

Office OVER CORNER DRUG STORE



TELEPHONE - - - NUMBER 127

For the convenience of both buyer and seller, I am here always ready to talk with and show you farm lands or town property. I may have the very place you have been wanting for a long time without looking all over the county for it. I thank you for your liberal patronage in the past and wish you a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Yours truly,

**T. M. HUGHES, Broker - - - Lancaster, S. C.**

### Great Christmas Gathering at Homeburg.

In the December American Magazine, George Fitch, the Peoria humorist, writes a funny piece describing Christmas at Homeburg. Following is an extra showing how people go back to the small town for Christmas:

"People come home for Christmas all over the world, but in Homeburg you don't merely come home to your family, you come home to the whole town. A week before the 25th the clans begin to gather. Usually the college folks come first. Sometimes we have as many as a dozen, and the whole town is on edge to see them. It's next to a circus parade in interest because you never can tell what new sort of clothes the boys are going to spring on us. In the grand old days when Delaney Payley and Sam Singer used to blow in for Christmas they

walked up from the depot between double lines of admirers, and their clothes never failed to strike us with awe. I remember the year when Sam came home with one of those overcoats with a sort of hood effect in the back. I never saw one before or since. He was also wearing a felt hat as flat as a soup plate that year and a two quart pipe fitted carefully into his face, and when old Bill Dorgan, the drayman, saw him he threw up both hands and cried: "By gosh, it ain't possible!"

"Then the children begin coming back. There is a great difference between Homeburg and New York regarding children. In New York a child is personal property. But in Homeburg a child belongs to the whole town. A birth notice is a real news item in Homeburg. I suppose every baby is personally inspected by at

least two hundred citizens. We criticize their care and feeding, suggest spanking when they are a little older, quiver unanimously with horror when they begin to 'flip' freight trains, or get scarlet fever, and watch them grow up as eagerly as you New Yorkers watched the Woolworth building. When they are graduated from high school we are all there with bouquets and presents and we have an equity in the whole brood. Molly Strawn, the washerwoman's daughter, got more flowers than anyone last year.

"That's why Christmas means so much more to us. At Christmas time the town children come home. Will Atkinson comes home from Chicago. He's doing very well up there, and it takes him two hours to get the length of Main street on the first day after he arrives. Everyone has to hear about it. Sadie Gastit comes home from Des Moines with a baby; regular custom of hers. Sometimes she makes the same baby do for

two years, but usually it's a new one. I remember Sadie when she was only knee high to a grass hopper and her mother spanked her for climbing the Republican flagpole during the McKinley campaign. The Fline children come down from Chicago to visit their aunt. There were only a boy and a girl of them when they left fifteen years ago. Now there are eleven, counting wife, husband, and acquisitions. Last year Ad Bridge brought a new wife home from Denver to show us. Year before last Miss Annie Hamill, who has been teaching in Minneapolis, brought down a young man to show to her family. She was going to be exclusive about it, but did it work? Not much. She had to show him all around. We just happened over there in droves. Everybody loves Annie and we were afraid for a little while that she was going to be an old maid. The young man will bring her down this year I suppose. They were married last June."

### CHRISTMAS CAROL.

The earth has grown old with its burden of care, But at Christmas it always is young.	On the soul of the lonely, the wretched and poor, The voice of the Christchild shall fall,
The heart of the jewel burns lustrous and fair, And its soul, full of music, breaks forth on the air	And to every blind wanderer open the door Of a hope that he dared not dream of before,
When the song of the angels is sung.	With a sunshine of welcome for all.
It is coming, old earth, it is coming tonight, O'er the snowflakes that cover the sod;	The feet of the humblest may walk in the field, Where the feet of the holiest have trod;
The feet of the Christchild fall gentle and white, And the voice of the Christchild tell out to the night	This, this is the marvel to mortals revealed When the silvery trumpets of Christmas have pealed
That mankind are the children of God.	That mankind are the children of God.

—PHILLIPS BROOKS.

## J. F. MACKAY COMPANY

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To Our Friends and Customers:

It is Christmas, and we think of YOU and wish YOU joy today. Some of you have traded with us continuously for THIRTY-THREE YEARS. Our family now consist of:

<p><b>J. F. Mackey Company</b> Dealers in Drugs, Furniture, Stoves, Ranges, Organs, Pianos and Coffins.</p>	<p><b>The Lancaster Drug Company</b> Dealers in Drugs, Cigars and Toilet Articles. T. E. DOSTER, Manager.</p>	<p><b>Everybody's Furniture Co.</b> Dealers in Furniture, Stoves, Ranges, Organs and all house furnishings on easy terms: "Buy now, Pay later." J. S. HOLLIS, Manager.</p>
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You are cordially invited to visit our stores, where the glad hand of welcome will be extended to you. Your call will be appreciated. Our prices will convince you, and our square treatment will make you a permanent customer.

**R. C. McMANUS, - President & General Manager**