

PASSING OF THE OLD YEAR.

A FEW HOURS ago, the old year passed away... The old year passed away with a sigh...

The Christmas Prize Sled.

BY WELDON J. COBB.

HERE were about twenty boys in Brookdale, and they were divided into two "crowds"...

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though" declared Ned, with a philosophical twinkle of his eye. "I'm sold with my friends. They're old and true, and his fellows, huh! I'd like that sled, though. Look at the upholstered seat, and the hand-pushers. Oh, I'd like that sled—for you, Eunice!"

Little Eunice knew no better than to cry at this, because she saw that Ned felt bad, and he went a little dimly down the road. A load of hay had up and set in the ditch a few days before. The boys had famous fun playing in it. Ned engaged himself kicking free his mantle of snow, expecting some of his friends along pretty soon. Suddenly—"Hi! What you doing? Br-r-r! I've got you!"

Ned's foot was seized, the hay rustled. Then, still holding to him, up amid the wintry mass arose a man. "Now, whittier dost thou go?" "I go, my Lord, along this way. That all my kin have gone. Where then, my Lord, shalt I follow me before another dawn?"

"Right early," cried the Christmas king. "Who ride tonight with thee?" "The days of grief, the days of joy, are they who ride with me." "God keep thee, merry little man; do whop'er thou wilt, and I'll follow thee. When Christ the Lord was born. And he not sad, my little man, but when thou too, art old. And o'er the wintry wastes you come, a weary man and cold."

"Right cheerily, I pray thee, then, to keep this gracious treat. And leave the weary burden here. Where care grows faint, with Christ. Now, bid the gallant company Ride onward without fear. For I, the king of Christmas, have blessed the glad New Year." "The Century."

Santa Claus' Origin. This is true if only because that is the Dutch name for St. Nicholas. That he is an old man is because in the ancient pagan feasts in celebration of the decay of the year and the birth of the new an old man played the principal part. Among the Greeks and Romans it was Saturn, a flatterer of joy and expectation possessed the throne in the little old school house. It subsided as Mr. Ames stepped

to the platform. His watch was in his hand, and he looked quite nervous. "We have waited beyond the time appointed for our Christmas exercises," he said. "Our Santa Claus has disappointed us, and twenty of our boys have disappeared."

Another Santa Claus than the tramp appeared. There was music, some recitations, and then the generous gift-giving. Finally, the beautiful prize sled was drawn out upon the stage. "As I announced a week ago," said Mr. Ames, "this sled will go to the boy voted most popular, and I hope you will select the best behaved boy, as well as—"

"Ned!" "Our Ned!" "And amid blisses and congratulations, and a pleased nod from Mr. Ames himself, Ned found himself the happiest boy ever was."

"Of course I give it to Eunice," he said. "Of course it's all luck, for the other fellows stayed away, somehow, or I wouldn't have got the votes. But Eunice should have it, poor, dear, patient little cripple—and angel!"

swamp. Just as they were about to abandon it where it could not be possibly found for several days, and hurry back to the festival, the door of the vehicle was pushed open. There sat the old white-haired tramp. He had been sleeping in the cozy cushioned carriage regularly. The startled boys explained, "Santa Claus" coolly informed them he could not think of walking back to town!

They had to pull him back. They grumbled and tugged and quarreled. They were tired, disgusted and, worse of all, too late to vote on the Christmas Prize Sled!

Christmas and New Year. King Christmas sat in his house of ice and looked across the snow. "Hello, my little man," he cried, "Now, whittier dost thou go?" "I go, my Lord, along this way. That all my kin have gone. Where then, my Lord, shalt I follow me before another dawn?"

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GODFREY PETTIGREW'S CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

GODFREY PETTIGREW was driving along the pike toward the country town, the grays going at a brisk rate. "There's that young Evans walking toward me," he said to himself. "He is dressed up to catch the train."

"Going up the road, Bob," he said, as he passed the younger man. "I'm bound for town." "I was going down by the train, but don't mind riding behind your grays," laughed the other, climbing in, "that is, if you'll agree to bring my staff back."

"So 'tain't two wagon loads," was the reply. He liked Bob Evans because he joked and laughed and was good company. "What'll your load be?" he asked Bob, as the hard mud flew from under the horses' feet.

"Not much weight," laughed his companion. "Christmas gifts. This is the time when a little money buys a lot of things to warm the heart." "Sho!" said Farmer Pettigrew, "when you're as old as I am you won't be spending money for Christmas. There's a no one but me and mother now. We'd look fine making Christmas presents."

"That you would," replied Evans, "and it would make good old Aunt Pettigrew feel ten years younger. I wish you would." "Now, Bob," exclaimed the older man, "are you in earnest?" "Never was more so. She is often lonely since your daughter moved west. She would be not only surprised, but happy."

"What are you going to get Addie?" "Me! O, I've been planning for months. A new dress for one thing. Books she

wanted and some little knick-knacks. Nothing is too good for my wife. She deserves more than I can ever give her. But I'm getting some things for mother, too. I wouldn't forget her. We'll go over tomorrow afternoon and see how happy she'll be over our presents."

"I never did give anything except a little candy to the children on Christmas," said the old man. "About the middle of the afternoon Bob Evans hurried into the big dry goods store after numerous bundles. He was surprised to see old Farmer Pettigrew sitting at a counter near the front while an obsequious clerk was holding up folds of gray silk. Bob was so glad that he stopped to aid in the selection, and then went on his way. It was nearly dark when the two men met at the lively stable. Farmer Pettigrew was as excited as a boy.

"Say, Bob, I bought her a chair, too, and a comb, and candy, and I'm kind of ashamed to give them to her. And I sent Mimmie ten dollars, registered letter, you know." "Bob shook the old man's hand. 'I'm glad I came in with you. I just wish I could see auntie when you give those things to her.' 'I'll tell you about it, Bob.' But he did not introduce the subject when Bob went over the next week. The young man followed him out to the barn and asked him about the gift. Old Godfrey Pettigrew looked at him long and solemnly, a sort of quiver about his mouth.

"Well, when I laid them out by her bed Christmas morning, Bob, I just stepped out. She didn't come out, and I got scared. I peeped in through the crack, and—well, she was on her knees with her sobbing. I didn't calculate it was going to have any such effect, Bob." "Bob's eyes grew misty. 'I went in then, and she rose up and came to me, and she said, 'I'd kissed me for the first time in ten years, Bob.'"

Don't Give begrudgingly. No loveless gifts, no gifts that are given to satisfy convention or grudgingly, should dishonor the day of love, when your Christmas list is cut down to this limit you have pruned away all the germs of selfishness and anxiety, and left only the joy of co-operation, the blessed love-making which involves the world. If your presents are limited to giving at a friend's door a bunch of holly tied with a bit of bright ribbon and a little card of greeting, you have still had your share in the pleasure giving and dispensing of "good will toward men," and if you have but bestowed some rosy apples for the children and a pound of tea for the grandmother, you have lightened the hearts of the poor.

AROUND A BIG STATE IOWA NEWS.

INTERESTING ITEMS OF LATE IOWA NEWS. Bonuses Paid to County Fair—Mail Carrier Mysteriously Assaulted—Mailing Has More Banks than Any Other State—Agricultural Society Officers.

The State of Iowa pays liberally in aid of county fairs and as a result of such policy there were seven or six of such fairs held the past season. Where an association has paid out in premiums more than \$500 it is entitled to receive from the State \$200. As the result of this policy the local fair associations have already received this year a total of \$14,577.57, and they report having disbursed the same to exhibitors \$31,065.38. The total is somewhat larger but for the fact that a very few of the fair associations prefer not to make the profit intoxicating liquor has been sold, gambling has been prohibited and thus lose their bonus from the State.

Iowa Leads in Banks. Iowa has more banks than any other State in the Union. On the first day of July there were 1,200 banks doing business in the State. J. M. Kemble, revenue collector for Des Moines district, is authority for this statement and added since last July and that practically none had failed or suspended operations in the northern district, but that during that time probably twenty-five new banks had been established. If this is true the total number of banks in the State is 1,225. The next State to come after Iowa is New York, which has 1,120 banks.

Progress of New Railroad. The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Des Moines, Iowa Falls and Northern Railway Company was held in Iowa Falls, the following being the newly elected officers: President, W. W. Beyer, Des Moines; E. S. Edwards, vice-president, W. H. Courtney, secretary, J. H. Puka; treasurer, W. H. Woods. The reports of the officers of the company about the enterprise in that section of the State, thirty-five miles of the road has practically been graded. The American Express Company will operate over the new road and has put on a messenger to handle its business and opened an office at Buckley.

Stricken by Unseen Poe. The mail carrier at Voorhes was struck down a few nights ago just as he was entering the door of the postoffice with a mail sack. It was late at night and he was unable to detect his assailant, who made no attempt at robbery, but fled as soon as he had felt the messenger. The man was badly injured, and he was taken to the hospital. The assailant was eventually identified as one who held a personal grudge against the messenger and took that way to get even. The matter, however, is an offense against the post laws, as the man was carrying mail.

Iowa Agricultural Society. The following officers and directors were named by the agricultural convention at its recent meeting in Des Moines: President, J. C. Eber, Bloomfield; vice-president, W. W. Morrow, Atton; Directors—First district, J. P. Manstrey, Fairfield; third district, W. C. Brown, Marshalltown; seventh district, M. J. Wray, Watkney; ninth district, M. McDonald, Bayard; eleventh district, C. E. Cameron, Alta. These are all regularly elected and successful executives.

Waterworks Sold for Taxes. The Muscatine water works plant, valued at \$100,000, was sold the other day for taxes, amounting to \$800. The city bought the plant last spring for \$100,000 and later discovered that the back taxes had not been paid. The city refused to pay and the county advertised the plant for sale. The claim was bought by a prominent real estate dealer. The city attorney declares that he will have the plant reverted to the city by the court.

Murder in First Degree. Murder in the first degree, the verdict which the coroner's jury, sitting on the remains of William Sharpless, who was killed at Buxton, returned at Oskaloosa. The jury also found that the deed was committed by "Buck" Williams, a colored man arrested in Ottumwa. Williams is now in jail at Oskaloosa and the grand jury has already taken up the case.

All Over the State. At Oskaloosa the body of a colored man was found in a Rock Island box car. It is unidentified. Mr. Julia Lee, widow of Kaud Lee, died at Carpenter, aged 105 years. She was a native of Norway. Max Bernstein, proprietor of a department store at Clinton, has filed a petition for bankruptcy. Liabilities \$43,700. Ben Fowles, a prominent stock grower a few miles east of Greene, was found in the cattle barn dead. He had hung himself. He had been considered unwell for some time.

C. B. Mills, president of the Iowa Bankers' Association, reports that \$2,500 has already been subscribed for the family of John Sundblad, the Albert City man who was killed in the capture of the Des Moines bank robbers. Mr. Mills expects to raise \$5,000. Denial is made of the report to the effect that the Muskawki Indians have left the reservation on account of the outbreak of smallpox and are spreading the epidemic. The State Board of Health has information to the contrary that the Indians are living in their tents and are not leaving the reservation. They are not leaving the reservation, they are accepting the treatment and conditions imposed by the health authorities.

Rev. H. Doethler of St. Paul, while preaching at the German Methodist church at Gladbrook, was stricken with paralysis and died two hours later without regaining consciousness. All of the applications for the establishment of rural free delivery service in the Seventh Iowa Congressional District on report No. 7, by Special Agent Smith D. Fry, have been disapproved by W. E. Annin, special agent in charge. They have all been referred to the Post-office Department with the report that they are all deficient with respect to bonds. There came near being a disastrous fire at the Institute for feeble-minded children at Glenwood. The wires leading from the electric dynamo set fire to the timber underneath the floor of the engine house. The blaze was hard to get at, but was finally extinguished after much work. The general store of Ernest Towne, at Jamaica, was robbed on a recent night. Four citizens gave chase to two going in one direction and two in another. They met on the cross roads and opened fire. Before explanations could be made, Towne, James King and Blaine Parmeter were shot. Fifty-seven shot have been removed from Parmeter. Moselet was instantly killed at Peter Martin's place, four miles south of the State capitol, while attending a public sale. He was knocked down and trampled to death by a frightened cow, which he had purchased and which was trying to escape from him. The damage case of Mrs. Katrina Wisler against the city of Atlantic has gone against the city, the jury bringing in a verdict of \$2,102 in favor of the plaintiff. The case grew out of an injury received by the plaintiff falling through a defective sidewalk the night of June 8, at which time she sustained a broken limb and other injuries from the effects of which she has not recovered.

CROPS BREAK RECORDS.

Value of Farm Products Goes Beyond Figures of Previous Years. Director Sage of the weather and crop service has issued his annual report, and the figures contained therein will prove an agreeable surprise to those who feared the extreme heat and drought of the midsummer period would cause a shrinkage in the total value of staple farm products.

Mr. Sage makes the comforting statement that the total cereal yield this year is greater than in four years in the last decade. A comparison of the figures with those of other years shows that in 1890, 1892, 1893 and 1894 the output was less than the present year, and greater in the other years of the decade. The report shows that not only have the farmers raised more cereals this season than in four seasons of the last ten, but the soil products of the State, despite the drought season, are worth more than \$4,000,000 more than in any previous year of which any account has been taken by the crop service.

That the valuation of the total crop this season is so much in excess of the valuation of any and all the years of big outputs is somewhat astonishing. The value of the total soil products this year reaches the enormous sum of \$274,000,000. This is the best proof that the harvests amply repaid the Iowa farmers, even in a year when complaints were heard because the season would not be more than half a crop.

The total wheat yield is 18,235,000 bushels, a loss of 2,083,350 as compared with last year. The corn crop in the variety counties ranges from 28 to 38 bushels per acre. The total output of corn is about 65 per cent, as compared with 1900, and about 85 per cent compared with the average product of the last twelve seasons. The average price of corn is 50 cents per bushel, as against 27 cents on Dec. 1, 1900.

The area of oats harvested this year was 3,700,000 acres, which is 102,470 acres less than the acreage of 1900, and the average yield per acre is eight bushels below that of last year. The average farm price is 35 cents per bushel, as against 29 cents last year. The barley crop this year is 14,654,410 bushels, harvested from 604,610 acres. The report shows an increase of 1,350,000 bushels compared with last year. The average price is 44 cents, as against 33 cents last year.

The report shows the average price of corn is \$30 and of hogs \$75. The following table, or tabulated crop summary, tells the story of the farm output of any previous year, and in these figures no account is made of the profits derived from consumption of soil products in the dairy and live stock industry.

The following officers were elected at the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Iowa State Traveling Men's Association: President, W. H. Wheeler; Vice-President, H. B. Helge; Secretary and Treasurer, E. E. Haley; Directors, W. F. Mitchell, C. D. Deets, Charles Willis, Thomas M. Langan, A. L. Olmsted. The lifeless body of Mrs. Fred Somewell, a woman about 70 years of age, who resided on a farm five miles south-west of Signonney, was found hanging with a rope around her neck. She had been in ill health for some time, and it is thought that her ailment unbalanced her mind and led her to strange herself.

The annual report of criminal convictions in Iowa for the past year has been compiled by Deputies Jamison and Brewer, of the office of the Secretary of State. Following are the statistics for 1901: Number of convictions, 1,229; years jail sentence, 80; months jail sentence, 8; days jail sentence, 28; penitentiary sentence, years, 1,188; fines collected, \$52,651; expenses, \$394,354; paid county attorneys, \$90,078.

Poll tax delinquents in Iowa Falls will find the payment of this tax is an obligation that is easily cradled. The City Council has decided that the men who have refused to either work out this tax or pay the equivalent in money will be given an opportunity of having their real or personal property levied on to satisfy the claims of the law and of the municipality. W. W. Gillette will forget it if he lives in the State. He is a farmer and tills the soil when it isn't frozen, near Mt. Searsville. He wanted to go from Ottumwa to Salk and got to the station just as the train was pulling out. Nothing happened, he stayed on the steps of the vestibule Pullman and hung there for twenty minutes. Unfortunately the mercury was 18 degrees below zero, and Mr. Gillette's hands, feet and face were frozen solid. A woman passenger heard him scream and had the porter open the door. He has been thawed out and will live.

Edward Schumann, a farmer of Signonney, and a widower with four children, recently wrote to his brother, Jacob, a farmer of Saxony, to pick out an industrious woman in Saxony and send her to Signonney. Edward said he would marry the woman as soon as she got to his home. Jacob selected his servant, Clara Fleischer, 38 years old, and she was willing to become Mrs. Edward Schumann. She arrived in New York recently from Antwerp by the Red Star Steamship "Friesland," with a prepaid ticket to Signonney. She has never seen the Iowa farmer.

The Chicago and Northwestern has cleared the ground on the Clinton side of the river preparatory to beginning work on the new double track bridge they are about to build across the Mississippi river at that place. The present bridge was built but four years ago, but business has increased so rapidly that the company is obliged to double the bridge capacity. The total length of the new bridge will be a little less than a mile. The company owns Little Rock Island, and the new bridge will double the channel, which shortens the bridge and makes its building easier. Fred Shue, driver of a delivery wagon, was struck by an Illinois Central switch engine in a habit while crossing the tracks and severely injured. The engine struck the wagon, completely overturning it and throwing Shue outside the tracks. A 9-year-old Mabel Dunbar fell forty feet through the trestle work bridge of the Iowa Central Railway over Willow creek between State and Seventh streets, Mason City, and suffered a fracture of the skull, but lives and although her condition is precarious she may recover. F. I. Mason, a traveling man whose home is in St. Louis, had his leg crushed in the Hotel Opera while in Chicago and amputation was necessary. In entering the elevator he stumbled and fell, one leg extending over the edge of the elevator, which had just started.

TEACHERS' WAGES LOW.

Iowa Among States Paying Poor Salaries to Pedagogues. In his annual report the State Superintendent of Public Instruction has this to say of the wages paid teachers in this State: "Iowa still continues to occupy a low place among the great States of the Union in the average annual salary paid teachers. According to the report of the national commissioner of education for the year 1898-1900 we paid the lowest average monthly salaries to teachers of the States of the north central division except South Dakota. When we consider our wealth and our productive soil the showing is most unsatisfactory. In fact by last year the state still and the salary paid teachers should not be less than an amount determined by multiplying two and one-half cents of the general scholarship. The law has increased the pay of teachers established a uniform rate of wages and stimulated teachers to improve their scholarship."

Steel Trust Makes Markets. A point of progress which will find its fullest expression in the new steel corporation is that of making new markets for steel, writes Hay Stannard Baker, in McClure's Magazine. Only a few years ago the steel-maker was fulfilling his mission if he still and let the orders come in, but to-day he manufactures not only his steel, but also his markets to absorb it. An English writer exclaims: "The American steel-makers manufacture business out of their own backs. They have to look upon the steel development in the United States of steel buildings, steel bridges, steel railroad ties, steel ships, and so on, to realize the truth of the assertion. Mr. Carnegie kept more than a hundred draughtsmen employed in the business of proving that steel was better for certain purposes than wood or stone. Did a New York builder propose putting up a large office structure, Mr. Carnegie agreed to draw the plans without charge, provided only that in case steel was used his company should have the contract. It is by such methods that the new corporation proposes to spread itself.

Presidential Hand-Shaking. "Those who say that the hand-shaking has been existing from the foundation of this government, springing naturally out of its democratic institutions, are mistaken," said a man who looks things up to a New York Times reporter. "Washington never shook hands with any one except his most intimate personal friends. As a matter of fact, once during his term as President, when comparatively a small delegation, numbering no more than 100 persons, were asked to pay their respects to him, it was suggested that he shake the hand of each visitor. The somewhat undignified reply of the dignified father of his country was: 'No; I might catch the itch.'"

It is a matter of history that Napoleon suffered to the day of his death with a skin disease that by having his hand come in contact with that of a private and the latter was in the habit of washing his hands with disinfectant. Napoleon's misfortune suggests the advisability of prohibiting miscellaneous hand-shaking on purely sanitary grounds."

Dur and the Sermon. Rev. Mr. Longtalk—I should think you would come to church on the Sabbath? Mr. Hardkase—I always shun work on the Sabbath and rest. Rev. Mr. Longtalk—But do you call going to church work? Mr. Hardkase—Well, it's the hardest kind of work to keep awake there sometimes.—Philadelphia Press.

Paris supplies free of cost sulphurous baths to all persons engaged in hand-lung lead.

Remove skin from the tomatoes, chop fine, place in the saucepan with one finely chopped onion, one teaspoon butter, half as much salt and half as much pepper as salt, one large spoon cracker crumbs; cover tight and let simmer about one hour. Beat three eggs to a froth and stir into the tomatoes; beat well together and pour on a hot, well-greased griddle; lay on one side, fold and brown on the other; serve on a hot dish.

Beefsteak Pie with Oysters. Cut several small slices of sirloin or tenderloin steak and fry them in a little butter. Then add a little water to them, season with salt and pepper, cover tightly and simmer till very tender. Take up, pour the liquor into the bottom of a baking dish, laying the steak in alternate layers with oysters. Pour in more stock, if needed, cover with a good crust and bake till this seems done.

Potato Rolls. Rub four potato potatoes through a wire sieve; add four ounces of minced ham, tongue or bacon, a teaspoonful of chopped parsley, a teaspoonful of chopped onion, salt, half an ounce of warm butter, and the yolk of an egg. Stir over the fire for a few minutes; spread on a plate to cool. Shape into balls, egg and breadcrumb them, and fry in deep, hot fat. These are very good for breakfast.

Plain Curry Salad. Wash and cut into small pieces the white stalks of two bunches of celery. Arrange lettuce in cups for individual serving, pile little mounds of the celery in each, and dress with mayonnaise.

Stained brass may be cleaned with whitening and ammonia. Wash japanned ware with a sponge dampened in warm water and dry it immediately with a soft cloth. Sweep oil applied with a woolen cloth will remove obstinate spots. Make covers for kitchen holders in the form of bags with a pointed end at the open end to slip over a button at the other. Canton flannel is the best material for this purpose. Melted beef dripping or clean tallow is well high equal to paraffine for covering jelly. If when it is cold a little is run around the edge where it has shrunk away from the glass. Honey croquettes are delicious for breakfast. Soften one cupful of cold cooked hominy with a little hot milk. Add the beaten yolk of an egg. Salt the mixture to taste, and when it is cold form into croquettes. Fry in deep fat. Canned fruit which shows signs of fermentation can be saved by adding more sugar, some spices and a little vinegar. If it has soured in the least, put in a little soda and cook until it thickens. Use as a relish with cold meat. After cleaning the table, place a folded towel under any spots that have been made during the meal; if from grease, rub with a cloth wet with gasoline. Other spots may be removed with a cloth and clear hot water, using as little as possible; then rub gently with a dry cloth until nearly dry. To prepare grape juice, boil the grapes with water and let them boil until the skins crack open. Then put them into jelly bags and allow them to drip over night. In the morning dissolve thoroughly in the juice sugar in the proportion of a pound to every gallon of juice. Seal carefully in jars. Use clean, soft rags to remove the grease from kettles and frying-pans before washing. Wipe all the grease from the meat-dishes with rags or paper. Clean greasy spots from the stove with lye, and save all to start the kitchen fire. Put your hand in a paper bag when you black the stove. Keep pulverized borax on hand in hot weather. Borax keeps the discolored sweet, cleans silverware, is used in boiled or cold starch, sets red linen and saves soap. Borax powder sprinkled over fresh meat will keep it sweet longer, and will preserve dried meats from the attacks of insects. When a hot-headed man is wronged, his immediate want is justice.



FOCUS. The value of eye-glasses in food in certain diseased conditions is referred to in the Pacific Medical Journal. When fever is present the appetite is nil, and what one then wants is an aseptic article of diet; the white of an egg, raw, then serves both as food and medicine.

One way to give it is to drain off the albumen from an opening about half an inch in diameter in the small end of an egg, the yolk remaining inside the shell. Add a little salt to this and direct the patient to swallow it. In typhoid fever the mode of feeding is entirely helps in carrying out an anti-septic plan of treatment. Furthermore, the albumen, to a certain extent, may antidote the toxins of the disease. Patients may at first rebel at the idea of eating a raw egg, but the quickness with which it goes down without the yolk proves it to be less disagreeable than they suppose, and they are then ready to take a second dose.

Scalloped Tomatoes. Peel and slice a quart of ripe tomatoes; break in small pieces an equal measure of stale bread, and make a pint of white sauce. Put all these ingredients in layers in an earthen baking-dish, sprinkling upon the tomatoes two tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar; over the top of the dish dust a layer of fine crumbs, season them with salt and pepper, dot them with bits of butter, and bake the tomatoes in a moderate oven for about a half hour, or until they are nicely browned; then serve them in the dish which they were baked.

Tomato Omelet. Remove skin from the tomatoes, chop fine, place in the saucepan with one finely chopped onion, one teaspoon butter, half as much salt and half as much pepper as salt, one large spoon cracker crumbs; cover tight and let simmer about one hour. Beat three eggs to a froth and stir into the tomatoes; beat well together and pour on a hot, well-greased griddle; lay on one side, fold and brown on the other; serve on a hot dish.

Beefsteak Pie with Oysters. Cut several small slices of sirloin or tenderloin steak and fry them in a little butter. Then add a little water to them, season with salt and pepper, cover tightly and