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NEWS IN BRIEF.

- (1). Picture.: Daddy Christmas and Pater Neptume. Father seems
 - -- dignified for old men with false beards--
 - -- complete with chorus of--
 - -- fairies singing and dancing, visit the --
 - -- 'Empress of Britain', (The ship, I mean !) before she pushes off for her luxury eruise--
 - -- round the world.

The ship is provisioned for five--

- --months feeding and--
- --sun chasing. Ice boxes are overflowing with food, and the drug-stores with oures for heart-burn--
- -- and sunburne Passengers won't-
- -- see home port again until after the return of the--
 - -- swallow. Excuse me, steward !
- (2) Picture .: In this wrecked school room, Liverpool, --
 - -- the end of term party ended in disaster.

At the height of the fun the entire floor--

- --collapsed and hurled two-hundred adults and children--
- -- into a room twelve feet below. After being extricated themselves, heroic--
- -- parents worked like trogans rescuing the half buried children from under heaps of beams,-
- --wood, and plaster. Luckily none were killed, and few were injured seriously.