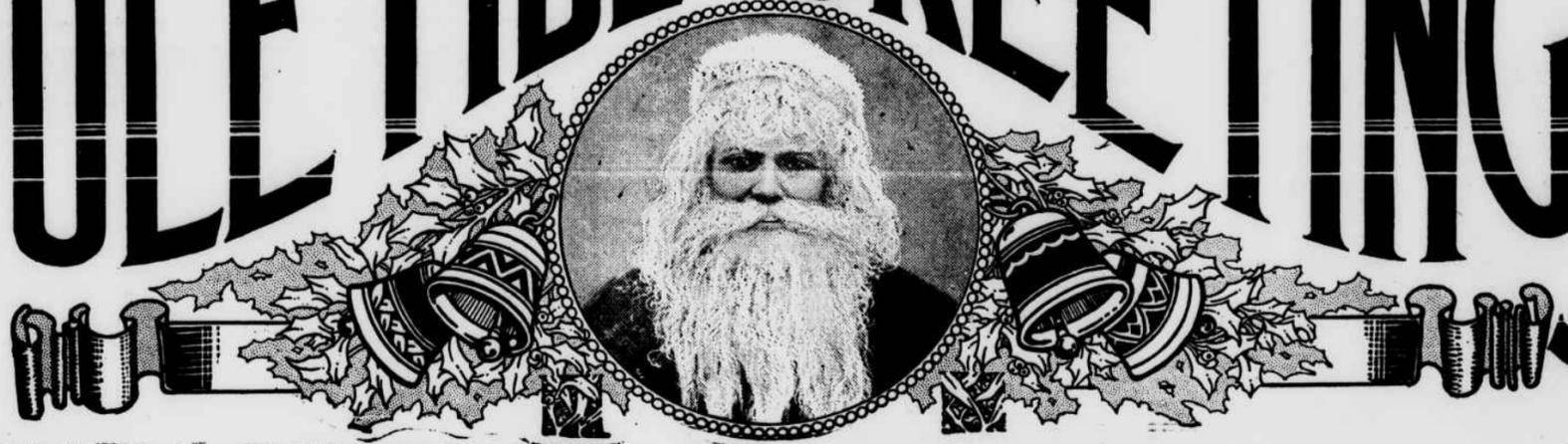


YULETIDE GREETINGS



To all our friends and patrons and best wishes for the New Year.

Piper-Howe Lumber Co.

"The Yard of Quality"

E. P. Bancroft, Mgr.

St. Nicholas And Christmas

THE origin of the idea that presents are presented at Christmas time by St. Nicholas, or Santa Claus, probably originated from the following circumstances: St. Nicholas is said to have been bishop of Myra and to have died in the year 326. He was noted for his fondness for children, and he became their patron saint

and the young were universally taught to revere him. He is said to have supplied three destitute families with marriage portions by secretly leaving money at their windows, and as this occurred just before Christmas he thus became purveyor of the gifts of the season to all children in Flanders and Holland, who hung up their shoes and stockings in the confidence that Knecht Clobes, as they called him, would put in a prize for good conduct. Formerly, and still in some parts of Germany, the practice is made of all the parents in a small village sending

the presents to some one person, who, in huge buskins, a white robe, a mask and an enormous flax wig, goes from house to house on Christmas eve and, being received with great pomp and reverence by the parents, calls for the children and bestows the intended gifts upon them, after first severely questioning the father and mother as to the character and conduct of the child.

As this custom became less frequent the custom of children hanging up their stockings was substituted, and, as the purveyor no longer visited the houses, it was necessary to explain by telling the children that he came into the house at night, coming down the chimney and leaving their presents and departing. The custom of decking the houses and churches at Christmas with evergreens is derived from ancient druidical practices.

It was an old belief that sylvan spirits flock to the evergreen and remain unshipped by frost until a milder season, and it was probably on account of the good omen attached to the evergreen that Christmas trees came into use.

A Short Christmas.

"Christmas day is only three hours long in the Finnish town of Tornea," said a traveler. "I spent last Christmas there. At sunrise I got up to see my presents and to read my Christmas mail, and night had fallen before I got through breakfast."

Old Christmas Sayings

After Christmas comes Lent.
A light Christmas, a heavy sheaf.
Now's now, but Yule's in winter.
A white Easter bringeth a green Christmas.

A Yule feast may be quit at Pasch (Easter).
A black Christmas maketh a fat churchyard.
He hath eaten many a Christmas pie.

They keep Christmas all the year.
It smells of Muscadell like an English Christmas.
Christmas, long looked for, comes at last.

St. Andrew, the king, three weeks and three days before Christmas comes in.
The devil makes his Christmas pie of lawyers' tongues and clerks' fingers.
Christmas comes but once a year, and when it comes it brings good cheer.

At Christmas time or a little after,
A crab in the hedge and thanks to the grafter.

Bounce, buckram, velvet's dear,
Christmas comes but once a year.

If Christmas day on a Sunday fall
A troublesome winter we shall have all.
If Christmas on a Monday be
Then a great winter we shall see.

Yule is come, and Yule is gone,
And we have feasted well.
So Jack must to his stall again
And Jenny to her wheel.

A Christmas Eve Legend.
An anecdote related by Mr. Howison in his "Sketches of Upper Canada" is full of comparative interest. He mentions meeting an Indian at midnight, creeping cautiously along in the still-

ness of a beautiful moonlight Christmas eve. The Indian made signals to him to be silent and when questioned as to his reason replied: "Me watch to see the deer kneel. This is Christmas night, and all the deer fall upon their knees to the Great Spirit and look up." In some parts of England bees are popularly said to express their veneration for the nativity by "singing," as it is called, in their hives at midnight upon Christmas eve.

A Tiny Christmas Tree

A TINY fir tree of symmetrical shape and only two and half feet high was chosen for my little girl's doll's Christmas tree, says a writer in the Woman's Home Companion. This was easily planted in a flowerpot and established upon a large table in the

living room. Tiny candles were fastened upon the branches, a ten cent bunch of tinsel was sufficient for draping and a further outlay for the small colored glass ornaments added to the gorgeousness.

The main idea is to keep everything on a miniature scale while duplicating for the beloved doll children the gifts that usually fall to the small mother. So it was that tiny dolls were dressed; tiny fancy boxes were filled with tiny candies, others contained wee handkerchiefs embroidered with smallest of initials; here hung a hand mirror, there a nursing bottle, tiny fans, a lovely set of cups for the tea table, a small bird in a gilt cage, a new pet kitty, and so on. Ten cent stores yielded most of the treasures.

On the morning of Christmas my eight-year-old was shown her old dollies, each radiantly dressed, and was told that their tree was ready below stairs. The joy and delight at the sight were charming to behold, and the

blissful apportionment of gifts began. As each arriving playmate rolled in her new dolly "to show what I've got," envy and pride reflected upon the faces of the visitor and visited, only to be dispelled by "there is something on the tree for your dolly."

When Christmas Comes.

While passing days are short and cold and drear,
While nights are long, the longest of the year,
While cruel winter solstice reigns supreme,
O'er earth and air, o'er field and wood and stream,
Glad Christmas comes with glowing heart of cheer,
The brightest, bravest day of all the year
—Ladies' Home Journal.

Merry Christmas to All!

Merry Christmas to friends! Merry Christmas to foes!
The world's bright with joy, so forget all your woes,
The earth's full of beauty, of love and good cheer—
Merry Christmas to all and a happy New Year!

J. L. TRUSCOTT

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- HARDWARE
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- OVERSHOES
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Such tobacco enjoyment

as you never thought could be is yours to command quick as you buy some Prince Albert and fire-up a pipe or a home-made cigarette!

Prince Albert gives you every tobacco satisfaction your smoke-appetite ever hankered for. That's because it's made by a patented process that cuts out bite and parch! Prince Albert has always been sold without coupons or premiums. We prefer to give quality!



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On the reverse side of this tidy red tin you will read: "Process Patented July 30th, 1907," which has made three men smoke pipes where one smoked before!

PRINCE ALBERT

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Buy Prince Albert everywhere tobacco is sold in tippy red bags, 5c; tidy red tins, 10c; handsome pound and half-pound tin humidors—and that corking fine pound crystal-glass humidor with sponge-moistener top that keeps the tobacco in such closer trim—always!

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R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., Winston-Salem, N. C.