

A CHRISTMAS CHOICE. By MARTHA McCULLOCH-WILLIAMS.

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The crowd in the store overflowed the porch, but there was a lull in trade—a surprising lull considering it was well toward 1 o'clock of Christmas eve.

The Murray outfit came waddling up. There was a sort of tremor even to the loud crackling of Sonny's whip. Lassaphine, at Sonny's elbow, scowled and shivered impatiently at the noise.

"By gony! Must be you've fetched a feather bed alive!" Storekeeper Walker said, holding out both hands.

"A turkey walk, understand, is a sort of rural lottery, much affected around holidays in the middle south.

"Here goes for Teeny Walker!" Jack said, stepping manfully out. A babel of shouts assailed him, but he kept straight ahead and set Teeny's peg respectably near the stake.

"Good as wheat!" from the crowd. Len smiled quite happily. "It just gives me a better chance for some Lasaphine," he said aside to Childers.

"That's Len's turkey, dead to rights!" Jack Childrens said, "we couldn't beat that if we tried a year."

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Though there were but seventeen turkeys, Lassaphine somehow found herself at the end possessed of \$25. It was almost dark, but she went into the store, jingling the coins, laughing and making jokes with all her crowd.

"Let me take you home!" Jack said, looking up into her brilliant face when the buying was done.

"Tell you what, she's got grit—that girl has!" Walker said, sticking his hands in his pocket by way of emphasizing his first leisure since sunrise.

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Christmas dawned properly clear and cold with a powdering of fine snow over everything. By 12 o'clock the sun came out, and the streets were in shadow.

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Star-Milwaukee Beer advertisement featuring a logo and text: 'Never fails to please. It is known and appreciated from Ocean to Ocean as Milwaukee's most exquisite Beer.'

You Can Not

Advertisement for 'Pictures of the Exposition' and 'CHRISTMAS PRESENTS' with details on pricing and availability.

Medical advertisements for 'WEAK MEN CURED' and 'SYPHILIS OR BAD BLOOD'.

JOBBERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF OMAHA.

A grid of advertisements for various businesses including 'Drake, Wilson & Williams', 'M. E. Smith & Co.', 'American Hand Sewed Shoe Co.', 'E. H. Sprague & Co.', 'F. P. Kirkendall & Co.', 'John T. Burke', 'United States Supply Co.', 'Crane-Churchill Co.', 'Lee-Clark Andreeson Hardware Co.', and 'E. E. Bruce & Co.'.



THEY SWAYED BACK AND FORTH.

tracherously as they fed from her hand, and deliver them thus to make sport for an idle holiday crowd.

Grant said, Haskell nodded. "But he'll be in at the turkey supper, large as life," he said.

"Dear bless my soul! Is anybody dead, or a church burnt, or air you turned against your board, roundly?" Sonny asked cheerfully.

"I have no doubt of that," Mickeljohn said, trying to speak severely, and to keep his eyes from Lassaphine who had risen and stood erect in the rickety wagon bed.

"Gambin!" Sonny's jaw dropped, his hands fell to his sides, nervous and flaccid. "Gambin!" he repeated. "I never gambled in my life! I don't know what you mean."

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Advertisement for 'BEECHAM'S PILLS' for various ailments.

Advertisement for 'The American Chicory Co.' and 'Richardson Drug Co.'.