to want to stay at home when the wife wishes to go out, or to wish to go out-by yourself--when wifie de-sires you to stay at home in the bosom, of your family.

Never again to growl, grumble or swear, or pretend to be asleep when the wife pokes you in the back and, asks you to walk with the baby in the middle of the night.

Never again to threaten to forbid tradespeople to allow the wife credit if she and the girls do not cease their extravagance-when the monthly bills come in.

Never again to forget to peck wifie on the cheek upon leaving her in the morning and coming home at night, to tell her that her frightful new bonnot is a perfect gem, and that her "fourteen-year-old" short dress is al-together too old-looking for her youthful figure.

For wifie: Never again to make biscuit for breakfast until you have tried them on your own digestion for a few weeks in the absence of the rest of the family.

Never again to notice pa exchange ing glances with the pretty girl across the aisle all the way downtown.

Nover again to keep the lights surned on when pa has been detained downtown "on business," in order to see what time he gets home, or to

insist on his kissing you that you may smell his breath. Never again to come to the table

with hair in crimpers and wearing a soiled kin Never again to subject pa to spells

of lachrymose reproaches, telling him that he doesn't love you any more. For lovers, married or single: Never

to miss an opportunity to tell the dear old story over and over again. Never to lose the coquettish elu-

siveness that makes lovers so delight ful to each other.

Never again to spand the sweets of young lover souls in cheap flirtations when there is such a world of real sess at your command.

Never to become insensible to the delicious tremblings and flutterings of your own heart, or to become lax in all of those lovely attentions and givings that help to keep a keen respon a-thrill in the heart of the beloved.

Helps Some

"Some folks say dat mere words don't count," said Uncle Eben, "but de fact dat some folks think enough of you to say 'Happy New Year' to you helps some

soll

Good Resolutions



COOD-BY, Old Yearl With words of grace,

Leave us with him who takes your place, And say, Old Year, unto the

New,

Kindly, carefully, carry them through,

For much, I ween, they have yet to do."

-John Godfrey Saxe

Their Resolutions. They were young as April as they ressed close to a window full of won-

derful confections. What had habits are you going to give up this New Year?" "You," she answered briefly; "what bad habits are you going to give up?"

"Letting you have your own way," he responded firmly, "so our engage nt stands." "Very well, then, go in and buy me that heart-shaped box of candy." And

And

both New Year resolutions went way of their kind.

The Old and the New

Another year has joined his shad wy fellows in the wide and voicele desert of the past, where, from the eternal hour-glass forever fall the sands of time. Another year, with all its joy and grief, of birth and death, of failure and success, of love and hate. And now, the first day of the o'erarches all. Standing between the buried and the babe, we cry, "Farewell and hall!"-Robert G. Inger

Look to the Future. In reverent gratitude for the year gone, may we turn our faces toward ore blessed year to come

LESSON FOR DECEMBER 26

JEHOVAH'S GRACIOUS PROMISES TO ISRAEL (REVIEW).

LESSON TEXT-Hoses 14 GOLDEN TEXT-Johovah is merciful and gracious, slow to enger, and shundant in loying kirdness.-Pan. 105:5 R. V.

The burden of punishment descend-ed upon Israel, not because of the vindictive character of Jehovah, but because of the persistent pursuit of sin on the part of the nation.

The lessons of the past quarter ex-tend from the latter days of Elijah, about 906 B. C., to the fall and captivity of Israel (the northern king-dom) B. C. 712 (Beecher), a period of 180 years. Some contend that the les-son for November 14, Daniel at the King's Court, is chronologically the last and ought to have been put at the end of the series. During the past quarter we have studied about six kings, Ahab, Joash, Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Nineveh, Uzziah and Ho-shea; also six prophets, Elijah, Eli-sha, Daniel, Jonah, Amos and Hosea;

and one soldier, Naaman. A good method of review would be to have assigned to different scholars or classes each of the foregoing personages and to give a report of his chief characteristics. Material for such a review is easily accessible. Another method of review would be to take up the lessons serially and in connection with each read some appropriate Scripture verses that will serve to emphasize or to illustrate the chief fact of each fesson.

Lesson I. The weak King Ahaz (strong in his perversity) is easily persuaded to do evil in order to gratify his covetousness. Elijah at God's command goes to meet Ahab who aries out. "Hast thou found me, O my enemy?" In reply Elijah delivers God's word; that word to us is four in Ex. 20:17. (Let each Scripture ref-

erence be read in full.) Lesson II. The veteran "champion Elijah is about to go home and his more youthful follower, Elisha, has one chief desire (see II Kings 3:9), which persistently followed is abundantly rewarded. The lesson for us is found in the master's prayer, John 14:16.

Lesson III. The stricken soldier, Naaman, at a child's suggestion, appeals to God's prophet, Elisha, for bealing. He is directed how he may be cured and after some hesitation returns home cleansed. The lesson for us is that of being faithful amid life's experiences and of doing and living for others (see also Romans 12:20, 21.)

Lesson IV. The servant of Elisha is very much excited. King and camp are in despair, yet the prophet is not disturbed. Why? Let us read II Kings 6:17. Remember that Jesus, the master of men, refused to avail himself of like angelic assistance in his great battle concerning sin (See Matt. 26:53). Christanity is a religion

of love, not of force. Lesson V. The faithful priest preserves the rightful king, Joash, and makes a covenant between him and the Lord, viz., that prince, priest and people "should be the Lord's people" (II Kings 11:17). Through the merits of our high priest there has been made a better, even an everiasting covenant (Heb. 13:20, 21). Lesson VI. Again refers to the good king, Joash. The neglected temple is

Strength enough to battle with difficulties and overcome them. Grace enough to confess your sine and forsake them. Patience enough to toll until some good is accomplished.

Patience enough to ten unsi some good is accomplished. Gharity enough that shall see some good in your neighbor. Cheerfuiness enough that shall make others giad. Love enough that shall move you to be useful and helpful to others.

Faith that shall make real the things of God. And hope that shall remove all

anxious fears concerning the future.

When the World's All New.

It is the same old world that w greeted on New Year's morning. But omehow it looked so different. The invisible dividing line between last year and this has made possible, a new angle of vision. The grip of old passions seems to have lost its hold and a new purpose, partly old, partly new, throbs for recognition. A gen tleness appears in faces thought to and cynical. be hard Happines sparkles in the eyes of sad and lonely tolk. A sort of introduction is need ed to oneself. For the dawn of the new year makes possible a fresh attack on the age-weary problems, another attempt to produce the best instead of the good, and a new walk down by-ways of human experience where one may be a good Samaritan with no eye but his to see and understand. The world is all new on New Year's morning - my world, your world, our world-to make over for the Kingdom. - Ralph Welle Keeler.

As It Turned Out, Little Country Girl in every feature of her dainty face and Was Not So Artices as She Seemed.

It was a gay party of roistering blades that went to the station the just opposite the group of young men other afternoon to meet an incoming friend. They lined up outside the waiting for the friend she stopped, triend. They lined up outside the size is a bight eyed train and electricic in the big, blue eyes for a moment gates, accounting every face as the past and then, with an eleculation of delight, fung two scalamed, "I thought you arms about his neck, planted a trained and the fail, for the bands, "Oh," and the damed have the trained and graphically described it all again and again to the minutest de hearing. A league har been organized in New York to promote lip reading in New York to promote lip reading in New York to promote lip reading angle dark teather. fixed her big, blue eyes for a moment

British army. The ceremony is picturesque and imposing.

On the night of Hogmanay, at about 10:30 o'clock, the regiment assembles in the barrack square. A few minutes later the oldest soldier in the battalion, dressed as a Druid, makes his appearance, to the accompani-ment of a flourish of trumpeta Ascending the improvised throne, he calls on the veterans to show their uniforms and achievements of bygone times. To the music of the pipes and brass band veteran after veteran, ar rayed in the uniforms worn by the regiment at different periods, marches past and salutes the Druid. The Druid then toasts "The Seaforth Highland ers."

After a display of Highland dancing the alarm is sounded, and the second oldest soldier, arrayed as Father Time, approaches. The veterans then re-treat, leaving their honors to be guardapproaches. ed by their successors, and Father Time expels the Druid.

At the last stroke of midnight a loud knock is heard at the gate and out rings the sentry's challenge: "Halt! Who goes there?"

answer.

"The New Yearl" comes back the

"Advance, New Year, and give the countersign!" is the next command. "Pass, New Year; all's well!" The gate is then opened and the youngest boy of the battalion enters, ressed as the high chief of ancient Ross, to represent the New Year. The colonel shakes hands with the boy, while the band stylkes up, "A Guid New Year to Ane and A'." After the colonel's greeting to the battalion the national anthem is



Roger Sat Up. the club, and as for systematizing his life into a humdrum routine-no, no! net for Roger Featherstone!

Abi there went the telephone belli Fis sister Madge undoubtedly-Madge ed by the government. The Chinese paint the whole counwho had married Phil Barnes and taken out of the merry whirl of things try red, figuratively speaking, on New an jolly a chap as ever-

"Hello! hello! Yes, this is Roger talking. Oh, I though it might be you, ais. Why, no-o-o! _ I've no particular appointment for tonight. For dinner at your house? Yes, I'll come, thank you Eh? You don't say? Betty Hurling going to be there with you, 100? Well, well, of course I remem-

per her! We used to be sweethearts back in kid days. When did she get back in town? Must be four or five be over " played and the men fall out.

Roger sighed as he hung up the raceiver; then grinned.

artiessness of the country maiden writ fellow with naive unreserve. "Oh, Jack!" she cried, "I'm so glad

line of her trim little figure. As she to see you again!" and hugging him. Cousin Jack. tripped along she gazed now right, now again, backed off to get another look. Jim's comp left upon the walting throng, as Then, as she gazed upon Jim, standing though expectant of someone. When

there grinning with delighted embarrasament, the mistake dawned upon ber. She gave a gasp and buried her

JOKE VERY MUCH ON JIM | dewy-lipped little miss with all the | and then hugged the astonished young | confusion and was lost in the throng shout it after he came to pay for the | through the formation of silent vole before the lucky Jim had time to re treat and searched through every cover himself and offer to help hunt pocket he had for his pursel

> Jim's companions were loud in their expressions of envy. And Jim was copiously loquacious in detailing all the sensations that titillated through him when those soft arms encircied his neck and the full, red hips were

For People Hard of Hearing.

The inventors have long promised a device which will do for the ears what spectacles do for the eyes. But

they are so slow in perfecting their

elubs. People who are afflicted with only a moderate deafness are said to find lip reading a comparatively sim-ple method of helping them in over-coming their affliction. There are said to be more than 100,000 of them in New York alone.

Many of

s a type of our bodie spiritual tamples (Eph. 2:22), and the lesson for us is not only the care of the body, but of liberality towards the work and worship of God's house. Lesson VII. This is the lesson

restored and refurnished through the liberality of the people. This temple

which is chronologically out of order, but is used for its temperance applica-tion. Daniel, the clean youth, staked his life and position upon obeying the word of God (Dan. 1:8). The lesson for us is the exhortation of the apostie Paul (Eph. 5:13-17, see also I Pet. 5:8).

Lesson VIII is the foreign missionary lesson. Jonah's life story is not a flattering one, yet when he faithful-ly proclaimed God's word it wrought arvelous transformation in great and wicked Nineveh. (Read carefully Matt. 16:10 and Isa. 55:10, 11). We are to herald, witness to the truth and leave the results with God. Lesson IX presents Amos, the stur-

dy prophet of civic and moral rightsousness, the great messenger of the "rightness" of things (Amos 5:14). The gist of this lesson for us will be found in the words of Jesus (Matt. 6:33), which message we must deliver to all men in the home land even as it was important for Jonah to go to a foreign land.

One of the chief criticisms and difficulties of foreign mission work is that so-called Christian lands fall so far short of the teachings of Jesus. Lesson X. Uzziah is that king who could not withstand prosperity and who, in the development of his pride (II Chron. 26:5, 16), assumed to disobey the word of God and brought upon himself a sad punishment.

God's warnings are many; one for us is found in James 4:6. Lesson XI, Enter Hosea. Let the

entire school state the message of the prophet to the people of Iarael, "I will heal their backaliding. I will love them freely" (Hosea 14:4). Then let all recite the "little gospel" (John 3:16) "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whoseever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Mr. Spurgeon once saw a weather cock bearing the motio, "God Is Love.

"Is that because God is so change-

able !" he asked. A friend replied, "No, but which ever way the wind blows, God is love."

made clean .- Philadelphia Inquirer.

nese generals are put on the front doors and the houses are scoured and

wrapped in red paper, and red inscrip-tions are pasted over the doors of the houses. These inscriptions bear characters praying for good fortune, back in kid days. When did she get wealth and happiness, and they are back in town? Must be four or five years since we've met. All right, I'll of the houses. New pictures of Chi-