

Dress Patterns of 10 yards
each for 35c
at the Bamford Sale

Only About Two Weeks More

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each for 35c
at the Bamford Sale

to buy goods at Bamford's, where they are selling all Dress Goods, Outing Flannels, Ladies Underwear, etc., at even less than wholesale prices; as Mr. Bamford has decided to go west in about two weeks for his health and the goods must be sold; so now is your time to lay in your Christmas presents. See the large line of Fancy Handkerchiefs, Fancy Pillow Tops, Golf Gloves, Mittens, etc.; in fact every article in the store at less than wholesale prices. We still have a few of those Dress Patterns of 10 yards each that we are selling at only 35c each; one pattern to a customer, come in and see them. Never before in the history of Denison has First-Class Dry Goods, Notions, Millinery, etc. been offered at such low prices, but you will have to come soon if you want any of them. Yours respectfully,

Dress Patterns of 10 yards
each for 25c
at the Bamford Sale.

F. M. Smith

AT M. M. BAMFORD'S - DENISON, IOWA.

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Mexico's Christmas Posadas

One who has been away from the United States for a term of years the Christmas holidays there seem like a feverish rush, and the simple pleasures indulged in during the nine days of posadas in Mexico are returned to with a certain measure of relief.

A posada is an inn, and the idea pervading these festivities is that story, known to all the world, of Caesar Augustus, who, in the height of his power, wished to know the number of people who bowed beneath his scepter. In order to determine the fact he decreed that a census should be taken of all the nations composing the great Roman empire. To effect this Augustus sent twenty-four commissioners to the different parts of his world. The edict commanded that every person, rich or poor, weak or strong, should go to the place of his birth or to the original place of his family to have his or her name inscribed in the Roman registry.

Joseph and Mary, who were both of the royal house of David, went to the town of Bethlehem. They found it so full of people on the same mission that they wandered about the town for nine days seeking shelter. On the ninth day they were allowed to stay in the stable of a posada, and there the Nino Santo, or Holy Child, was born. The posadas are held for nine evenings in commemoration of those weary days.

Of course there are miserable homes where no sign of a posada is held, but Mexicans, rich and poor, are generous. No matter how dirty and ragged, every one is welcome in the churches, beautifully decorated, and at the nightly posadas held in them, though there the penatas are omitted, as the celebrations are entirely of a religious nature. To the children the penatas are very important features of the season. They



THE BABE IS PLACED IN THE MANGER.

represent men, women, goats and other animals, beautiful flowers, immense chrysanthemums, giant roses and peonies, lovely dahlias, nuns, monks in full costume and graceful musical instruments. Each figure contains an empty jar or penata of pottery, which is hidden by the decorations or costumes of colored tissue paper, most skillfully applied. The jars are filled with goodies and unbreakable toys.

When friends have been invited to a posada the house is decorated with evergreens and mosses, flowers and tinsel in all the rooms and corridors. In one room is the scene in the stable of Bethlehem—the stable yard and servants, the animals, trees and plants, groups of Biblical characters, little toy fountains. All that money can do to beautify the beginning of the "old, old story" is done according to the taste and means of the host and hostess. The little manger, amid soft lights and

draperies, stands ready for the Nino Santo.

A procession of the guests and family forms in another part of the house, and the pilgrims, or peregrinos, march two and two, led by one who carries the Babe. Singing sweet hymns and the litanies, they go through the house, winding in and out of the rooms and galleries.

At last the wanderers stop at the door of the room in which is the manger. Two voices, representing Mary and Joseph, in a wailing hymn beg to be admitted. Voices within chant a denial. Finally a voice announces who they are that plead for shelter; then the door is thrown open, and the peregrinos are allowed to enter. The Babe is placed in the manger, often by a priest, and songs of rejoicing burst forth.

The penatas are next on the programme, the details varying with the fancy of the host.

In a convenient place the penata is suspended, and the little folk, and big ones who choose to take part in the merriment, are blindfolded one at a time, turned around a time or two, then given a stick with which to break the jar if possible. So many trials, then another tries. When one succeeds the contents fall to the floor and a scramble follows to see who gets the most. In some old families there are evenings when the numerous servants partake of the joys of the posada and share in the souvenirs and refreshments provided.—Collier's Weekly.

CHRISTMAS AT SANDRINGHAM

How the Royal Family of Great Britain Celebrates.

The royal family of Great Britain keeps up Christmas at Sandringham in a right royal and old-fashioned way.

Tasteful decorations with holly and mistletoe abound everywhere. Every one comes down to the dining room, where breakfast is taken en famille. Every one has presents for some one else. All the servants and tenants are remembered, so that there are many happy hearts on Christmas morning. Substantial joints, geese and turkeys, with other good things, have a delightful way of turning up at the very houses where they are most wanted.

After breakfast the royal family and guests and the ladies and gentlemen of the household go on a tour of inspection to view the decorations, and then, provided the weather is fine, they walk to church, which, of course, has been tastefully adorned in appropriate and approved Christmas fashion. On the entry of the king and queen the congregation rises—that is the only formality observed. The king's domestic chaplain takes the service—a bright choral service, with Christmas hymns and an anthem.

Then comes luncheon—which is the children's dinner—attended by the king and queen and other members of the family. The Christmas pudding is brought in, blazing up merrily, to the intense delight of the little princes and princesses.

The late afternoon is the most exciting time for the juniors. The doors of a certain room have been kept rigorously fastened since the previous evening, her majesty and other members of her family having duly dressed a large Christmas tree therein. The door is opened, and the whole party troops in, while the royal children evince the greatest delight at the Christmas tree ablaze with lights and weighed down with presents. Afterward all sorts of games are entered into with a hearty and zest that must surely appeal to every one.

Dinner comes along at 8:45, to which all guests staying in the house and many of the household are invited by the king. The king and queen and guests assemble in the drawing room, first, and then a procession is formed, led, of course, by their majesties, who are followed in order of precedence by the others. The tables are laid in the grand salon. The guests are seated at small oval tables, the king and queen sitting opposite each other at one, and are waited on by special footmen. Boar's head, baron of beef and plum pudding are the staple dishes of the royal Christmas dinner.

After dinner there may be a dance or a command performance in the state ballroom, the walls of which are decorated by gorgeous Indian trophies presented to his majesty when he visited that country.—Pictorial Magazine.

Christmas Eve In Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM, the central spot of interest in the Holy Land at Christmastide, is a Christian town set in the heart of Mohammedanism, where once a year the Greek church grants the use of the grotto of the Nativity to the Latin church. The ceremonies begin on Dec. 24 by the image of the youthful Christ being carried from the basilica of St. Helena to the sacred grotto of the Nativity, where the traditional spot of Christ's birth is marked by a silver star set in the rocky pavement.

The service begins at 10 o'clock in the evening. It opens with the chanting of psalms without any musical accompaniment. The patriarch of Jeru-



TYPICAL BETHLEHEM FAMILY OF TODAY.

salem usually officiates in the grotto, but on this occasion he is represented by the Latin bishop. The interior of the church is most picturesque, for there are only a few chairs provided for foreign visitors, while the bulk of the congregation is made up of the Bethlehemite women in their blue dresses with red frontlets, wearing peaked caps when married and flat caps covered by white veils when single.

As they enter the church they at first kneel down and then sit upon the ground in true oriental fashion. "In the dimly lighted church," says one who has seen the service, "these squatting varicolored figures, with their beautiful faces lit up by fits and starts by flashes of the candles, intent on devotion, seem like so many modern Madonnas come to celebrate the glory of the first Madonna."

Precisely at midnight the pontifical high mass is celebrated, the figure of Christ is brought in a basket and deposited upon the high altar, and the procession forms to accompany it to the crypt. As the long, chanting procession winds through the dimly lighted church there is something weirdly solemn about the ceremony, and as the sacred image passes various acts of worship are performed by the devout attendants. On the procession moves through the rough hewn, dimly lit passages from the Latin church to the grotto of the Nativity.

When the procession of richly robed ecclesiastics reaches the silver star set in the pavement the priests pause and stand in a group about the basket, which is deposited upon the star. Around this star is the inscription, "Hic de virgine natus est" ("Here he was born of a virgin"), for this is the spot upon which tradition places the actual birth of Jesus. There the impressive narrative of the birth of Jesus as found in the gospels is slowly recited, and when the passage (Luke II, 7), "And she brought forth her firstborn Son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn," is read the figure is reverently picked up from the star and carried over to the opposite side of the grotto, where it is

put into a rock cut manger. This concludes the service.—London Sphere.

Mistletoe Myths.

Many English girls believe that they will not be wedded inside of twelve months unless they have at least one kiss under the mistletoe. In many counties a berry is plucked from the mistletoe with each kiss, and when there are no berries no kisses are allowed. Mistletoe used to be considered a charm or amulet to ward off the baleful influence of witches. It was also considered that its influence was irresistible, that no one could possibly pass beneath it without yielding to its power, and hence both matron and maid must submit to the salutation which has since become customary.—Self Culture Magazine.

Christmas Candy.

To make chocolate caramels dissolve over a fire one cupful of molasses and two teaspoonfuls of sugar; add one-quarter of a pound of grated chocolate and a piece of butter the size of an egg; boil for fifteen or twenty minutes; pour into flat buttered dishes to the depth of a quarter of an inch and when cold cut into squares an inch in size.

Christmas in Cornwall.

In Cornwall Christmas eve is a special holiday with children, who are allowed to sit up till midnight and drink to the "mock," as the Yule log is called there.

The Universal Desire.

She was superbly dressed in the pinnacle of fashion and would have been beautiful but for a certain stern, businesslike expression that rather marred the sweetness of her face.

First looking up and down, she darted swiftly into a narrow passageway and was soon knocking at a door emblazoned with the legend: "Signor Oleo Margerino. Clairvoyant. Future Foretold."

The door opened. "Where is the signor?" she nervously demanded.

"In bed, mum."

"Horror! What's the matter with him?"

"Nervous prostration, brought on by overwork."

"Overwork?"

"Yes, mum. Since September he's been busy peerin' into de future fer people wot wanted ter know de value uv Christmas presents dey wuz goin' to get so's they'd know how much ter spend on theirs."

Stiffing a shriek of despair, she sped away on the hunt for some other clairvoyant.—New York Herald.

A Topsy Turvy Party.

A topsy turvy party is good fun at Christmas. Everything is done at this party "the other way around." For instance, a very small Christmas tree is fastened to the ceiling upside down. On the floor a number of packages should be laid. In the packages you must be sure to have the topsy turvy scheme. In all those intended for the girls you should put only such things as boys like or use, and the older the guest the simpler should the toys be. The next thing in this topsy turvy party after the distribution of the packages is to have some one enter the room dressed as Santa Claus with an empty basket on his back or in his hand, but instead of giving each person a present he must demand one from each person. Later on in the evening the guests play a game of forfeits, when they have a chance of getting back their gifts.

A Few Christmas Don'ts.

Don't fuss, don't hurry, don't worry, don't fret. Christmas has come and gone many times and will come and go again. Don't do one single thing, then, for at least two weeks that will jar you into forgetting that it was the birthday of peace and good will.—Philadelphia Record.

Christmas at the North Pole.

The candles burn on the Christmas tree; They burn with a ruddy flame, And the little Eskimo looks with glee Upon picture book and game.

He dances in ecstasies of delight, And he claps his hands for joy And then climbs into the branches bright, Where jingles the rosy toy.

Then with an expression of peace supreme And a twinkle of heartfelt fun The candles he plucks in a loto's dream And gobbles them one by one.—R. K. Munstirick in New York Herald.

The Animals At Christmas

SAID Santa Claus, "Tis Christmas eve (The animals looked pleasant), And each of you will now receive His yearly Christmas present. But I'd be glad if every guest Would mention what he'd like the best."

The Tapir said: "That pleases me. I'll state succinctly, therefore, If I may be so bold and free— The only thing I care for Would be those matches on the shelf, With which I'd like to light myself."

His wish was granted. Then up spake A timid little Adder: "Sir, but a trifle it will take To make my Christmas gladder: A slate and pencil, if you please, Would let me do my sums with ease."

The Reindeer said: "You may believe I'd be a happy fellow If I were sure I would receive A good sized umberelbow; And also I'd like four golosh, Es and a rubber mackintosh."

The Pig a fountain pen desired; The Cow in horns requested; The Horse, for a new hat acquired, His gratitude attested. The Caterpillar said: "I am Proud of my caterpillarham."

So all of them were gay and glad, And they were happy, very; They liked the presents that they had, And waxed exceedingly merry.

Dear humans, at your Christmas feasts, Pray take a lesson from the beasts. —Carolyn Wells in Reader.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

The giving of presents on Christmas day undoubtedly owes its origin to a general idea to carry into practice the biblical mandate, "Peace on earth; good will to men." At first the great lords made presents to their retainers, and the season was marked by universal charity. By degrees the practice of Christmas giving spread until now everybody gives his or her friends presents.

Why Tommy Is Doing Penance.

Grandma—Are you looking forward to your Christmas dinner, Tommy?

Tommy—Yep, grandma, but not so much as Johnny Jones.

Grandma—Why so, Thomas?

Tommy—His grandma died last week, and he'll get all her Christmas turkey.

Changing Countenance.

He changed countenance rapidly. Slipping on his face the Santa Claus mask, he made a triumphant entry into the parlor with the bundle of toys.

The Past Versus the Present.

Oh, Christmas time is coming fast, So cheer up, girls; be pleasant And shake the fellow with the past For that one with the present.

In Praise of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

There is no other medicine manufactured that has received so much praise and so many expressions of gratitude as Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is effective, and prompt relief follows its use. Grateful parents everywhere do not hesitate to testify to its merits for the benefit of others. It is a certain cure for croup and will prevent the attack if given at the first appearance of the disease. It is especially adapted to children as it is pleasant to take and contains nothing injurious. Mr. E. A. Humphreys, a well known resident and clerk in the store of Mr. E. Lock, of Alice, Cape Colony, South Africa, says: "I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to ward off croup and colds in my family. I found it to be very satisfactory and it gives me pleasure to recommend it." For sale by Ph. A. Schlumberger.

Keeping Out of Danger.

Lady Frederick Cavendish once told a story in illustration of the prevailing ignorance in certain classes in England. A poor woman in discussing the propriety of washing her child's head said: "I know better than to do that. I've heard enough of water on the brain."

King of All Cough Medicines.

Mr. E. G. Casle, a mail carrier of Canton Center, Conn., who has been in the U. S. Service for about sixteen years, says: "We have tried all cough medicines for croup, but Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is king of all and one to be relied upon every time. We also find it the best remedy for coughs and colds, giving certain results and leaving no bad after effects." For sale by Ph. A. Schlumberger.

Fine wholesome, home-made pure candies and taffie at the City Bakery

SHERIFF'S SALE.

Notice is hereby given: That by virtue of a Special Execution, by me directed, issued out of the office of the Clerk of the District Court of the State of Iowa, in and for Crawford County, upon a judgment rendered in said Court in favor of H. A. Roman and against Elsworth McNeal and Margaret McNeal et al. I have levied upon the following described real estate as the property of the said Elsworth McNeal and Margaret McNeal et al. to-wit:

The south-west quarter and the west half of the north-west quarter of section eighteen (18) in township eighty-three (83) north range thirty-eight (38) west of the fifth Principal Meridian Crawford County, Iowa and that on the 11th day of January A. D. 1908, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day, at the Court house in Denison, Crawford County, Iowa, I will proceed to sell said property, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to satisfy said execution, amounting to three thousand four hundred fifty five (3,455) dollars, debt seventy-four 54-100 Dollars, less fees, and five dollars first of fees seventeen 50-100 Dollars, costs, taxes with interest and accruing costs, at public auction to the highest bidder for cash. Dated December, 24, 1907. THOMAS MEEHAN, Sheriff of Crawford County, Iowa.

Christmas at Half Price

This the last Christmas we expect to be in the Holiday Trade. Hereafter we shall devote our entire attention to our Cigar and Tobacco business. For this reason we are prepared to sell our entire stock of Toys, Notions, Christmas Tree Decorations, etc, at

Closing Out Prices

Next week we will have our Christmas Goods ready for your inspection and we can guarantee to save you Big Money on anything you may wish in our line.

C. OTTO,

DENISON, IOWA.