

May We help You Solve That Annual Perplexing Question ?

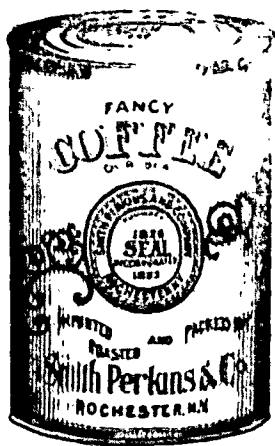
A PARTIAL LIST OF OUR Beautiful Xmas Gifts

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**CHRISTMAS ON THE POLLY.**

By FRANK H. SWEET.

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It was the good ship Polly, and she sailed the wintry sea, For ships must sail though fierce the gale, and a precious freight had she. 'Twas the captain's little daughter stood beside her father's chair And illumined the dingy cabin with the sunshine of her hair. With a yo heave ho and a yo heave ho! For ships must sail Though fierce the gale And loud the tempests blow. The captain's fingers rested on the pretty, curly head. "Tomorrow will be Christmas day," the little maiden said "Do you suppose that Santa Claus will find us on the sea And make believe the stovepipe is a chimney just for me?" Loud laughed the jovial captain and "By my faith," he cried, "If he should come we'll let him know he has a friend inside" And many a rugged sailor cast a loving look that night At the stovepipe where a lonely little stocking fluttered white. With a yo heave ho and a yo heave ho! For ships must sail Though fierce the gale And loud the tempests blow.



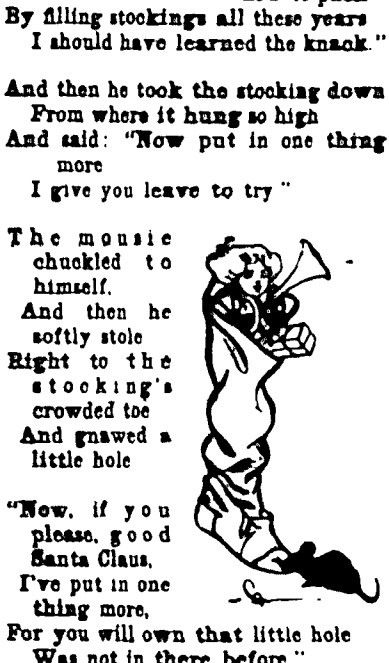
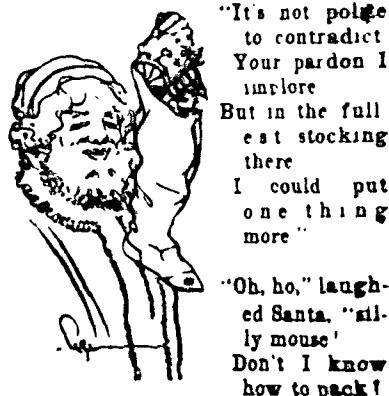
DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT SANTA CLAUSE WILL FIND US ON THE SEA? On the good ship Polly the Christmas sun shone down And on a smiling little face beneath a golden crown. No happier child he saw that day on sea or on the land Than the captain's little daughter with her treasures in her hand. For never was a stocking so filled with curious things. There were bracelets made of pretty shells and rosy coral strings. An elephant carved deftly from a bit of ivory tusk. A fan, an alligator tooth and a little bag of musk. Not a tar aboard the Polly but felt the Christmas cheer. For the captain's little daughter was to every sailor dear. They heard a Christmas carol in the shrieking wintry gust. For a child had touched them by her simple, loving trust. With a yo heave ho and a yo heave ho! For ships must sail Though fierce the gale And loud the tempests blow.

The Truth About Santa Claus. I write myself down as one who still believes in Santa Claus. Don't you? Are you one of those very literal folk who have their doubts whether they ought to let their children cling to the beautiful old myth? Without imagination, without dreams, without poetry, this old world of ours would be a very wearisome place. Its road would be steeper than it is—much like sleighing over bare ground would our progress be as compared with sleighing over deep, hard packed snow. The poetic myth of the old saint, with his reindeer and his jingling bells and his bulging pack of toys and bonbons, has charmed a thousand generations. The stocking hung by the chimney on Christmas eve, the children staying awake until sleep pounced on them like a strong man armed, the presents filling them from top to toe in the morning, the rush of the bare feet hurrying fast across the floor, the merry uproar, the bubbling laughter, the shouts of joy—the whole of this family pageant belongs to dear Santa Claus. We owe it to him. Gradually, as the golden mists of childhood clear before the sun and the "trailing clouds of glory" fade, our small men and women discover that Santa Claus is not one, but ten thousand; that he is better than they knew, being just the spirit of love, good will and beautiful unselfishness that makes the world a beautiful place to live in now and makes it a good starting point for heaven by and by. For you and me there is hope that we may do our duty in this world lovingly while we keep the child heart and believe in Santa. WAYNE HOLT.

**SANTA AND THE LITTLE MOUSE.**

By FRANCIS TAYLOR  
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One Christmas eve when Santa Claus Came to a certain house To fill the children's stockings there He found a little mouse. "A merry Christmas, little friend," Said Santa, good and kind "The same to you, sir," said the mouse. "I thought you wouldn't mind "If I should stay awake tonight And watch you for awhile." "You're very welcome, little mouse," Said Santa, with a smile. And then he filled the stockings up Before the mouse could wink— From toe to top, from top to toe. There wasn't left a chink. "Now, they won't hold another thing," Said Santa Claus, with pride "A twinkie came in mouse's eyes, But humbly he replied "It's not polite to contradict Your pardon I implore But in the full of stockings there I could put one thing more "Oh, ho," laughed Santa, "silly mouse" Don't I know how to pack? By filling stockings all these years I should have learned the knack. And then he took the stocking down From where it hung so high And said: "Now put in one thing more I give you leave to try" The mouse chuckled to himself. And then he softly stole Right to the stocking's crowded toe And gnawed a little hole. "Now, if you please, good Santa Claus, I've put in one thing more. For you will own that little hole Was not in there before." How Santa Claus did laugh and laugh! And then he gayly spoke, "Well, you shall have a Christmas cheese For that nice little joke."



**THE DEAR OLD TREE.**

By FRANK H. SWEET

There's a dear old tree, an evergreen tree, And it blossoms once a year. 'Tis loaded with fruit from top to root, And it brings to all good cheer. For its blossoms bright are small candles white, And its fruit is dolls and toys, And they all are free for both you and me. If we're good little girls and boys. The Christmas Manger. In France may be almost universally seen representations of the manger in which Christ was born, with figures of Mary, Joseph and the child Jesus, and cattle feeding near by.



**Sewing Machines and Pianos**

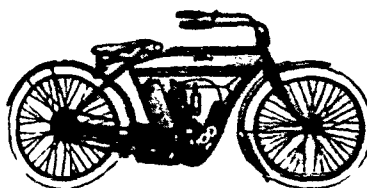
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Represent the choice vintages of California and the best importations of Europe. Our Whiskies and Brandies are of the following high-class varieties:

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