

FIVE MORE SHOPPING DAYS

And Christmas is Here!

If you have not selected your Presents you had better get busy immediately. The trend this year is to buy Gifts of value and ones that will be of much service to the recipient.

Our store is chock full of Gift Goods that are highly desirable and all are of the very best manufacture. Below we offer a few suggestions:

Sterling Silver	Leather Goods	French Ivory	Hair Receivers	Writing Paper
Cigarettee Cases	Traveling Sets	Toilet Sets	Puff Boxes	We have the nobbiest line you have ever laid your eyes on. Comes in Pink, Blue, White and Lavender. Put up in handsome boxes, some with hand painted medallions on cover. These are suitable for framing.
Card Cases	Military Brush Sets	Manicure Sets	Nail Buffers	
Dinner Bells	Writing Pads	Traveling Sets	Nail Files	Lunch Kits
Community Plate Silver Sets. 50-year guarantee	Manicure Sets	Combs	Shoe Horns	Something new. Just the thing for that little picnic for the springtime. Contains two Knives and Forks, two Spoons, two Plates, two Napkins and two pint Thermos Bottles, all packed in a handsome leather-covered metal box.
	Clothes and Hair Brushes	Brushes	Button Hooks	We have a large stock of Christmas Boxes, Seals, Tags, Crepe and Tissue Paper.
		Mirrors	Picture Frames	
		Clocks	Baby Sets	
			Baby Rattles	

Christmas Candies

We have the finest line of Christmas Candies that ever came to Manning. They are put up in handsome boxes and baskets and include everything in fine eating sweets. You know she would appreciate to the utmost one of these packages.

DICKSON'S DRUG STORE,

The Rexall Store.

Manning, S. C.

2 CHRISTMAS DAYS

Island of Madagascar the Only Country Thus Favored.

Queen Ranavalona II on Ascending Throne Became First Christian Ruler and Adopted "Glory to God in Highest" Motto.

There is only one spot in the whole world where Christmas is celebrated twice each year and that is the Island of Madagascar, off the eastern coast of the southern end of Africa, and which dominates that part of the Indian ocean.

Marco Polo, the great traveler, first made this island known to medieval Europe in 1298. It was nearly two hundred years later when a Portuguese traveler obtained the first authentic information about the island, in 1497. From that time on there were attempts by the Portuguese, French and English to settle the island, and they met with defeat at the hands of the wild and savage Hovas, who controlled the island, and many died from Malagasy fever in the lowlands of the coast. On Christmas eve in 1672 all the Frenchmen at Fort Dauphin were murdered by the natives. In 1810 a Hova chief, Radama I, a young man, allowed the Christian missionaries to teach their Bible doctrines in the island, and by 1820 Protestant Christianity was effectively introduced among the Hovas.

First Christian Ruler.

Radama died in 1828, and one of his wives became Queen Ranavalona I. She was bitter against the Christians and persecuted them in many cruel ways, and she had her warriors from the interior mountains of the island massacre the native Christians, who would not renounce the Christian God and go back to the worship of idols. The cruel queen reigned until her death in 1861—a wicked record of 33 years. Then her son, Radama II, became king, and although he was a great drunkard and led a wild life himself, he allowed the Christian missionaries to come into the island again. He was assassinated in the palace in 1863, and his widow, Rasoherina, was proclaimed queen. Upon her death in 1868, a niece of Ranavalona I ascended the throne as Ranavalona II. When a girl, her gentle charities and sympathies with the Christians during their persecutions had won respect and love, and when she became queen it was understood that Madagascar had the first really Christian ruler on its throne.

Between 1830 and 1835 the entire Bible had been printed in the Malagasy language, also an English-Malagasy dictionary. So, on the day of her coronation the idol which had been prominent on similar occasions was banished by Ranavalona II, and a copy of the Malagasy Bible placed near the throne; while on the canopy above, in golden letters, were the words: "Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men." With one hand on the Bible, the queen addressed the people, expressing the hope that they would adopt the Christian faith, but added: "In this matter you shall not be compelled."

Ordered Idols Destroyed.

She ordered her own household idols and the chief national idol to be burned and gradually her example was followed by the general destruction of household idols among the Hovas. She married the prime minister the following year and made a public profession of her faith, and from that time on the Christian religion has been growing fast in the island.

The words over the canopy at her coronation the queen knew to be spoken by the angels in the sky when the shepherds heard the noise of wings at the time the Christ was born in Bethlehem. Christmas is celebrated all over the island now. But the Hovas have a different way of computing time and by their system Christmas falls some time in November, and they celebrate it then. The Christian date of December 25 is also celebrated by the natives along with the missionaries.

But it is not a Christmas of snow and sleighbells. It is a tropical snow and Christmas day is under a torrid sun, but the sky is brilliant and the magnificent flowering trees of many vivid colors are filled with many peculiar birds of brilliant plumage, while the ground beneath is bespangled with wild blossoms of varied hues.

Too Late.

It was Christmas eve. Staring at the dying embers of the fire was a beautiful woman. Her face was worried, and she clasped and unclasped her hands in nervous excitement. "Christmas eve," she murmured, "and no money to buy baby a Christmas gift!" Mechanically her eyes wandered around the room until, with a guilty start, they rested on something standing on the mantelpiece. It was baby's money-box. "If I only dared!" she thought; "but what would John say?" For a few moments she stood debating the awful question in her mind, and then reached for the box. "John never knows," she said. With trembling hands she broke open the box and emptied on the table a collection of buttons, nails, and so on. John had been there first!

THEIR TRIBUTE TO FIGHTER

Spontaneous Expressions of Admiration From Colonials at Sight of Gallant American Destroyer.

The next sunrise found us anchored at the entrance to an English harbor. Ahead and astern, as far as the eye could reach, stretched a line of ships waiting to carry food into England. That is how England is being starved by Germany! And that is how the British and American navies are doing their work!

After several deeply loaded ships had shot in past us we got our pilot and joined the procession. Bound out in the opposite direction a powerful destroyer of the latest type swept up, three black plumes trailing from her funnels and a great white bone in her teeth. She was the very spirit of dash and daring, with a lance of swank.

"I say, that's a tophole," "Look at that," "Absolutely it," "Ripping," was chorused in the English of the isles. A big South African nudged me.

"Yank, look at that flag." It was the Stars and Stripes. More than all the speeches I had heard on the significance of this war to the Anglo-Saxons meant the quick glimpse of that fine ship under that flag outward bound to defend the shores of England.

"Come on, Springboks, a good one for the Yanks," yelled the big colonial, and the men who had licked the Germans in East Africa and who were going to lick them in France roared the Zulu war cry.—Gregory Mason in Outlook.

INNER MAN WELL FORTIFIED

American Soldier, Ordered to the Front, at Least Did Not Set Out on Mission Hungry.

An American doughboy entered a restaurant in the Rue Richelieu and after carefully studying the menu, ordered dejeuner.

The waitress brought him bacon and eggs, cheese and a pint of beer. When he had finished eating, he paid his bill and called the waitress.

"Now I want some lunch."

This time she brought him a plate of roast beef, vegetables and chicken, which he washed down with half a dozen cups of tea; then he paid his bill and called the wondering waitress back again.

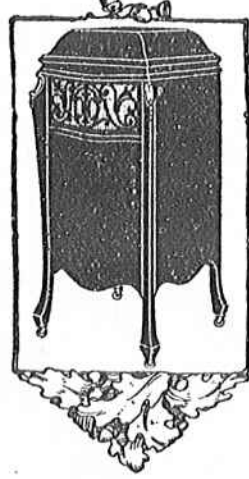
"Now, my dear, I want dinner."

He ate some beef, vegetables, apples and drank a bottle of wine. At 1:30, after having taken all three meals at once, the soldier left the restaurant, and a little while later set out on a mission to the front.—Stars and Stripes.



Sonora

CLEAR AS A BELL



ALL the words in the dictionary praising a phonograph cannot make you believe that it has a magnificent tone, unless it has!

Hear the Sonora, compare it critically with the products of other makers, and the wonderful rich tonal beauty will convince you that Sonora is

The Highest Class Talking Machine in the World

The makers of the Sonora invite you to be the final judge of the perfection of this instrument.

Sumter Talking Machine Co.,
Sumter, S. C.