

not to count on four weeks more before there are four boys of getting out of here.

"Yes, I know it," replied his comrade. "But I'm going to do it just the same."

"You know the boys' orders," spoke up the first man, who was Mister Bob. "We are to be on duty every night, so when starvation is starting in as this time."

"I can't help it," was the reply. "But I'll do as I stand the chance."

The men drew their chairs closer together and there they worked for several hours, stopping just long enough to hit the little girl from the door to her cot, where she went on dressed in Santa Claus and the beautiful doll.

It was a bitter cold night—a regular blizzard. Several misters lost their way going from one camp to the other and were frozen to death. And those that failed to get under shelter were found dead next morning.

The little girl remembers no more of those most terrible stories in his story of the camp, but next morning she was awakened early by her father trying to close a broken window. He said it had been crushed in by the storm, but the little girl said, "No, Santa Claus did it!"

"It's been here," she cried, and he ran excitement fairly rolled from her and out the door to the chimney. "What cries of 'It's a doll—a doll!' she uttered in her heart the most beautiful thing she had ever seen. "It's my doll, all mine; and it's got eyes, nose and mouth, and hair and hair—and such a beautiful and beautiful dress!"

She blessed it again and again, and no heart ever came so near bursting with joy as the heart of that little girl, who sat in the snow, and with grief and starvation all about her.

The two misters had come in, and were heading to the wonderful story as it fell again from the chimney. "You used them all!" interrupted the father, gazing sternly at the men. "Yes," said Mister Bob. "We used them all."

"It was wrong, very wrong." "We could not help it," replied the minister. "It was the only way to make it and we'd rather go hungry the rest of our days than have the girl disappointed."

The "old" oblivious of anything but the blessed joy of possessing a doll, was looking forward. "Father thinks the wind broke the window. I forgot to open it; but you see, Santa Claus comes just what you want, so he brought the doll through the window to save her from getting dirty coming down the chimney."

Little did she realize that of all the

dolls found that Christmas morning in the stockings of the little ones all over the United States not one was made of a precious material as hers. She was clinging in her bosom the only five potatoes in camp. They had been carried into "Little Dot" by Mister Bob, and dressed in pieces of the only good and beautiful shirt that the other man possessed.

Forty Christmas days have passed since that and they have all been happy ones, but the peculiar and unexpected satisfaction I experienced in possessing to my heart "my potato doll" has never been exceeded.

AND years ago the people who lived in a great many different parts of the world were very much interested in New Year's day. Just as we are, and they did many things in honor of the day, exactly as we do. They feasted and decorated their houses and churches, and at 11 o'clock they were very particular to show in some way that they were rejoicing that another year had begun.

Not all of these people celebrated in the same way. In some parts of Europe the ancient Romans used to have their New Year's day in March, then they changed to January, and a large part of the rest of the world followed them. The Jewish people have no other day and the Chinese and Japanese still another, but wherever the day falls, according to local conditions, there is always a very important celebration of it.

The Druids, who were the priests of England before the Christian religion, was taken into Great Britain, also celebrated New Year's day, and the people of the United States were very interesting and very strange people, these Druids, and according to what one reads about them in history one always imagines them as wearing beautiful white robes and having tall, magnificent hair and flowing white beards and hair of any color, they always wore white robes on New Year's day, for that was the day when they cut down the sacred mistletoe.

For the Druids didn't think that mistletoe was only a pretty green thing. They believed it to be a milky precious growth which would give very young people from being harmed by poisonous food or drink.

On that day a particularly large, handsome Druid, with white beard and hair and rather cold gray eyes—Druids always had cold gray eyes, we believe—and clothed most beautifully in white, would climb the oak tree on which the mistletoe grew and cut it down with a golden sickle. He wouldn't take it in

his hand, because they didn't consider that respectful enough to the sacred mistletoe, which could do such wonderful things. Instead he would catch it in a pure white cloth and climb carefully down the tree with it. After this an altar would be erected and white bulls sacrificed and prayers offered. Then the Druids and all of the ceremonies attending them were religious.

LAST Year's Day stories by the late author 25, 40, 50, 60 cents, and \$1.00 at F. LAMBY'S.

Milk Producers Meet. A meeting of the Milk Producers' association was held at St. Charles this morning at 11 o'clock.

Fancy box stationery 10, 15, 20, 25 and 35 cents for Christmas gifts at F. LAMBY'S.

### Business Notices

#### FOR RENT

FOR RENT—House on Main street 11 1/2 blocks from depot. Furnished, electric lights and gas. \$12 per month. Address: BARRINGTON REVIEW, Barrington, Illinois.

#### FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Choice timothy hay in 12 1/2 blocks from depot. Very fine, clean and cold, standard level. Write: W. H. URSBT, Phone 1199.

FOR SALE—One Irish mill. Second hand but as good as new. Just the thing for Christmas. Call at this office.

FOR RENT—Modern office of six rooms. Enquire at this office.

#### WANTED

WANTED—To rent six-acre farm for residence in Barrington. Enquire at this office.

WANTED—Four second-hand bicycles with good tires, cash.

WANTED—A girl for general house work. One capable of waiting on table. Constantly in hotel. If interested, call at Barrington, Ill.

WANTED—Will buy healthy baby not under six months or more than one year old. Address: F. A. Don, 196 Barrington, Ill.

## AN IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT

EVERYONE is agreed that the useful things, the practical things, are the most desirable for Christmas gifts. That is why FURNITURE is so much in demand and each year is becoming more and more popular for Christmas.

MY stock is varied and complete and the prices are lower than you will find on goods of equal quality elsewhere. In fact, I am selling furniture at retail at

## WHOLESALE PRICES

If you doubt this statement come in and see for yourself

A handsome piece of furniture will be the most acceptable Christmas present for any home. Everybody is invited to visit my store and examine the many useful and beautiful articles in stock, all making appropriate gifts.

AND the saving you will make. You may never again have the opportunity of purchasing furniture at such ridiculously low prices. If you don't want to make some friend or relative a present of an article of furniture, you probably need some pieces in your home, anyway, so don't neglect this chance. Come and see

## E. M. BLOCKS

## Christmas Headquarters



## Only eight days more in which to do your Christmas shopping

We have a big stock of holiday goods. Come in and let us help you with your gift problem. A most complete line of Family Groceries, Candles, Nuts and Fruits for the holiday trade at reasonable prices.

**For Gentlemen**  
Shirts, Neckties, Scarfs, Furans, Sweater Coats, Nuspenders, Handkerchiefs, Suit Cases, Necktie Boxes and dozens of useful articles.

**For Ladies**  
Handkerchiefs, Hand Bags, Silk Auto Scarfs, Hosiery, Mittens, Neckwear, Mirrors, Kid Gloves, Toilet Sets, Glove Boxes, Jewel Boxes, Picture Frames, Manufacturing Sets, Perfumes, Picture Albums, Picture Frames, Ribbons, etc.

**Framed Pictures**  
Some special Framed Pictures which are very beautiful. They will make gifts which will be highly appreciated by the recipients.

**For Children**  
Wagons, Stools, Chairs, Toy Christmas Trees, Cash Registers, Dolls, of all descriptions for the little girls, Drums for the boys, Toy Dinners, Toy Clocks, Platoon, Houses, Games, Teddy Bears, Hanks and every toy for the little sets that you can imagine, living the children in and let them see.

**Trees**  
Come early and select a Christmas tree for the little ones. We also have for decoration some very beautiful Christmas tree ornaments and thoughtfully decorated holly leaves to pack your presents in.

**Post Cards**  
A big stock of Christmas and New Year Post Cards for the girl or boy who collects souvenir cards—some very beautiful albums.

**Crockery**  
A fine assortment of Fancy Dishes, making appropriate presents and ones that will be highly prized by the ladies.

**Stationery**  
A line of really swell Stationery for ladies and gentlemen.

Our specialty is prompt service

## JOHN C. PLAGE

THIS SPACE IS RESERVED BY  
E. F. KIRBY  
WHO CATER TO  
PARTICULAR PEOPLE