

# CHRISTMAS CAROL

FREDERICK R. MERES

O'er Bethlehem's plain there shone a star  
That guided wise men from afar,  
To see the child in manger lain,  
Immanuel Jesus is his name,  
The Prince of Peace has come to dwell.  
Hosanna Shout! Immanuel.

THE long expected, promised Lord  
Is born today, by Kings adored.  
While to the world God doth proclaim  
He comes, and Counselor is his name,  
The mighty God on earth to dwell.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel.

HE comes to man by lowly birth,  
To spread salvation through the earth.  
From everlasting, he's the same,  
Our God and Wonderful his name,  
King David's seed in man to dwell.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel.

PEACE on earth, good will to man;  
Sing of free salvation's plan;  
With angels join in the refrain,  
Jesus, God with us, is his name.  
Hallelujah, peace on earth,  
Rejoice! Rejoice! the Savior's birth.

REJOICE and loud hosannas sing,  
Hosanna to the new-born King,  
Angelic hosts to man proclaim  
Our Father's love, our Savior's name.  
Hallelujah! Peace on earth,  
Rejoice! Rejoice! the Savior's birth.



## Santa's Secret

I-I-I've got out of bed, just a minute,  
To tell you—I'll whisper it low—  
The stockings I've hung by the fire.  
Are for me—not mamma, you know.  
For mine are so awfully little.  
Dear Santa Claus, don't you see?  
And I want, oh, so many playthings,  
They won't hold enough for me.



So I want you to remember  
And fill these as full as you can.  
Cause I haven't been very naughty.  
And you've been such a nice, kind man.  
I'd like a live doll, if you please, sir,  
That can talk and call me "mamma."  
Not one that is full of old sawdust,  
As all my other dolls are.



### Short But Useful.

The Christmas tree does not live long, but its short life is a useful and beautiful one.

## Holly Scratches

By HARVEY PEAKE

NEVER look a gift in the cost mark.  
All that glitters is not diamonds.  
Mistletoe makes the heart grow fonder.  
The gift deferred maketh the heart sick.  
Belief in Santa Claus is the best policy.  
It is a wise merchant who knows his own goods when they are brought back for exchange.  
To give hideous gifts is human, to forgive impossible.  
Gifts make the man, the want of them the fellow.  
One Christmas bargain makes the whole of womankind spin.  
Christmas bills are stubborn things.  
Santa Claus is not as red as he is painted.  
Buy gifts in haste and repent at leisure.  
Uneasy lies the head that's trying to make twenty dollars buy forty gifts.  
And thereby hangs a stocking.  
Every Christmas tree must stand on its own bottom.  
Gifts are seldom what they seem.



### The Christmas Card.

About a hundred years ago the first Christmas cards were used. These were printed in London and consisted of a visiting card with the words, "A Merry Christmas," printed on it. Later the cards were made with a little scenery on them and a picture of the robin. This bird was used because he is called the English Christmas bird, and also "The Savior's Bird" on account of the old legend regarding its red breast. From this time on the cards became more numerous and of more varied kinds.

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing, especially on Christmas eve, when a kid discovers his father acting the part of Santa Claus.

## Highway Improvement

### SUPERIOR RURAL ROAD WORK

Suggestions to Communities for the Construction and Maintenance of Country Highways.

That full value may be received for the money appropriated for road purposes and that the best results obtainable may be secured it is essential that the right man shall be placed in charge of road work. He should be selected not only because he actually knows more about good roads than any other person in the community, but also because he can get the best results from the money furnished. It is not sufficient, however, to let the matter rest with the appointment of a road overseer. He should receive the whole-hearted support of the community in the work. It should be seen to that under the conditions and with the money furnished the community is getting what it has a right to expect in the way of road improvement. It is well to remember that if for any reason an incompetent man is placed in charge of the work the responsibility for failure rests upon the community. There should be no other consideration, therefore, in selecting a road overseer than that of securing a man with the ability to perform the duties required. It should be realized that good roads have much to do with the prosperity of a community and that united action in the right direction is the surest and quickest way to secure them.

Where the road overseer has had but little experience in road work, or where some new and difficult problem is presented to the experienced man, the office of public roads and rural engineering of the U. S. department of agriculture when requested, will offer advice and suggestions for carrying on the work and how best to overcome the difficulties.

To secure a satisfactory road of any type, it is absolutely necessary to remember: First, drainage; second, drainage; and third, drainage. The earth road, properly cared for, will answer satisfactorily for the traffic of many rural sections that cannot afford the better types of roads; but the earth road must be well drained. After this fact is well understood, two other requirements may be taken up—the location of the road and the reduction of grades to a general average of 5 per cent.

With the exception of sandy roads, which are easiest for traveling when damp, all roads must have proper side ditches to carry away the surface water. In order to lead this surface water to the ditch, the road surface must have a crown, or rounded roof, highest in the center and sloping toward the side ditches. A very easy and satisfactory way to keep earth, clay, and gravel roads crowned, by the use of



An Improved Road in Pennsylvania.

the split-log drag, is explained in Farmers' Bulletin 597, copies of which may be obtained upon application to the department.

After the road has been crowned and the crown is kept in condition by the wise use of the road drag, it should be seen to that ditches are kept free from weeds, etc., and that they are deep enough to carry off the water which runs into them. In most cases a wide, shallow ditch is best. Deep ditches are dangerous to traffic. At spaces of every few hundred feet along the roadway a culvert of some kind should be placed to carry away the water which has gathered in the ditches.

A road properly built generally will not have an average grade of more than 5 per cent. By "per cent of grade" is meant the number of feet the road rises or "climbs" for every 100 feet of its length.

### Every Farmer Concerned.

The improvements of good roads and ditches is a matter which concerns every farmer who desires to increase the value of his land or the farm property of the community in which he resides as a whole.

### Crown Roads Before Dragging.

Before dragging a road it ought to be crowned properly and the drainage attended to—in other words, put into good condition and then the work of taking care of it will give the best results.

## WAR'S DEATH TOLL

### Comparative Figures of Some Famous Battles.

Heaviest Loss During the Eighteenth Century Is Conceded to Have Been at Kunersdorf—Slaughter of Waterloo and Gettysburg.

The heaviest loss in the battles of the eighteenth century was at Kunersdorf, fought August 12, 1759, where 43,000 Prussians met 71,000 Russians and Austrians, and the total casualty list numbered 35,370 killed and wounded; 43.4 per cent for the Prussians and 22.1 per cent for the allies. At Zorndorf, fought a year earlier, August 25, 1758, the forces engaged were smaller and the total casualties fewer, but the percentage of casualties greater, numbering 42.9 per cent for the 42,000 Prussians.

The principal battle of the nineteenth century was Leipzig, October 19, 1813, the "Battle of the Nations," where Napoleon with 171,000 men met the allied army numbering 331,500. Napoleon's casualties numbered 45,000 and those of the allies 48,000, but in percentages the losses told heavily against him, 26.3 per cent to 16.2 per cent for the Russians, Prussians and Austrians.

At Aspern, May 21, 1809, 90,000 French lost 22,080, or 24.5 per cent, and 75,000 Austrians 22,500, or 30 per cent. At Borodino, September 7, 1812, the French lost 24,500, or 18.4 per cent of their 133,000, and the Russians 37,500, or 31 per cent of 121,000 men. These are the figures of Otto Berndt in "Die Zahl im Kriege," Wien, 1897. Fox in his "Regimental Losses of the Civil War," gives figures for Waterloo which do not agree with those of Berndt, but they are sufficiently near not to disturb the interesting comparison Fox makes between Waterloo and Gettysburg.

At Waterloo the French numbered 80,000 men and 252 guns; the allies numbered 72,000 men and 186 guns. At Gettysburg the Union army numbered 82,000 men and 300 guns; the Confederate, 70,000 men and 250 guns. At Waterloo Wellington's army lost 23,185; at Gettysburg Meade's army lost 23,003.

The loss of the French at Waterloo has never been officially announced, but has been estimated at 26,300; the Confederate loss at Gettysburg, as officially reported by the Confederate surgeon general, was 20,448, to which must be added 7,077 wounded and unwounded prisoners whose names are omitted from his lists, but appear on the records at Washington.

In short, the battles of Waterloo and Gettysburg were fought with from 70,000 and 82,000 men on each side, and the combatants lost about 23,000 men each.

In the Franco-Prussian war the greatest loss occurred at the battle of Gravelotte, where the Germans lost 4,449 killed (including the mortally wounded), 15,189 wounded and 939 missing; total, 20,577, out of 146,000 troops engaged, exclusive of 65,000 reserves. At Gettysburg Meade's army sustained a greater loss with the half the number engaged.

It may be suggested that the Franco-Prussian war was, comparatively, of brief duration, and hence a

comparison of the aggregate casualties cannot properly be made. But in the American Civil war during the six months following May 4, 1864, the various Union armies sustained greater loss than the German armies did during the whole Franco-Prussian war. The total loss of the German army in that war was 28,277 killed or mortally wounded, 85,482 wounded and 14,138 missing; total, 127,897.

The casualties at Borodino, one of the bloodiest battles since the use of gunpowder, have been variously stated. The Encyclopedia Britannica puts the Russian loss at 30,000 killed, wounded and prisoners, and the French loss at "considerably above 20,000." Allison gives the losses at Borodino in round numbers only, placing the French loss at 50,000 and the Russian at 45,000. The most credible statement is found in the journal of the London Statistical society, which places the number of killed and wounded in the French army at Borodino at 28,085, out of 133,000 troops present on the field. The Russian army numbered 132,000 at that battle, and there is nothing to show that its loss was greater than that of its antagonist. Although the number of killed and wounded at Borodino was greater, numerically than at Waterloo and Gettysburg, the percentage of loss was very much less.—Army and Navy Journal.

### Slightly Misunderstood.

At a certain military hospital a dear old lady had spent much time visiting the wounded. The Tommies objected to her fussing round, and none of the staff had the heart to enlighten her.

"I did not know you took Russian soldiers as well as British," she exclaimed to the secretary one day.

"Russian," replied the official. "We don't; surely you have made a mistake."

"Oh, no," she exclaimed. "There's at least one Russian here, for when I was going round, asking them their names and about their wounds, this one replied: 'Obuzzoff.'"

### Special Delivery.

Young James had been outdoors playing all the afternoon.

"What have you been playing all the afternoon, James?" asked James' mother.

"Postman," said James enthusiastically. "It was great, too."

"How do you play postman?" asked his mother dutifully.

"Oh, I took all those piles of old letters you had done up with blue ribbons in your lowest bureau drawer and gave 'em out to people all down the street. They thought it was great, too."

### Surface Delicacy.

"Mawnin', colonel," saluted the Senegambian garcon. "What's de state ob vuh longin' dis mawnin'?"

"Have you any preserved pineapple?"

"No, suh, not dis mawnin'. De las' we had wuz frayed and in sech a state of decomposin' dat de sheef sed we'd serve it in de future in de raw. When a man gnaw a pineapple hull a little while he don't notice what's de matter wid de inside."

"Liver and bacon."

"Yes, suh, mighty fine substitute."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

When it comes to stepping into a fortune no man objects to putting his foot in it.

## SUPPER THE PRINCIPAL MEAL

In Former Times Noonday "Dinner" Was Only Luncheon, According to English Ideas.

The change in mealtimes is evidenced by the old rhyme:

To rise at five and dine at nine,  
To sup at five and bed at nine,  
Will make a man live to ninety-nine.

But one suspected that the change is in the names of the meals rather than in the hours. Our ancestors would have termed our luncheon dinner, and our dinner supper. It is a curious fact that in some of the Oxford colleges, where the founders made allowances for the meals of the students, a much larger sum is allotted for supper than for dinner, implying that the former was the more substantial meal. Taken at five or six o'clock, it was really "early dinner."

Some particulars of the mealtimes of our ancestors may be found in William Harrison's "Description of England," published 1587.

"With us the nobility, gentry and students do ordinarily go to dinner at eleven before noon, and to supper at five or between five and six at afternoon. The merchants dine and sup seldom before twelve at noon, and six at night, especially in London. The husbandmen dine also at high noon, as they call it, and sup at seven or eight, but put of the term in our universities the scholars dine at ten. As for the poorest sort they generally dine and sup when they may, so that to talk of their order of repast it were but a needless matter."—London Chronicle.

## COW'S MOO KILLS CHILD

Baby Frightened into Convulsions When Wandering Bovine Puts Head in Window.

Investigation by Dr. H. Albert McMurray, coroner of Westmoreland county, into the death of James Henry Pershing, three-year-old son of Lawrence Pershing of Grapeville revealed that the child was literally frightened to death.

Several days ago the boy was playing when a cow at pasture in a lot adjoining the house looked in at an open window of the room where the child was. As the little one glanced toward the window the cow moored loudly.

With a scream the child collapsed and went into convulsions. A physician was unable to give the boy any relief, and death ensued twelve hours later.—Greensburg (Pa.) Dispatch Philadelphia Record.

### Not Needed.

"I hear you're getting up a bazaar for the benefit of the unemployed. I shall be glad to give my time to help make it a success."

"Thank you ever so much, but the people whom we are trying to help have more time than they know what to do with."

### The End.

"They say the consumption of dog meat is spreading in Germany."

"Ah, this is the Wienerwurst!"

Sometimes it is a woman's fondness or change that keeps her husband's pocket empty.

But a man's friends seldom work overtime on the friendship job.

## Experts Who Know—

The leading Hotel Stewards and Chefs of the World use and recommend

# Grape-Nuts

FOOD



This product contains the finest ingredients known to the art of Culinary Science, and we recommend it to the public with our guarantee over the seal of our association.

The International Mutual Cooks and Pastry Cooks Association.

THEODORE M. LA MANNA President

ADOLPHE MEYER Secretary

E. S. HODGSKIN, M. D. Food Expert

This splendid food is made of wheat and barley and contains the entire nutriment of these grains, including the priceless mineral elements so necessary for building and maintaining vigor of body and mind, but which are so often lacking in the usual dietary.

A Suggestion—In stuffing your chicken, turkey, duck or goose for the Christmas dinner, try using one quarter Grape-Nuts and three quarters bread crumbs, instead of all bread crumbs. You will be delighted with the crisp, nutty flavour imparted by this wholesome ingredient.

Grape-Nuts food comes ready to eat direct from the package; and is nourishing, easily digestible, economical, delicious.

## "There's a Reason"

Sold by Grocers everywhere.