

WITH patent truth says *Our Dumb Animals*: "Just as soon and so far as we pour into all our schools the songs, poems and literature of mercy towards these lower creatures, just so soon and so far shall we reach the roots not only of cruelty but of crime."

THE "little Panama affair" may prove an iniquity a thousand times more serious to us than anticipated. The action of the United States authorities was a very dirty piece of work, done in behalf of the canal grafters, French and American, and wholly unjustified by either international law or special treaty. The part played by this government in the so-called insurrection was insolent, uncalculated and disgraceful. If a European power had done as we did, every citizen of this great Republic would be filled with indignation, and hotheads would now be crying for war against the aggressors. But what's the use talking? Right and blood are as naught against the Almighty Dollar, and he is an old-time fool who takes them into account.

THE Supreme Court Monday handed down a decision in the case of State vs. Bonner, wherein it is held that an information lacking the verification of a witness on affidavit, in addition to that of the Prosecuting or Circuit Attorney on his official oath, is invalid. Lawyers say in this decision the court reverses itself, and a great deal of interest and surprise is manifested by them in consequence. It affects hundreds of cases now in process of trial, and it is said that in the last two years no less than twenty men have been tried and hung under proceedings begun by illegal process, according to the new ruling. If any person will point out to me any other thing on earth, earthquakes, floods and cyclones included, that is as uncertain and unstable as the law under the mutation of judicial ruling, I will present him with a brand new Stetson.

Des Are Items.

We are having winter in good fashion. The roads from now on will be bad.
Our merchants are putting in a big stock of Christmas goods.
O. C. Morris went to Lopez and Mill Spring Sunday to visit his married daughters.
Wm. Ellis has sold out and will move to Farmington.
Wallis & Lovelace will move their mill on Black River this week.
Misses Allie and Maude Fitz, also Lina Farr, will spend Christmas at home.
Eddie Hickman is visiting his parents at this place.
James Lovelace and Bob McFadden, of Piedmont, spent Sunday in Des Arc with Misses Bessye Wallis and Carrye Wray.
Sam Fitz went to Brunot to-day to have the plaster paris taken off his leg. He will be able to walk without his crutches soon.
Little Miss Hazel McKeen entertained a few of her little friends Friday, in honor of her fifth birthday. Among those present were Misses Marie Stevenson, Gladys, Lucy, Ruth and Leah Wallis, Percilla Kelley, Esther Myers, Nellie Brainard, Charity Daniels, Eunice and Claude Morris, Lena and Lela Stevenson and Lucille Jackson. The little folks spent the evening very enjoyable, and went away with smiling faces.
Miss Rella Robinson returned home from Hendrickson Sunday.
A crowd of young folks attended church at Robert's school house last Tuesday night.
Jack Brierton was seen on our streets Wednesday.
Miss Blanche Fitz visited in Ironton last Monday and Tuesday.
Rev. Seaton filled his regular appointment here Sunday at the Methodist church. ISAAC.

Rubbers, all sizes, at H. Barnhouse's.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*
The Kind You Have Always Bought

NOTICE OF LETTERS.
Notice is hereby given, that Letters of Administration upon the estate of John H. Sutton, late of Iron county, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, J. W. Alcorn, Administrator, by the Judge of the Probate Court of the county of Iron, hearing date the 5th day of December, 1903.

All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within one year after the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefits of such estate; and if such claims be not exhibited within two years from the time of the publication of this notice, they will be forever barred.
J. W. ALCORN,
Administrator.

Ironton, Mo., Dec. 16, 1903.

CHAS. P. DAMRON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
AND NOTARY PUBLIC,
IRONTON, MISSOURI.
Office in the Dr. Farrar Building

Christmas Comes But Once a Year!

With Christmas Comes Santa Claus,
—WITH—
Gifts for All!

Gifts for Girls!
Gifts for Boys!
Gifts for Women!
Gifts for Men!

His Headquarters
—WILL BE AT—
LOPEZ'S
AGAIN, AS USUAL.

With Reindeer, Sled and All, and Bigger and Fuller Pack than he Ever Before was known to carry.

O, hear the jingle of his bells!
How sweet a tale their music tells,
Of love and peace and hopes and joys,
To all good little girls and boys!



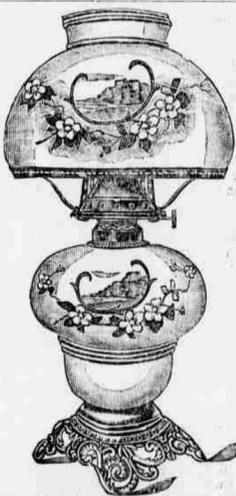
GIFTS FOR WOMEN. HERE THEY ARE!

- The most beautiful line of Handkerchiefs just received for the Holidays, 5c to \$1.00.
- Neckwear, Holiday arrival, in Stocks, Lace Top Collars and Collarettes, 10c to \$3.00.
- Millinery—What's more appreciated than a stylish Hat? and we are now selling them so cheap.
- Jackets—An up-to-date Jacket; we have them, and are cutting the prices, in order to reduce our stock; \$1.50 to \$12.00.
- Gloves—Kid Gloves, all colors and sizes, guaranteed; price \$1.00. Golf Gloves, Misses' and Ladies', 25c to 50c.
- Shirt Waists, in Flannels, Silks and Mercerized, from \$1.00 to \$5.00.
- Sweaters—A decidedly popular fad just now. We have them, \$2.00 to \$3.00.
- What's the matter with Belts? A new line just received. The Latest Novelties, from 25c to \$1.50.
- Parasols, 50c to \$5.00.
- Petticoats—A choice line, \$1.25 to \$3.50.
- Fur Sets from \$1.50 to \$10.00.
- Waist and Dress Patterns, etc.

GIFTS FOR WOMEN.

GIFTS FOR MEN AND BOYS.

- Neckwear—one of the most carefully selected stocks ever seen in Ironton, 25c to 75c
- Mufflers—An exquisite line, 50c to \$2.00.
- Gloves up to \$2.00.
- Handkerchief in Silk and Linen 5c to 75c.
- Umbrellas, \$1.00 to \$5.00.
- Leather Suit Cases up to \$7.50.
- Our line of Men's Holiday Suspenders and Hose can not be surpassed.
- Men's Hats, Suits and Overcoats would be most acceptable.
- We just received one case of Men's Sample Finest Shoes, worth from \$3.50 to \$5.00, sizes 6 to 8, go at \$2.98.



Fine Chinaware and Lamps.

A lucky purchase of Lamps just in time for the Holiday trade, places us in a position to sell you a Lamp at almost half what others would ask. See our stock. Lamps with fancy globes, 75c to \$5.00.

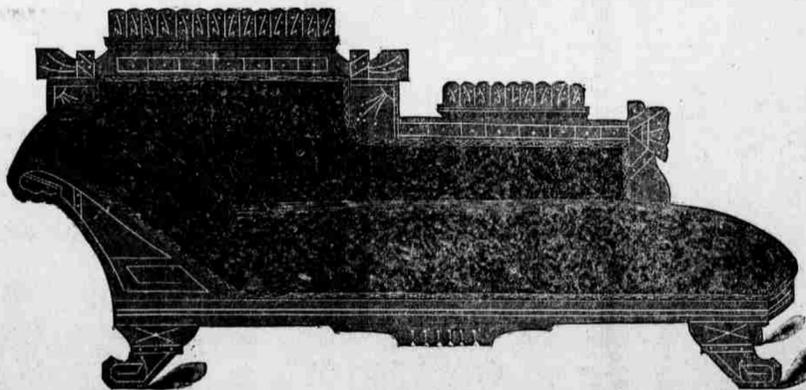
Dinner Sets At a Bargain 100-piece set, worth \$15 **\$10**

Beautiful line of Water Sets, Cups and Saucers, Fancy Plates, Vases, Jardaniers, Chamber Sets.

- WHAT TO PUT IN**
Brother's, Sister's and Baby's Stocking,
Dolls from 5c to \$6.00.
Drums, 25c to \$1.00.
Rocking—Horses, Shoo-Flies, 75c.
Pianos,
Stoves,
Skates,
Bicycles,
Wagons,
10c to \$2.00
Doll Buggies, 25c and up.
Air-Guns and Hudreds of Other Things.
Useful Gifts: Clocks, 75c to \$5.00.
Overcoats,
Suits of Clothes,
\$1.00 and up.
Caps, Ties, Shoes, Etc., Etc.

JEWELRY. Holiday Jewellery—New arrival of Silverware, Rings, Lockets, Watches for Ladies and Men, Cuff Buttons, Breast Pins, Fancy Combs, Etc., Etc.

CARPETS AND FURNITURE.



HOLIDAY ARRIVALS. Nothing nicer for an Xmas Gift than something for the House.

Rockers. A New Line of Willow Chairs from **\$2.50 to \$8.00**

Morris Chairs And Cobbler Seat Rockers **\$2.10 to \$7.50**

Rugs from 50c to \$25.

Holiday Candies From 8 1-3c to Our Pure, Fine Mixed Candy at 20c per Pound.

Yours For Bargains, **T. S. Lopez & Sons.** Ironton, Missouri.