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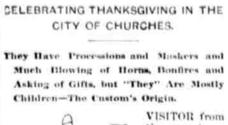


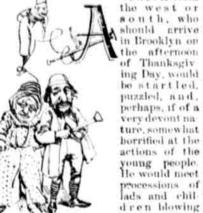
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on tin horns, beating cheap drums and whooping as recklessly as to many young tavages. Boys in masks and outre costumes would salute him with "Gimmen penny, mister. lar order and conducting themselves like

tramps To sum it up in one sentence: Brook-lyn alone, of all places in the United States, celebrates Thanksgiving Day as a heathen festival And the custom is peculiarly local to Brooklyn. It has not even crossed in full strength to New York city, though some of its influence is discernible there; and it is barely notice-able in the smaller cities and towns of Long Island. And what is stranger still, it is a very old local custom, and its origin is, as the historians of ireland say, "lost in the mists of a heary antiquity." The phrase "heathen festival" in the

preceding paragraph must not be construcd as a term of reproach; it is simply meant to imply a celebration like that of Christmas in the west and south. And to explain these variations of local custom, a bit of history is in order. As all classical scholars know, it is only by accident that some sections of the Christian world observe Christmas as the anniver-sary of Christ's birth. The day was cele-brated in Italy for a thousand years or more before the Christian era. It was the day of the sun's return from his most southern point in the heavens, the day when the people closed accounts for the old year and started on a new energy so all rigid rules were relaxed, the most austere smiled on the general levity and it was a day of rout and revel, of mask and mummery, of feasting and giving gifts and general social equality. Through all the changes of 2.500 years

the old custom has survived; and in more than half the Christian world today Christmas is practically a "heathen festicelebrated just about as it was in Italy 500 B. C., except that gunpowder has been invented and the turkey discovered since then. From southern Europe the custom floated unchanged to the southern belt of the United States, and from England to Virginia and the border states north and south; so, while New Englanders assembled in their churches ing at a mark, having running and wresthing matches, pitching quoits, and get-ting ready for a big dinner of fresh pork, chicken and sausage, with whisky before it and plenty of "Jeemes river" tobacco after it. Further south the slaves were allowed unlimited license and revel, and

taken for Thanksgiving, and that the two merged in one by mere accident. Another "ventures to guess" that it was a Dutch custom, well established before Brooklyn became an American city Still another is positive that the custom had its rise among the first Yankees who settled in Brooklyn, as a sort of joenlar reaction from the austerity of the old New England holy day According to him, the in-terlock of church and state was so complete in New England in the last century that a man had to be awfully solemn and religiously quiet all of Thanksgiving Day; the lighter hearted and liberal fied to Long Island and finding there so much more liberty than they had been accustomed to, grew quite bilarious over their new found freedom and made the day a sort of white man's Emancipation Day What was at first wild hilarity in them has become masking and merriment in

their youthful descendants There is a good deal in history to support this view. It is well known that the first churches on Long Island were largely built up by religious refugees from New England, and as the Puritans had rejected Christmas and May Day because the Church of England sanctioned some license on those days, so it is quite likely these exiled Yankees rejected the severer features of Thanksgiving Day because the Puritans had enforced them Be the cause what it may, the fact is patent that while the forenoon is devoted to religion, the afternoon is a season for masking, mirth and mummery. And in Brooklyn. alone, among American cities, do parents allow and even encourage wild, boyish sports on Thanksgiving Day.

J. B. PARKE.

A MEAN BOARDING HOUSE KEEPER.

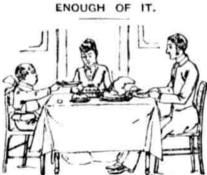
"I'm glad all the boarders are going to be here to Thanksgiving dinner," said one boarder to another.

'Why, what difference does it make?' isked his companion in misery.

"Oh, you see last Thanksgiving they nearly all went out to dinner and the landlady fed the balance of us on the same every day kind of truck, remarking. 'that there were so few of us it didn't pay to get up a large dinner.' She will have no such excuse this year."

"Yes, but she will, though," was the other's quick answer; "she just told me that as all the boarders are going to remain home to dinner Thanksgiving she couldn't afford to make any spread.

dered down to the nearest lunch counter



A clergyn an in a rural parish was remembered at Thanksgiving with a mon-ster turkey, one of the kind that hang at the door of the markets Thanksgiving time. The family was small, and meal after meal that turkey "bobbed up serenely." At last one day that minister's young boy manifested a prodigious ap-petite. Again and again he passed his plate, until his father and mother became alarmed and asked him what he was cating so much for. With his mouth full of turkey he answered:

"Father, I mean you shan't have to any grace over that old turkey again."

A TRUE TURKEY STORY. There was a time not long ago when

THEORY AGAINST PRACTICE.

An Instance Where Dook Learning Was

Defective. "I'm bangel up considerable," said a red headed young than as he shoul at the foot of Courtlandt street, waiting for the ferry, and felt of the repairs which had been put around on his face in the way of courtplas-"Fur busted pretty unanermously, but I guess I can hold out till I strike Jersey "Been in a fight?" asked a sympathetic by

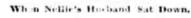
stander "Naw -I didn't git started 'nough so you could call it a fight. Five been licked though

and I ain't tryin' to dodge the issue, "What ket you into the troublef" "Edgercation, sir-readin" when I orter been in better lansiness; b'itevin' a lot of blame fool truck jes' 'cause it was in a book.'

"How was it?" "W'y this way: You see I had one of these 'ere gymnazerum books and read it. Says the book like this, you see "A man with his waist bigger fround than his chest ain't nogood physically." That's what the book He's lible to give out at the claimed. critical moment, says the book. And if he's fat, went on the book, he's dead sure to give out at the critical min-He's short winded and his muscles ute, is flably, says the book. He ain't no good on earth, says the book awful certain, and no man needn't be 'fraid to tackle him. He's a cumbrance on the world, says the book, and he ort to train and git down the size of his waist and boom the dermensions of his chest 'fore some small man swats him one and walks on him. This was the idea the book held and I took it all in.

"Didn't the theory hold good in practice?" "I ain't been able to see it in that light yet. I come over from Jersey this morning feelin pretty O. K. My dimensions are all right. You can crack hick'ry nuts on my chest-1 ain't short winded Nothing flabby 'bout my muscles. I don't give out at the critical moment, says I. After a while I was up on Bleecker street lookin' in a winder watchin' a Frenchman cook pan cakes on an iron foot stool, when long comes a policeman as big's a load o' hay. He tried to run on me by tellin'motomovo en. I sized him up. It was a foot further 'round his waist than 'round his chest if it was an inch. He was fat, too. Consequently, says I to myself, you're flabby and short winded, and, 'boye ail, you'll flunk at the critical moment. Then says 1: "Old hoss, dry up or I'll mob you!" He steps up and 1 sails in, dependin on the critical moment for him to cave."

"But he didn't do it?" "Don't know, you see, I was dead at the critical moment so I coulda't tell. But I have a sneakin' lowdown notion that he didn't. I couldn't swear to nothin', but its my 'pinion that at the critical moment he was walking around on meand reachin' down and poundin' me with a black club bout the size of a bananner. He may have slumped at the critical moment, but I'd sooner think that he was datien' on a blasted fool about my size. durin' seviral very critical moments. When I come to 1 put on my boots which he had pounded off n me and went and bought court plaster by the roll like wall paper. I am now goin' home to bura up a green covered book on physical development, and when I git my armout of the shag I shall go to work again and try to forgit some things that I have read. Good by, '-New York Tribune.







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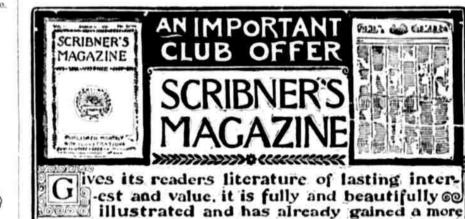
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no work was done till after New Year's. turkey receited too high for the man with a moderate rent roll, but cold storage has

Well, all that Christman is to the boy of the southwest, all that July 4th is to all American boys, and a good deal that a school holiday is to most boys, that is a moderate rent real, but cost storage has changed all this. The public has but a misty idea of cold storage, but the basi-ness is full of cold facts. In one of the twelve warehouses in New York city, re-Thanksgiving day to the boys of Brook-lyn, in the atternoon. A gentleman spending his first winter in the city in 1887, said to me recently:

"When I descended from the Greene city for 20 cents a week, every avenue station of the cievated road at 2 p. m. I was amazed at being surrounded by a crowd of half grows boys in masks and fanciful costumes who boldly descriptions at Lincoln bureau, manded the gift of a penny each and en

RAISED AN ESPERNAL DIN-

my refusal raised an infernal din with tin

horns, bones and other intruments. At

length I recognized the voice of a son of one of my neighbor's, a wealthy man, and he asked me for a penny! I bought off the

and they insisted on escorting me home. And so it went on all the after-noon, first a squad of little hoedlums and then a procession of tall lads and young

men; and some of them actually knocked

at the back doors and demanded gifts of pie and cold turkey. All the boys of the ward seemed to have turned hosdiums

for the afternoon. And the parents said

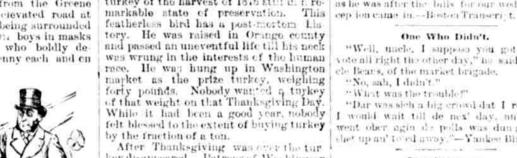
it was a necessity to have a day cocasion-

religious anniversary it was a queer ca-

The origin of this curious local custom

cannot be traced. One old citizen thinks it was set up on Long Island by the French Huguenets, who had a day of gen-

perience.'



After Thanksgiving was over the tur-key disappeared. Patrons of Washington market missed him, and imagined his fate. It was given out that an uptown hotel had bought him. In a week he was forgotten. A year later and forty pound turkey was again an epended by the feet on the same beam in the respect place. He had the rosy glow of youth, and not used them marked a deflar and a half in the window. Body suspected that it was the place of a veer-dead bird. Styles rent tormall the keys that year, and the knowled deep the dateaks off the big fewl. I will the the two you had them marked a deflar and a half in the window. Rubupaginstme: O do you'd of means chi dolar und feefly cents for you leg. New York Sun. lie was not educated up to to the states. That is why the turkey real indict, and again flow out of the matchet.

Berrders taken in summer." Marketers began to recognize the big turkey as easy if with Thankegiving. No-body not in the bestness suspected that one turkey only was in the plot. Board trained from Biggs severe they saw the big tend turkey in the summer time velling tend turkey in the summer time velling tend to the best has modeled. There is no use i Chicago Tribunes Dentist -The tend very firmily set. Patient -No, In "Ever had tool round in the lest her werlety

Cold storage did it. The tenkey tens this year on coldition in Wrohington tarket, as revel. Pla tonghrees two comowhet to derly inquired for series bet early to the series of this crosses then was that Biggs had not yet series in his runnal carlead of turkeys. Later the order transmit to the cold atom go ware was different to Shall I order the Sunday dinner? Mr. O'Kay-Em going to Carlet's, I were Shall I order the Sunday dinner? Mr. O'Kay-By all mass, not Just horse to repreduce the monster, and all for it. Last month's bill as still due -Tame.

but up to the hour of going to press there have been no advices from the metropolis to the effect that any one had the nerve to buy the force multipolity. If you should you wild the birght are an If you should ever visit the big city acress the North fiver from Jersey City cheat Thanksgiving time, no to Wieblight, nearliet and ask for Biggs' big blod, each it will undeubtedly be pointed out to you,

demand for them for maring up campaign lies -1 merville Journal. All may give thanks who are stirred by thoughts of the betterment of the world. and can rejoice at its continuous and increasing fulfillment. God reigns and God Cypras, was asked if the p were many an-tiquities in the island. "Antiquities?" ho wills, and he neither reigns nor wills for uaught. wied. "Why, the place is alive with the 1."



Mrs. Brown-Tell me Nollie, was your hus cording to a certain veracious reporter who band much embarrassed when he proposed t was detailed to hunt up something curious your

for the Thanksgiving number, there is a Mrs. Younghusband Not nearly so much as he was after the balls for our welding re-Mrs. Younghusband Not nearly so much

One Who Didn't.

"Well, unele, I suppose you got in your sole all right the other day," he said to Uncle Bears, of the market brigade. "No, sah, I didn't." "What was the trouble ?"

"Dar was sich a big crowd dat I reckone I I would wait till de nex' day, nu' when I went ober agin de polls was dun gone an thet up an' to'ed away."-Yankee Blade,

The Difference. Customer--Well, I guass I'll take these

Rubupaginstm -- Ya, mein frent, tres tol. Lirs is wery cheap.

Customer (ughast - Tirty dollars) Why, you had them marked a dollar and a half in

Uneless.

"Can I see Mr. Hazgerty?" impuired the And again flow out of the manager. Years followed and still a tripping type each the owed me a lettle bill that he promised he would pay at this date, and he has always here a used of November under the interip-tion: ciller at the jail. "Before he was arrested "Orange county's pride. P field by Former Biggs, of Meadowinku farm, Boarders token in summer." If you will wait a few minutes," said the turnley. "His attorney is with him now." The tailor shock his head and signed deeply, "There is no use in my waitor," he said --

> Used to Horrors. very firmly set. Will you take gas)

"Ever had tooth extracted before?"

Mrs O'Kay-Fin going to Cutlet's, Her-Mr. O'Kay-By nil mars, not Just ask

Absence of Mind. A prominent physician of this city, upon meeting his own daughter on the street, per

litely inquired after the health of Both her-self and her parents - New York Tribuna.

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There will probably be a dropon route for mediately, since there will be no longer α

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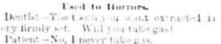
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