

Did You Ever Notice ?

That Sometime between Christmas and January 10th, of each year the Thermometer drops and we find ourselves in need of

Blankets and Comfortables

Prepare for the drop in temperature by taking advantage of the drop in prices on these items

Platt & Haar

Newest of The New "Ding-A-Ling" Hats

Large Foot Shapes
25 Cents

—at—

Gaylord's Big Store

210, 212, North Front Street.

Holiday Goods Sacrificed

Our Holiday Goods arrived late, therefore must be sacrificed to move them in the few days remaining. In the stock are Solid Mahogany Rockers, some upholstered in genuine leather, Handsome Oak Rockers, in Golden Oak, and Mission, many in genuine leather, Fancy Reed Rockers and Reed odd pieces, Tables of all kinds, 17 Ladies' Desks from \$6.75 up; more than 300 pictures, equal to any in the city as to quality of frame and subjects. Prices literally slaughtered on account of the quantity. Chiffoniers, Dressers, Buffets, Music Cabinets, Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Ward Robes, Chamber and Parlor Suits, Hall Racks, Rugs, all sizes, large quantity and must go. Portiers, Couch Covers, Lace Curtains, Brass Beds, Etc.

VALUABLE SOUVENIRS WITH EACH PURCHASE.

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GARRELL BUILDING.
Cor. Second and Princess Sts.

Silk Hose

Three Pair for
\$1.00

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28 South Front Street.

Star Brand Shoes are Better

THE DRAGON'S BACKBONE.

An Odd Incident of Railroad Construction in China.

When there was undertaken the construction of the railway between Kirin and Newchwang, the seaport of Manchuria, it was proposed to make a junction at a place called Lanpien, outside the city of Mukden. For this permission had to be obtained from the Tartar general of Mukden. This functionary at once proceeded to call in his geomancers, a species of soothsayers, who gave information concerning the good fortune and ill fortune of sites and were supposed by the Chinese to know what demons and dragons inhabited the earth under the surface. These wise men reported that the dragon whose body encircled the holy city of Mukden lay coiled up in such a way that if the railway came through Lanpien the long nails driven into the ties would pierce his backbone and in all probability set him to raging violently, to the great detriment of the people of Mukden.

The general consequently refused the application of the railway people and directed them to carry the road in a straight line from Kirin to Newchwang, avoiding Mukden. The engineers thereupon appealed to the viceroy, showing that, as this proposed route would go through a marshy and uninhabited country, it could not be profitable for their enterprise.

The viceroy wrote to the general of Mukden, highly commending him for his discretion in consulting the geomancers, but suggesting that these sage persons go over the ground again and see if they could find a place where the nails would not be likely to strike into the dragon's back. Accordingly, at the command of the viceroy, the general had his geomancers indicate a spot for the junction at Lanpien where they thought that, after all, the dragon's backbone would be safe.—New York Press.

RISE PAPER.

Shaved From the Snow White Pith of Trees in Formosa.

The so-called rice paper is not made from rice, as its name implies, but from the snow white pith of a small tree belonging to the genus aralia, a genus represented in this country by the common sarsaparilla and the spikenard. The tree grows in Formosa and, so far as is known, nowhere else. The stems are transported to China, and there the rice paper is made. It is used, aside from a number of other purposes, by the native artists for water color drawings, and sometimes it is dyed in various colors and made into artificial flowers.

The tools of the pith worker comprise a smooth stone about a foot square and a large knife or hatchet with a short wooden handle. The blade is about a foot long, two inches broad and nearly half an inch thick at the back, and it is as sharp as a razor.

Placing a piece of the cylindrical pith on the stone and his left hand on the top, the pith worker will roll the pith backward and forward for a moment until he gets it in the required position. Then, seizing the knife with his right hand, he will hold the edge of the blade after a faint or two close to the pith, which he will keep rolling to the left with his left hand until nothing remains to unroll, for the pith has, by the application of the knife, been pared into a square white sheet of uniform thickness. All that remains to be done is to square the edges.

If one will roll up a sheet of paper, lay it on a table, place the left hand on top and gently unroll it to the left he will have a good idea of how the feat is accomplished.—New York Herald.

Sawse Sawse.

Here is the old King Richard II, way of making sausage: "Pyggs in sawse sawse," or pigs with sawse sawse. "Take pyggs yskaldid (scalded) and quarter them and seeth them in water and salt; take them and let them kele (cool); take parsley (parsley), sawse (sage) and gyrende (with brede and yolkes of ayren (eggs) harde ysode (boiled); temper it with vinegar somewhat thick, and lay the pyggs in a vessel and sewe onward (the sauce over them), and serve it forth." "Take pyggs" is pretty good. Size or number seems of no consequence.—New York Press.

A Hard One.

"Father!"
"Well, what is it?"
"It says here, 'A man is known by the company he keeps.' Is that so, father?"
"Yes, yes, yes."
"Well, father, if a good man keeps company with a bad man is the good man bad because he keeps company with the bad man, and is the bad man good because he keeps company with the good man?"—London Punch.

Why He Wept.

Spartan Mother—What's the matter? What are you crying for? Stung Hero (who has been taught never to cry for bodily pain)—Oh, I—I've sat down on a bee, and—I'm afraid I must have hurt it!—London Punch.

No Need For Alarm.

"She asked me what I thought of you."
"Indeed?"
"Yes. But don't get frightened. I didn't tell her."—Lippincott's.

No Friend of His.

"Is Mrs. Gaussip a friend of yours?"
"No; she's a friend of my wife's."
"Isn't that the same thing?"
"Not at all. She feels very sorry for my wife."—Pittsburg Post.

THEATRE

Before a "jammed house," in the words of the old time critic, "The Merry Widow" was presented again Saturday night at the Academy. It was also a decidedly pleased mass of people, who laughed, applauded and in every way had one splendid evening. "The Widow" is a bright, very tudeful and decidedly jolly rapid whirl. It is delightfully refreshing and attractively novel. The company presenting it was an excellent one and it was a Henry Savage production, which is saying all that could be said as to grandeur of stage settings, beauty of costumes and thoroughness of detail.

"The Firing Line" Tonight.

Tonight at the Academy will be seen the much talked of dramatization of Robert W. Chambers' famous book "The Firing Line". The dramatization is the work of Richard Walton Tully and in presenting the play to the theatre going public Mr. Delamater has spared no expense in providing every detail to furnish an adequate scenic production. A car-load of special scenery is necessary for the settings for the four acts and the company comprises people well known to the dramatic stage, and only those who have been identified with strictly first class productions. The scenes are laid in Palm Beach, Florida, New York City and the Adirondack Mountains, and the action of the piece closely follows the events as described in the book, portraying as only Mr. Chambers can, the intrigues of society, at the same time injecting an element of romance that holds his auditors from beginning to end.

Matinee and Night Tomorrow.

If a wholesome, honest, cleanly play that alternates pathos and laughter with galling gun rapidity is what theatre goers want, they will go and see "The King of Tramps" at the Academy tomorrow matinee and night. It is said to be entirely different from any other play and advantageously so. It gives an honest story of wholesome people told brightly with great human interest. These are some of the qualities that are pleasing the immense audiences everywhere. Each of the four acts are lavishly mounted with new handsome scenery. The company is a large and competent one. A superb concert band and orchestra is also carried with them.

Popular prices are to prevail for both performances. At matinee, which will commence at 3 o'clock, the prices will be 10 and 20 cents. At night the scale will be 10, 20 and 30 cents. Seats for tomorrow night are now on sale at Plummer's.

"Buster Brown" On the Way.

With a brand new scenic equipment, new songs and jokes "Buster Brown" furnishes good whole-soul amusement, and entertains the young and old, the weak and strong. "Buster Brown" is better than a tonic, breezy, refreshing, invigorating, musically melodious, and having a swing and dash that has made it deservedly popular and attractive. It will be seen at the Academy soon, headed by such incomparable stars as Master Harold as "Buster," Al Grady as "Tige," Madeline Clark as "Mary Jane," Chas Odell and Connie Maccreating the new roles of "Seth Sowders," and "Miranda Stebbins."

At The Grand.

The Grand, the "Theatre Beautiful," will gloriously start off the week with a big bill. There will be a giant collection of glittering features. The moving picture program will present, among other good things, the latest Edison film, "Eldora, the Fruit Girl," which is most picturesque in nature, and which is decidedly romantic in action, and the side-splitting picture called "The Sanitarium."

Mr. Harry Morgan will sing today that great and fascinating hit, "I Won't Be Back Until August," the illustrations being especially bright and pretty.

Conductor Kneisel has arranged another swell program for his orchestra, including selections from the musical comedy, "The Time, the Place and the Girl," which scored so brilliantly in Wilmington last season.

One of Road's Original Directors Dead. New Haven, Conn., Jan. 9.—Theodore J. Ackerman, son of Jonathan C. Ackerman, one of the original directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad, died today aged ninety years.

Toledo University Damaged By Fire. Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 9.—Fire caused by an overheated furnace resulted today in twenty thousand dollars damage to the Toledo University.

Grand Theatre.

Orchestra will play all the songs hits from "The Time, the Place, and the Girl."

Uneeda Biscuit
are soda crackers made from the finest flour and the best materials obtainable—
That Makes them an Ideal **FOOD**

Uneeda Biscuit
are baked in surroundings where cleanliness and precision are supreme—
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are touched only once by human hands—
when the pretty girls pack them—
That Makes them **CLEAN**

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are sealed in a moisture proof package—
That Keeps them **FRESH**

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A Package (Never sold in bulk)

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

PRACTICE WARFARE

Invasions Discovered Off Florida Coast By Defending Fleet.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The Atlantic battleship fleet was discovered by the "defending fleet," 1380 miles east of St. Augustine, Florida, at 9 o'clock Sunday morning while approaching the shores of the United States, as a "technical enemy." The Navy Department was thus advised in a wireless message received from Rear Admiral Stanton, commanding the defending fleet.

MANY NARROW ESCAPES.

Made Today by Occupants of New York Tenement.

New York, Jan. 9.—Six persons overcame by smoke were carried from a burning tenement house on East Ninety-seventh street today, when fire swept a crowded building. There were many narrow escapes from death.

TEN PER CENT. WAGE DROP.

Pennsylvania Companies Curtail the Pay of Their Workmen.

Allentown, Pa., Jan. 9.—A ten per cent. reduction in wages affecting 3,500 men is made by the Thomas Iron Company and Empire Steel Iron Company. The reduction is attributed to the low selling price of pig iron.

Robbers Loot Bank Vault.

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 9.—The First National Bank, 61 Elm Grove, was entered today by robbers. The vault was dynamited and all money taken. The robbery was committed some time during last night. Every dollar of cash in the bank, nearly four thousand dollars in all, was stolen. There is no clue to the robbers.

Will Ballot on U. S. Senator Tomorrow

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 9.—The Senate and House have fixed tomorrow as the day for separate balloting upon United States Senator. The contest lies between Judge John D. Works and A. G. Spaulding.

Gov. Stubbs Inaugurated.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 9.—Governor W. R. Stubbs and other Republican State officers, of Kansas, were inaugurated in Representative Hall today. The oath was administered by Chief Justice Johnston.

DR. BULL'S COUGH SYRUP

Does not contain Opium

THE PEOPLE'S REMEDY for Coughs, Colds, Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Grippe, Cough, Hoarseness, etc. Safe and sure. 25 CENTS.

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New Suits for the New Year

Perhaps you mean to "swear off" wearing common clothes. Father Time has ticked off another year—a new era confronts you. Will you go forward gladly, blithely in new garb which befits your station? Clothes don't make the man, you know—but they can do much to mar him.

You will look better and feel better, and work better, and play better in one of our Stein Bloch Models—suits made for men of affairs. Overcoats, too—just every kind. And Furnishings of the better sort. What are your needs for the New Year? JNO. B. STETSON SPRING HATS JUST RECEIVED.

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For Your Christmas Cakes



and baking generally BELLE of WILMINGTON FLOUR is held up by connoisseurs as the ne plus ultra of the best product of the wheat milled by the best process to preserve the nutritive qualities of the grain, and render your bread, cakes, etc., white, light and wholesome. You can get it at retail from any of the following stores: Carpenter Grocery, Wilmington Trading Co., Wilmington Produce Co., W. H. Hardy, C. O. Knox, S. O. Frink, D. N. Stanley & Co., J. Q. Herring, R. H. Reville, S. H. Mintz.

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Wholesale Agent. Wilmington, N. C.

Academy of Music

FREE FOR LADIES ONLY
Wednesday Afternoon Jan. 11-12

At 3 O'Clock.
A Scientific Lecture (in English) on BEAUTY, CULTURE AND FACIAL BLEMISHES BY PROF. FELIX CRISTION, Late of Paris, France, Academy of Beauty Culture, Beauty Doctor to Mmes. Bernhardt, Nordica, Lillian Russell, Patti and Langtry.

Assisted by One of the Most Beautiful Women of Her Age, MME. L. M. MAYE, who Will Wear a Thousand Dollar*Empress Josephine Gown and Hat.
Wednesday Afternoon's Lecture, FREE
Thursday afternoon's Admission, 50c