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Among other things where Santa Claus stayed
Children oft ask if he makes goods or not,
If really he lives in a mountain of snow.
Last year an excursion sailed clear to the Pole
And suddenly dropped into what seemed like a hole
Where wonder of wonders they found a new land,
While fairy-like beings appeared on each hand.
There were mountains like ours, with more beautiful green,
And far brighter skies than ever were seen,
Birds with the hues of a rainbow were found,
While flowers of exquisite fragrance were growing around.
Not long were they left to wonder in doubt
A being soon came they had heard much about,
'Twas Santa Claus' self and th isthey all say,
He looked like the picture we see every day.
He drove up a team that looked very queer,
'Twas a team of grasshoppers instead of reindeer,
He rode in a shell instead of a sleigh,
Set he took them on board and drove them away.
He showed them all over his wonderful realm,
And factories making goods for women and men
Furriers were working on hats great and small,
To Bunce's they said they were sending them all.
Kris Kingle, the Glove Maker, told them at once,
All our Gloves we are sending to Bunce,
Santa showed them suspenders and many things more.
Saying I also took these to friend Bunce's store.
Santa Claus then whispered a secret he'd tell,
As in Omaha every one knew Bunce well,
He therefore should send his goods to his care,
Knowing his friends will get their full share.
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THE BALLET GIRL.

ON THE STAGE AND OFF—PLENTY OF FLOWERS, BUT SLIM PURSES.

New York Correspondence of the Philadelphia Times.

A few evenings since I was sitting in one of the commodious boxes of Col. Goodwin's opera house, listening to the bird tones of the graceful "Phœbe" as they pushed through the choral harmonies and flew up and on and out to the space, when a pretty-faced ballet girl drooped, trembled, had fell, and was carried to the wing, where she fainted "dead away." The gay and festive Heverlin was vigorously leading the applause, the bland and decorous Bingham was shouting "bravo," the bright-eyed judge was eager for an encore and the great assemblage clapped and stamped approval as the bouquet laden Guthrie smiled her thanks from the stage. None of these saw the ballet girl; who ever does see a ballet girl? Strange as it may appear they are human and have hope and fears, troubles and an occasional pleasure. I thought as I looked at the line of girls so correctly drawn and strictly watched by Stage Manager Scanlon, of the hidden melodrames that line could disclose if the girls would speak. In a company of fifty or sixty persons the extremes of life must necessarily be touched. Women of grace and beauty and accomplishments leave the domestic comforts, as dear to them as to any other, enter the field of public service and work as the slaves of the cotton-fields never dreamed of working. And for what? For fame—how few of them get it. For fun—if you knew the life you would never make that mistake. They work for home, for father, mother, sister and brother. They work for lazy husbands and for crying children. I wonder often, when I see managers who are coining fortunes from the faithful services of their companies, whether they ever give a thought to the real life of their people. In these days of competition and combination the weak ones suffer. I have before me now the case of a well-born, carefully-nurtured girl of phenomenal ability whose treatment by her manager would scandalize a scoundrel. And if I were to tell if the good people of Philadelphia would make their city of brotherly love too hot a place for him were he ever to ask their patronage. I know of young women who are paid from ten to fifteen dollars per week and their traveling expenses, but not their board. How are they expected to live? I don't refer now to the oft-told story of actresses who receive from fifty to seventy-five dollars a week during a season of forty weeks, and are expected to spend more than half their salary on costumes and get along as best they can during the twelve idle weeks of the year. I don't refer to them, I say, because it's an unpleasant topic and opens into so much and on to so many roads that time and space are not mine in which to do it justice. I write now of the poorer types. And poor they are, I assure you. Wretches in the guise of men flippantly joke about them. Scoundrels insult them and employers sacrifice them. Without chorus singers and ballets no spectacle could be a success, no grand production could be a go. They are part and parcel of the essential structure, but they are not regarded as individualities in any sense. The chorus is an entity, but for all that it lives and moves and worries and throbs and suffers.

Kind o' think of it the next time you go to the opera.

And in this connection let me add a word about flowers. It is evident that the great Power that made beautiful women and exquisite flowers has an eye for the graces and beatitudes of existence. He has given us an analagous sense (what a hard line that is, "an analagous sense," eh!), and when we see a beautiful woman we naturally think of sending her a bouquet. But some of us rather overdo it. I chanced, not a thousand years ago, to be in a theater where an artiste was planting her shapely foot on a solid round of the ladder of success. She was poor. For years she had struggled for a "chance." That's what we all seek. "Give me," says Wharton Baker, esq., "a chance" at the interior department, and I'll show 'em. "Give me," says the tyro, a "newspaper chance," and I'll make the world my slave. Well, this girl, after pawning everything but herself, found a great, grim wolf standing right in front of her attic door. The wolf's name was Hunger and he made himself uncomfortably at home with her. Accident—and accident is the moving potentiality nine times in ten—secured her "a chance" in a venture. She took the chance, with a petty weekly salary, and went to work. Her head was hot, her chest was sore, her arms and legs were thin for want of food. She strained every nerve all the time and made the venture a success. The manager took in money fast. The girl became the rage. More salary? Not a cent more. Why not? Because she had contracted for a petty price and managers never break contracts—do they?

But she got applause and flowers! Flowers!

Yes, and the night of which I speak (it was just a week ago, in this city), with her red eyes inflamed with tears because she hadn't an extra cent in her wallet, with her heels sore with the rubbing of shoes she could not replace, she went smirking and smiling to the footlights to take with trembling hand from the leader of the orchestra two immense floral tributes, one of which cost $100 and the other $25!

What mockery!

Twenty-five dollars in money would have been a God-send.

Twenty-five dollars in cash would have bought her the underclothes and the clothes she literally needed.

Twenty-five dollars would have enabled her to get beef, iron and wine which the physician had ordered, but which she had not the spare dollar for.

Of course you won't think that I advise the sending of money instead of flowers. That would be an insult quick to be resented. I am narrating facts, not tendering advice. A few dollars spent in cut flowers, or even for a choice bouquet, can do all the most extreme admirer should seek to do in public. It's the thoughtfulness, not the extravagance, that produces an impression. If I cared to cause real, lasting happiness, happiness that would start a tear or so of gratitude, I'd find out quietly and exactly the party's status, and in some proper and delicate mode send her what she most needed. There are times when a ton of coal, two suits of flannel underclothes, a bird cage, a pair of shoes, a small box of tea or three or four tickets for a Turkish bath, would do more toward warming the inner cockle of a young woman's heart than $100 worth of flowers. Send flowers, too. Send, however, flowers that can be gracefully received and easily carried upon the stage.

About Tanning.

Blair Pilot.

All along this Missouri river country grows, in great profusion, a weed resembling somewhat the common smart-weed of the eastern states in appearance, but larger and of a more rank growth. This weed is well known to our farmers, but seems to be more specially at home along the river bottoms.

It has recently been demonstrated that this weed can be utilized, as it is now known to contain properties of great value when applied to the principle of tanning hides. Oak and Hemlock bark, heretofore considered the most desirable for tanning purposes, contain respectively of tannic acid as follows: Oak bark, 6 to 8 per cent; Hemlock bark, 5 to 7 per cent., while according to Prof. Aughey's analysis of the weed mentioned, it contains over 17 per cent. of tannic acid, or more than double the amount of that peculiar property required for tanning purposes. It has been practically demonstrated that this weed is all that is claimed for it as a prominent ingredient in the tanning process, and as it is a well known fact that the immense quantities of hides produced in the west are shipped to eastern tanneries, and the leather shipped back for use, it follows that there will be a double advantage accruing to the west is utilizing this weed. Tanning can be done much cheaper than with bark, and a saving of freight both ways will be made. The supply of the weed is practicably inexhaustible, and if the native growth should not supply the demand it can be successfully cultivated. So it would seem that all that is necessary to convert this weed, which has heretofore been a nuisance to farmers, into a source of wealth to the country, is the right men with the necessary capital to establish tanneries. There is room for them all over the west, and "millions in it" for those who invest. Who will start a tannery here at Blair?

CHINAMEN'S LETTERS FROM HOME.

CURIOUS FACTS LEARNED BY THE CLERKS AT THE P. O. DELIVERY WINDOW.

N. Y. Sun.

Among the many curiosities of mail matter that pass daily through the New York postoffice are the letters that come from China to the Chinamen in this city. They are written and addressed in Chinese characters. The address is on the left hand corner of the envelope. Addresses are always translated into English at San Francisco.

Of the names that the translator turns out from the curious little marks on the envelopes, the Lees are the most numerous. The superscriptions, after being translated, read somewhat after this fashion: "Sam Lee, laundryman, New York City." The Sam Lees are the most numerous; next come the Hop Lees, then the Wah Lees, the Lung Lees, the Chung Lees and the Bung Lees. The Wahs are not far behind. The Lung family is not so numerous. The Won Lungs and the Ling Lungs are the most numerous. The Yiks, too, are quite a colony. Sam Ling is a prosperous laundryman. The Chin Chins are yet scarce, as are the Chow Chows.

It is surprising to notice the number of O'Briens and Cullins and other Irish names. This is accounted for from the fact that the Chinamen often marry Irish women and take their wives' names. The reporter spent an afternoon near the general delivery window at the post-office. The Chinese callers for letters were very few. The first was dressed in his native costume, and wore his queue wrapped around his head. He edged up to the window and said:

"Me wantee lettee."

The mail matter was looked over, but the clerk not finding the expected letter, the Chinaman with a disappointed air walked away. The next Chinaman came in company with a large Irish woman. She stepped up to the window, followed by the Chinaman, and asked:

"Is there any letther for Tim Cullins?"

The clerk ran over the letters, and said there was none.

"Where would you expect a letter from?" he asked.

"Twould be a Chinase letther," she replied. "It's fur me husband, Tim Cullins. Tim, step up here and tell this gintleman ye wants a letther."

The Chinaman obeyed meekly.

"Me wantee lettee, samee Melican man. Me mallied to Irish woman; goee west by-um-by," he said.

The letter was handed out to him. "He's a fine man," said Mrs. Cullins confidentially to the clerk. He's the son of a Chinese nobleman, and we're goin' home some time. Tim, come along," and she led the Celestial away.

"Do you have many such callers?" the reporter asked of the clerk.

"Oh, yes; there are a number of Chinamen in the city who are married to Irish women, and their wives always come with them for their mail."

The Chinamen in this city are generally frugal and often thrifty. They are not benevolent, but their good deeds are not overlooked when they become known. A once prosperous man of the city, who had fallen into evil ways, no longer sought his fireside, but frequented neighboring barrooms and drank deeply. One cold night a man entered a bar-room and began to spend what little money he had in a very reckless manner, while his wife and children were waiting at home with no fire or food in the house. As the man laid down his last dime for a glass of whisky his wife entered the bar room, stayed his hand, and besought him to not touch the liquor, but to return home to his children, who were crying for food. This appeal did not move the man, and he cursed his wife. Just than a Chinaman stepped up behind the man, quietly picked up the glass and drank it, and the husband returned home with his wife a wiser and more sober man

His Hair Old Age Ascribed to Salt.

Lorenzo A. Pickles, of Newfane, near Rochester, peddles trees throughout western New York. He is 70 years old, and measures 6 feet and 5 inches in height. He has thirteen sisters and eight brothers, and he is the smallest of the entire family. One brother, who lives in Kentucky, is 7 feet 2½ inches in height, and weighs 275 pounds, although he is spare in flesh. The littlest sister is 6 feet 5½ inches tall. The family is scattered, no two living in the same state.

Lorenzo Pickles has the appearance of a man of 40. He never wears a coat, and goes without stockings winter and summer. He has two pupils in each eye. To distinguish objects close by, Mr. Pickles uses powerful magnifying glasses. He can read print and see things at a greater distance, without the aid of glasses, than it is possible for persons with the natural eye to see.

He never tasted liquor of any kind in his life, and never drinks water. Three small cups of tea a day, winter and summer, suffice to quench Mr. Pickles' thirst. He never eats fresh meat. His chief article of diet is salt pork, although he likes meats and fish. He eats two tablespoonfuls of salt every day, and prefers salt to sugar in his tea. Pie and cake or sweetmeats of any kind he never tasted. He says he believes his hale and hearty condition is due mainly to the salt he uses. Mr. Pickles is a widower, but he has two daughters. One is 17 years old, the other 12. The oldest is 6 feet and a half an inch tall. The youngest is 5 feet 9 inches, and their father says they are both still growing.

Injury to Bark of Trees.

The bark on large numbers of fruit trees has been injured during the past winter by a variety of causes. Sleet and snow have caused branches to be broken off, in many cases tearing the bark from the tree for a considerable distance below them. The wind has caused the branches of trees to rub against each other, thereby injuring the bark of both at the place of contact. The great quantity of snow on the ground and the scarcity of food have caused rabbits and field mice to gnaw the bark of young fruit trees. Sometimes the bark has been removed only in spots, but not unfrequently a young tree has been entirely girdled. Attention should be immediately given to the condition of trees whose bark has been injured in any of the ways noticed. In case a branch has been broken, but remains suspended from the tree, it should be detached and the wound covered with grafting wax, paint or varnish. If branches have worn against each other, one or the other should be removed, and the wound on the other covered with some substance that will completely exclude the air. It is more difficult to manage the wounds inflicted by the teeth of small animals on the trunks of small trees quite near the surface of the ground, as injuries to the trunk of a tree affect every portion of it. Generally the best treatment consists in placing a turf of grass against the wound, and in packing earth closely around it. There is an advantage in first covering the wood with paint or varnish, and then applying the earth. In case the trunk has been entirely girdled it will be necessary to insert twigs cut from the tree and sharpened at each end between the portions of bark that remain above and below the denuded surface. These will afford means for the sap to pass upward. The entire space should then be covered with fresh earth, which should be well pressed down.

Farmers and Mechanics.

If you wish to avoid great danger and trouble, besides a no small bill of expense, at this season of the year, you should take prompt steps to keep disease from your household. The system should be cleansed, blood purified, stomach and bowels regulated, and prevent and cure diseases arising from spring malaria. We know of nothing that will so perfectly and surely do this as Electric Bitters, and at the trifling cost of fifty cents a bottle.—[Exchange.

Sold by Ish & McMahon. (1)

Facts that We Know.

If you are suffering with a severe cough, cold, asthma bronchitis, consumption, loss of voice, tickling in the throat, or any affection of the throat or lungs, we know that DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY will give you immediate relief. We know of hundreds of cases it has completely cured, and that where all other medicines had failed. No other remedy can show one-half as many permanent cures. Now to give you satisfactory proof that DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY will cure you of Asthma, Bronchitis, Hay Fever, Consumption, Severe Coughs and Colds, Hoarseness, or any Throat or Lung Disease, if you will call at J. K. ISH & McMAHON Drug Store you can get a trial bottle free of cost, or a regular size bottle for $1.00

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Gentle Women

Who want glossy, luxuriant and wavy tresses of abundant, beautiful Hair must use LYON'S KATHAIRON. This elegant, cheap article always makes the Hair grow freely and fast, keeps it from falling out, arrests and cures grayness, removes dandruff and itching, makes the Hair strong, giving it a curling tendency and keeping it in any desired position. Beautiful, healthy Hair is the sure result of using Kathairon.

PROPOSALS FOR INDIAN SUPPLIES AND TRANSPORTATION.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Office of Indian Affairs, Washington, March 22, 1881.—Sealed proposals, indorsed Proposals for Beef, Bacon, Flour, Clothing or Transportation, &c., (as the case may be,) and directed to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Nos. 65 and 67 Wooster Street, New York, will be received until 11 a. m. of Monday, May 2, 1881, for furnishing for the Indian service about 800,000 pounds Bacon, 40,000,000 pounds Beef on the hoof, 128,000 pounds Beans, 70,000 pounds Baking Powder, 2,300,000 pounds Corn, 750,000 pounds Coffee, 3,300,000 pounds Flour, 212,000 pounds Feed, 300,000 pounds Hard Bread, 75,000 pounds Hominy, 9,000 pounds Lard, 1,650 barrels Mess Pork, 233,000 pounds Rice, 11,200 pounds Tea, 72,000 pounds Tobacco, 200,000 pounds Salt, 200,000 pounds Soap, 6,000 pounds Soda, 1,250,000 pounds Sugar, and 359,000 pounds Wheat.

Also, Blankets, Woolen and Cotton goods, (a sample in part of clothing, 36,000 yards; Standard Calico, 300,000 yards; Drilling, 25,000 yards; Duck, free from all sizing, 175,000 yards; Twilms, 17,000 yards; Gingham, 50,000 yards; Kentucky Jeans, 36,000 yards; Satinet, 4,500 yards; Brown Sheeting, 215,000 yards; Bleached Sheeting, 9,000 yards; Hickory Shirting, 12,000 yards; Calico Shirting, 5,000 yards; Winsey, 2,000 yards) Clothing, Groceries, Notions, Hardware, Medical Supplies; and a long list of miscellaneous articles, such as Harness, Plows, Rakes, Forks &c., and for 475 Wagons required for the service in Arizona, Colorado, Dakota, Idaho, Indian Ter., Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada and Wisconsin, to be delivered at Chicago, Kansas City and Sioux City.

A so, Transportation for such of the Supplies, Goods and articles that may not be contracted for to be delivered at the Agencies.

Bids must be made out on Government blanks.

Schedules showing the kinds and quantities of subsistence supplies required for each Agency, and the kinds and quantities, in gross, of all other goods and articles, together with blank proposals and forms for contract and bond, conditions to be observed by bidders, time and place of delivery, terms of contract and payment, transportation routes, and other necessary instructions will be furnished upon application to the Indian Office in Washington, or Nos. 65 and 67 Wooster Street, New York, Wm. H. Lyon, No. 483 Broadway, New York; and to the Commissaries of Subsistence, U. S. A., at Chicago, Saint Louis, Saint Paul, Leavenworth, San Francisco, Omaha, Cheyenne, and Yankton, and the Postmaster at Sioux City.

Bids will be opened at the hour and day above stated, and bidders are invited to be present at the opening.

CERTIFIED CHECKS.

All bids must be accompanied by certified checks upon some United States Depository or Assistant Treasurer, for at least five per cent. of the amount of the proposal.

THOMAS M. NICHOL, Acting Commissioner.

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