

## Merry Xmas,

### HAPPY NEW YEAR

of Good Eating. Are you a customer of ours? Ask your neighbor about us. Our methods of business are up-to-date. We are constantly adding new goods to our large stock of fancy groceries. Our stock of goods is the largest ever brought to Bryan. We please you in the

**FRESHNESS,  
QUALITY,  
and . . .  
PRICE.**

We are very grateful to our customers for the pleasure we have enjoyed and hope for its continuance.

YOURS, VERY TRULY,

## WELL BROS.

**PARSONS' Bottling Works,  
BRYAN, TEXAS.**

Enlarged and Thoroughly Equipped with NEW AND IMPROVED MACHINERY. Strictly First-class and Up-to-date Plant. Prepared to fill orders, large or small for

Pure, Wholesome and High Grade Soda Water

All Flavors. Wholesale and Retail. Satisfaction guaranteed. Prices right. Give us a trial.

Prompt Attention to All Orders,  
RESPECTFULLY,

**G. PARSONS,**

Complete line of Candies, Fruits, Nuts, Cigars, Fancy Etc. Headquarters for Fish, Oysters and Shell-order

BROTHERS' SUGGESTION FOR

## Christmas Gifts!

so please consider that it will not find pretty articles within its compass. We want something striking in the way of BOOKERS we can suit you and we can also gratify the more conservative taste for something useful as well. The variety of our

**Chests and Combination Book Cases**

most complete and most complete in the state, while in BED ROOM you can please the most fastidious. WHITE ENAMEL IRON with Dresser and Washstand to match, you can also find with us.

**Extension Tables, Dinners, Wardrobes, Couches,**

**CHIFFONNIERS, FANCY TABLES and HALL RACKS.**

an almost endless variety to select from. We have a right to boast of

**Art Squares and Rugs**

at remarkably low prices. Wait with the buying of your CROCK- AND GLASSWARE till you have looked through our assortment. You can save money by trading with

## WELL Bros.

BRYAN, TEXAS.

Tables and Chairs for Entertainments at Reasonable Rates

### BOB EVANS MAY SUCCEED BUNCE.

His Name Prominently Mentioned as Master of the New York Navyyard.

### SAMPSON WILL NOT BE CHANGED.

He Will Have Charge of the North Atlantic Squadron and Schley Will Be Kept at Sea.

### DEWEY WILL BE LEFT AT MANILA.

The Sentiment in Naval Circles Is For a Law That Will Permit Dewey to Remain in the Navy.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Captain R. D. Evans' name is prominently mentioned as Rear Admiral Bance's successor in the New York navyyard, now that it seems to be decided that Rear Admiral Sampson will remain commander-in-chief of the North Atlantic station and Rear Admiral Schley will be assigned to sea duty in compliance with his request.

Unless congress should pass a law authorizing him to remain on the active list, Rear Admiral Dewey will be placed on the retired list on Dec. 28, 1898. Only one other retirement will occur next year—that of Commodore H. L. Hoverson, now commandant of the Boston navyyard.

There is a strong sentiment in naval circles in favor of a passage of a law which permits the retention of Admiral



CAPTAIN R. D. EVANS.

Dewey upon the active list for ten years as was done in the case of heroes of the civil war.

Reports from Manila that Admiral Dewey desires to return home are not believed by department officials, their advice from him indicating that he desires to remain in the Philippines. It is not expected here that he will be detached from command of the Asiatic station until just in time to reach the United States on the day of his retirement.

Work is being pushed by the navy department on the small cruisers and gunboats to be used for patrol service in Cuban waters. It is appreciated that in six days this government will assume control in Cuba and it is desired that the navy shall be prepared to do its fair share in preserving peace and order in the waters of the island.

### COAL FOR EMERGENCY.

Government Will Purchase an Enormous Stock For the Navy.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The navy department is going to be prepared for any emergency that may hereafter arise in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by carrying on hand the enormous stock of nearly 700,000 tons of the best steaming coal for war ships that can be procured. This supply of the most important of all elements of modern war is to be systematically distributed in American ports, most conveniently to care for the coaling of ships for any occasion the navy may be called on to undertake, extending along the Atlantic and gulf coast line from Frenchman's bay, Mo., to San Juan, Porto Rico, as well as to the commanding positions along the lines of commerce which have already been secured by the United States in the Pacific ocean, stretching from San Francisco and Puget Sound and Manila southward to Samoa. In the naval stores of necessity in the Atlantic about 600,000 tons should be promptly and systematically stored in accordance with the recommendation of the chief strategists of the service and at least 120,000 tons will be sent around Cape Horn to the western ocean, where American interests have suddenly become second to

of no other nation and where the influence of the United States will not hereafter be subordinated to that of any European power.

The distribution of immense quantities of coal for naval purposes in the Pacific indicates the unalterable attitude which has been adopted by the administration regarding the future policy of the United States in that direction as the initial expense involved in transporting the proper quality of fuel for use in the marine engines as well as the elaborate character of the apparatus which must be installed for these expeditious coaling of war vessels for which time is a most essential element, demonstrates the gravity and how thoroughly the authorities have matured their plans.

The number of tons which will be held in reserve at the various coaling stations west of the American continent have been fixed for the present as follows: Manila, 25,000 tons; Guam, 10,000; Honolulu, 20,000; Pago Pago, 10,000; San Francisco, 25,000; and Bremerton, Puget Sound, 25,000. On the Atlantic coast in addition to the fuel supply already established at the various yards and naval stations the recommendations of Admiral Belknap's board which made its investigations early in the Spanish war will probably be adopted without modification with the addition of several requisite ports in the West Indies. The locations of these naval bases with their tonnage of coal supply will be as follows: Havana, 25,000; Santiago de Cuba, 10,000; San Juan de Porto Rico, 20,000; Tortugas and Key West, 50,000; Port Royal, S. C., 25,000; Norfolk, Va., 20,000; Washington, 10,000; Longue Island, 20,000; New York, 50,000; New London, Conn., 25,000; Boston, 15,000; Portsmouth, N. H., 10,000; Frenchman's Bay, Me., 10,000.

In addition to these the naval authorities are satisfied that they can always depend upon securing at a minute's notice at Hampton Roads as well as at New York at least 50,000 tons, such amounts being always available at those ports for commercial and marine uses.

With strong coal bases provided in this arrangement within easy steaming distance of every vessel in the naval fleet, the effective protection of the Atlantic coast would be more than doubted as compared with its condition six months ago. With the exception of the long stretches around the South American continent, where in case of enforced neutrality of the Latin-American republics, United States ships cannot purchase coal in their ports, a continued recourse to armed coaling will be unavoidable. The government is now fortunately possessed of seventeen of these invaluable vessels, with an aggregate carrying capacity approximating 50,000 tons, and it is the intention to keep these vessels filled to their capacity and constantly ready for immediate service.

The sailing arrangements however comprehensive they may seem and however great the improvement of the conditions that existed at the outbreak of hostilities with Spain are still far from satisfactory to the naval experts who have devoted themselves to the consideration of this important subject. Stretches of 2000 miles or more will still separate several of the stations in the Pacific and longing eyes are cast upon islands with excellent harbors that could be utilized to break in two the tedious and trying voyages which still must gravely test the coaling radius of some of the most effective United States warships.

There is no concealment among naval officers of the almost priceless value that the possession of the Carolines would contribute to the maintenance of American interests in the widest of oceans. To Spain this archipelago can never be more than a burden and expense, which must now appear prohibitive to the government at Madrid in its straitened circumstances, and an auction sale to the highest bidder is believed to be among the certainties of the early future. It is no secret that the present administration at Washington is not inclined to permit any European to buy this group, and emphatic evidence is given of this determination in the orders issued to naval vessels in the last week, providing for the disposition of all the available naval forces at Manila, Guam and Honolulu. There is another line of communication with the Philippines during a period of hostilities. This is to be undertaken by naval auxiliaries and army transports from New York by way of the Suez canal early next month, but it is a route which gives to the strategists no concern whatever for the present, as it would not be needed in time of war nor after the completion of the Nicaragua canal.

### Harlan May Succeed Groscup.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The president has been asked to appoint James Harlan of Chicago, to the vacancy on the district bench of northern Illinois upon the promotion of Judge Groscup to the circuit bench. Mr. Harlan is son of Justice Harlan of the supreme court. He is considered one of the ablest men in the Illinois bar. In his practice before the United States supreme court he has attained high standing, and his chief endorsements for the bench come from members of the supreme court. Numerous candidates are in the field, nearly every congressman from northern Illinois having one.

## Your Holiday DINNERS!

Will not be Complete Unless You Buy Your Groceries From the Largest and Best Selected Stock in Bryan. Of Course I Have them! You Should Try our

Extra Fancy White Crane Flour	Fresh Wine Jellies.
Delicious Dozier Bakery English Fruit Cakes.	Williams Jelly Kerb Instantly Prepared.
Fresh Fruit.	Fresh Pickled Pig Feet
Nuts.	Plenty of Nice Apples.
Mince Meat.	
All kinds of Pickles.	

REMEMBER WE WANT TO SELL YOUR CHRISTMAS TUR

## JOHN B. MIKE.

THE ORIGINAL CUTTER.

THE

### EXPOSITION SALOON

J. E. PONDER, Prop'r.

New Stock Fine Old Whiskies, WINES, ETC.

Come to see us. You will get the best to be had for love or Money.

Quart Bottle of Fine Wine Presented Free With each \$4.00 Purchase from us

GOOD RESTAURANT in Connection.

The best Cigars in town. Call to see us. Same Old Stand.

### Glanders Near San Antonio.

San Antonio, Dec. 26.—Dr. August Large, a veterinary surgeon, in compliance with the state laws, made affidavit that 11 head of horses on the farm of J. W. Stanfield, 13 miles from the city, were afflicted with glanders. The county judge had the entire lot killed and burned at the county's expense. The contagion was traced to a farm in this county, 30 miles from the Stanfield place.

### A Father Dies of Grief.

Bridgeport, Ala., Dec. 26.—Walter Rosser, Sr., father of the Tennessee soldier who was recently acquitted of the killing of Henry Hilderbrand at San Francisco, is dead at his home at Stevenson, Ala. He arrived with his son on Saturday. His death was caused by grief and exposure. He was division superintendent of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis railway.

### Charles Edinburg's

#### RESTAURANT.

ZENNATTI BLOCK, - BRYAN.

Hot Lunches served quickly at all hours, day and night.

#### OYSTERS, HAMBURGER STEAK,

Ham and Eggs, Hot Weiner, Head Cheese, Hot Coffee, Cakes and all lunches.

CALL AND SEE ME.

CHARLES EDINBURG.

## HOLIDAY GOODS!

Our Holiday box has come, and we have secured a sort sub-agency from that estimable gentleman who does the biggest business in the country the night before Christmas. There are lots of people in this vicinity who will appreciate a present highly if it is some of our

### Elegant Perfumes

In Neat Packages Made up for a Gift Package.

Then we have an elegant assortment of CHINA GOODS, of all descriptions that we are selling at your own figures. We also have an assortment of ALBUMS, LAMP DESKS and CASES that will be sure to please you. We are not unkind of the little ones, as we have a large assortment of

### Toys, Dolls, Fireworks,

and other things that gladden the hearts of the Little Folks.

We cannot name Prices—you will have to see the goods to judge whether Prices and quality are right. We are so sure BOTH ARE RIGHT, that we invite you to come in to inspect—come to buy—COME, anyway.

During the rush of the Holidays, we will not lose sight of our DRUG DEPARTMENT, as this is FIRST ALWAYS. Bring your prescriptions and you can be assured they will receive the closest and best attention, and the prices will be right, that is if you wish them put up at the lowest figure consistent with the first quality of medicines.

## BEN S. READ