

SANTA CLAUS, V. S.

and the stylish dresses of the ladies the close of the year, which seems who jostled him on either hand. One almost inherent in human nature, has given to studying the faces of Christ- in north Britain been for the most mas shoppers would easily have read the question which makes Chirstmas | Christmas Eve to New Year's day and the most pathetic as well as the happi- the preceding evening, known by the est holiday in the year-the question, appellation of Hogmenay. In many "Can I do it with the little money I parts of the highlands of Scotland, have?'

counter said in a low voice:

"Say, miss, I've got a little feller at home that's been talking for months about Santy Claus bringing him a horse. I'd like to get him one if I can afford it. How much is this?" and he pointed to an equine paragon in front of him.

That is three dollars," said the sales girl. "Best grade we've carried. You see it's covered with real horse hide and has a real hair tail and mane." The mechanic shook his head hope-

lessly. "Yes," he said, "it's a fine horse, all



right, but I can't pay that much. 1 thought p'r'aps I could get something for a dollar-a smaller one, mebbe."

"I'm sorry," said the girl, sympathetically, "but we cleaned out every one of the cheaper kind this afternoon and this is the only one that's left of the three-dollar lot." Then suddenly her face lighted up. "Oh, say," she exclaimed, "wait a minute."

She dived under the table and came up with a counterpart of the horse they had been discussing; a counterpart, but with a broken leg and minus that very useful appurtenance, a tail. "There," she said, "I just happened to think of this! Somebody knocked it as she never could have in her rural off the counter yesterday and broke the leg. The tail kept coming out anyway, and I guess it's lost now. You could have this for a dollar. Mebbe you could fix it all right."

The man examined the fracture seriously. "Why, that's easy," he said. "All it needs is to peel the hide up a little and splice the leg and then put on some of old Peter Cooper's salve. Make it as good as new."

"And perhaps you can get some norsehair and make a tail. They're just tied in a bunch and put in with a plug."

"Oh, I'll fix that all right, miss. I've got an old bristle shaving brush that can use. It'll be real stylish one of hem hobtailed coach horses, you know.'

They both laughed. "You're mighty good, miss, and I'm

obliged to you.

"Oh, that's all right," said the girl. "I know how it is Christmas times myself," and she sighed as the customer turned happily away to play his part of Santa Claus, veterinary sur-



No Xmas Fun in Scotland.

In consequence of the Presbyterian form of church government, as consti- ord by being the first doctor of divinituted by John Knox and his coadju- ty and preacher to hold that position. lows:

tors on the model of the ecclesiastical HE big blond mechanic polity of Calvin, having taken such looked awkward and out firm root in Scotland the festival of of place in the crowd of Christmas, with other commemorative women shoppers at the celebrations retained from the Roman Sad pilgrims, burdened with unshriven feminine desire to help they resolved never-to-be-forgotten time for the toy counter. He seemed calendar by the Anglicans and Luthpainfully conscious of the | erans, is comparatively unknown in sharp contrast between that country, at least in the lowlands. his old working clothes The tendency to mirth and jollity at part transferred from Christmas and however, and also in the county of At length the man caught the eye Forfar, and one or two other districts, of a sales girl, and leaning over the the day for general merry-making is Christmas.



Twine the bittersweet and holly Arched above the hearthstone's glow,
Joy, not melancholy,
Came, indrifting with the snow;
In each face the frost's a-tingle,
And afar on flying wing
Comes the sleigh bell's rhythmic jingle,
Through December journeying.
The Through December journeying.

Set the board and ask the blessing For the bounty amply spread,
In the simplest words expressing
What a loving father said—
"Peace on earth"—for this is nearest
When the snows with us abide,
And the winter air is clearest
In the hush of Christmastide.

Bring the old musician's fiddle,
Relic of the bygone days,
Send the fairest down the middle
While the lilting music sways;
Light of feet and quick of laughter
Swing the dancers, toe and heel,
As they pass or follow after As they pass or follow after In the quaint Virginia reel.

Deck the tree and light the candles, Let the stockings all be hung. For a saint with furry sandals O'er the housetops high has swung; And his reindeer steeds are prancing Through the star-bespangled rime. And the moonbeams pale are glancing In the merry Christmastime.

## FORTUNE IN THE MISTLETOE.

ure of the elder sister to make



N Georgia there is a farm devoted to mistletoe and holly growing. It is owned by the Cartledge family, consisting of mother and two daughters, but the daughters do the farming. It all began through the faii-

an immediate triumph in art, to study which she went to New York. She realized in the great city, southern home, that talent for art is too general to leave much hope for special distinction, and wisely concluded to turn to something that would bring more speedy results. Bepare for making the neglected luxuholly trees with their own hands. prices, as they were symmetrical and by the rest of us. covered with large, rich berries. They plant the mistletoe berries under the hole, where they can get hold as they germinate.

Preacher as Prime Minister. The prime minister of Holland, Dr. Abraham Kuyper, has broken the rec-



By Emma Alice Browne the dreary East, and bring the hely Christmas morning! Break and bring blossom of our hope—the stainless Rise.

For weary is the night!
Strange darkness wraps the mountain rim;
And worn with fallure, spent with grief

Married. Metrobating chap, too, and pipe and a point of his tarvited ing tobacco for her brother who was at college, and who wouldn't be home men—they thought he ought to marry, till New Year's. Each thing she care
Colonel John Jacob Astor has patent-From the pathetic shadow of His Cross We yearn and cry to Him.

Oppressed, and cowering 'neath the chastening rod. We humbly seek the path His feet have And strive to enter in.

His anger is so slow-His love so great-Tho' we have wandered in forbidder ways. Spurned and denied Him, all our fruit less days,
He calls us long and late.

years We bring no tithes of oil, or corn, or Nor any offering to His spotless shrine, Save penitential tears.

We are so friendless, in our abject need We can but cry to Him in bitter stress; Yet He will not despise our nakedness, Nor break the bruised reed.

Hard was the lot for His contentment spread; Rough was His garb, and rude His lent en fare; In all the earth He had not anywhere To lay his weary head!

His patience is so long, His wrath so Tho' mocked and scoffed, insulted and Beaten with many stripes, and crucified, He will not bid us go.

By all the anguishe of His laden breast-The bloody sweat—the sleepless agony— The pangs and pennance of Gethsemane— He giveth the weary rest.

Break in the dreary East, oh, morning! With healing in thy holy wings, and bring tion of our hope—the promised And blameless Sacrifice!

A sudden pulse of waking life we hear Throb in the hush of hollow glade and The hills take up their olden canticle: "Behold! The Dawn is near!"

And far against the soft auroral glow, Peak over peak the kindling summits burn; The vales, rejoicing, seem to lift and

Thro' curling mists below. And far along the radiant heights of A sudden burst of choral triumph swells, The sweet Te Deum of an hundred bells— And lo! "Messiah's born!"

And all the burden of our grief and sin Is lifted from our souls forevermore, As humbly knocking at the Master's door He bids us enter in



The Dominie used to complain sometimes about the character of the stories | ing too young-she was really nineteen the rest of us told. He said they were or twenty-she was also plain. She ing an observant young woman. Miss too economical in their use of the ele- might have a certain girlish prettiness, Cartledge noticed that holly and mis- ment of truth. And truth was so but not the beauty which the wife of tletoe brought extremely high prices cheap, and also so interesting, he so handsome a shepherd as the Rev. and bethought her that on the 500 would say. We were always ready to Mr. Stanwix should have. Furtheracres at home in Georgia both grew in admit that it was interesting, but were more, Jane was in no other way adaptwild abundance. She returned home not so free to acknowledge its cheap- ed for the position-she had been a and she and her sister began to pre- ness. Like other exotics it seemed to good deal of a tomboy, and was yet, for us expensive. Fiction, being so much that matter; she was frivolous and riance of marketable value. In the more easily produced, appeared to be careless, and was always putting her months of January and February fol- the true mental provender in the Corn foot in it. The first time the pastor lowing they set out ten acres of young Cob Club, a social institution where had called at the Wilkinson house, we decided questions of great pith and and while Katherine was entertaining Their colored farm hands would not moment by the aid of the civilizing him in the parior in the most applant a holly tree for worlds, as they and ennobling influence of tobacco in- proved and circumspect manner, Jane believe that if they did they would die cinerated in cob-pipes. The Dominie had blundered in, and inside of five as soon as the tree became tall enough | had quit smoking when he entered the | minutes asked him why he didn't get to cast a shadow the measure of their ministry, but he always said the cobs married-all the girls said he ought graves. Last Christmas the sisters smelt good, so we had hopes of his to. Jane had explained to everybody found the trees so grown that they reclamation; besides, the air was usu- that she meant it as a joke, but it had required thinning out and the trees ally so thick that he absorbed enough generally been pronounced ill-timed that were removed were sent north for to bring him up, in a large measure, and in bad taste. Christmas trees and brought high to the high philosophic plane occupied

> being counseled by the Professor, who pink ribbon. was classical in his language, to "blaze"

called Appleburg. Very amiable young various other things for divers other et, and now I don't know whether it man, not long in the ministry, and un- persons, including a fine meerschaum was that egg or the other three that thinking so wasn't enough for those laid it away. dear Appleburg ladies; with the true | The day before Christmas was a to see that he did marry. But here Rev. Mr. Stanwix. Slippers just came again they showed a universal femilown on him like an Egyptian plague. nine trait by refusing to combine and enough, but independently, and each to marry a different woman.

can give any man for Christmas-slip-



WHY DON'T YOU GET MARRIED? pers and pipes and shot-guns and slippers. And in the case of a parson it's still worse—you've got to drop off the he opens Jane's box. pipes and shotguns, leaving only slippers-and slippers. Of course there are book-marks and easy chairs, but the first are trivial and the latter expensive: besides, if he is unmarried and you are of the opposite sex, and in the same state, you will see that you ought to give him something made with your own fair hands, and you can't make an easy chair. So slippers it had to be for the Rev. M. Stanwix, especially after his landlady had been sounded on the subject and reported that the poor man didn't have a slipper to his name.

Well, the result was, of course, that the whole hundred and thirty-six marriageable ladies at Appleburg went to work on slippers; and a few of the flock who already had husbands also began slippers, out of the goodness of their hearts, probably, or maybe thinking that they might be widows some day and might as well have a pair to their credit. The slaughter of plush and embroidery materials was something cyclonic, and the local shoemaker had to sit up nights pegging on soles. Even unfortunate little Jane Wilkinson went at a pair hammer and tongs, though everybody said she hadn't a ghost of a show. In the first place Jane was too young-her older sister Katharine was conceded to have a right to enter for the contest, but it was universally held that Jane had no right to compete at all. Besides be-

But poor Jane kept working away on her slippers regardless of the talk It happened on Christmas Eve that Everybody said that Jane's slippers somebody told a story appropriate wouldn't fit, or that they would both bark of old oak trees in a crack or enough to the season so far as the sub- be for one foot, or that she would get

Then she got her other Christmas kerchiefs for an aunt, and a shopping tions to this rule.

named Stanwix who was rector of a knit shawl for her grandmother, and church at a little town in New Jersey | a pair of skates for a boy cousin, and married. Nice-looking chap, too, and pipe and a pound of his favorite smok- did me good.

It had been going on thus for some lap writing his Christmas sermon on months when Christmas approached. | it. Mighty tough sermon it was, too, We are so poor! Of all the squandered Now of course there isn't much you and got tougher as the slippers continued to arrive. Fact is, he was getting pretty mad; and every new pair sent his temperature up five degrees. Consequently, at ten o'clock he was just boiling. Of course he couldn't swear, but the way he tramped up and down that hall and ground his teeth really amounted to the same thing. The pain and annoyance. He was gradualarriving slippers now began to fall off. ly growing worse and as the disease For ten minutes nothing came, and he advanced he became very despondent, was just starting down to ask the often wondering if he would have to landlady if she couldn't put a cot in endure this suffering all his lifetime. the hall so he could go to bed, when But at last he found a remedy that in came another box. It was from cured him in Dodd's Kidney Pills. He Jane-just her luck, of course, to be was much pleased, but did not say late and strike him when he was all much about it lest the good effect he worked up to the bursting point. But experienced would not last. Now, let us draw a veil over the scene right however, after months of continued here and leave the poor man alone as good health he has concluded that he

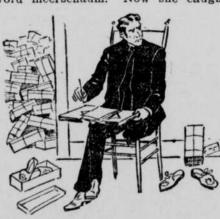
Stanwix mounted the Wilkinson steps and the people who knew of his apparand tugged at the door bell. He asked ently hopeless condition. for Jane. It seemed rather queer, but they ushered him into the parlor and sent Jane in. Well, to make a long story short, it wasn't ten minutes in the province of Jauja-hens' eggs until he had the thing all fixed up. He are circulated as small coins, forty-

her end of the sofa. your box."

I'm so glad," murmured Jane.

"I should say I did! Why, it's one of the finest meerschaums I ever saw, and that tobacco used to be my favorite brand at college. But, Jane, how did you know I used to smoke, and with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot was dying to begin again?"

word meerschaum. Now she caught



"MOVED INTO THE HALL." her breath, and for once in her life should be in every home. Ask your grocer rose to the occasion and didn't put her for it. Large 2 oz. package only 5 cents. her breath, and for once in her life foot in it. She simply looked up at him and smiled demurely.

"Oh, I guessed it," she said.

"It was the best guess you ever made. I should have died last night amidst that awful landslide of slippers if I hadn't smoked about half of that tobacco. I mean to keep on smoking now-that is, if you don't object, dear?"

Jane scored again. "I rather like the smell of good tobacco," she said .- Saturday Evening Sold by druggists, 10c. per package. Post.

Only President Without an "A." President Roosevelt is the first occupant of the White House in whose name the letter "a" does not appear ject went, but palpably impossible con- the heels sewed on the toe end, or Not only has that letter appeared in sidered as a happening. At least the something. Jane finally put on the the names of all previous Presidents Dominic said it was, and threatened to finishing touches and then packed them but also in the names of nearly every tell a Christmas story himself; and in a pasteboard box and tied it with one of the 61 Americans who have received votes for President in the electoral college down to William away," the good man complied as fol- presents ready. She had a lot of hand- Bryan. There are only eight excep-

Florence Maybrick First Sang It. It is generally known by this time that "Stephen Adams," the composer, and Michael Maybrick, the baritone singer, are one and the same person. An interesting fact concerning the first singing of "The Holy City" is not generally known, viz., that Mrs. Florence Maybrick was the one who first sang the words which have aided so materially in making the name of 'Stephen Adams' famous. It was aboard his yacht that Michael Maybrick composed "The Holy City," and it was ther that Florence Maybrick first gave voice to its melodious strains.

Costliest of All Monuments.

Mrs. Leland Stanford is determined that the university at Palo Alto, Cal., founded in memory of her son, shall be one of the greatest educational institutions in the world. The magnificent Taj Mahal, that wonderful memorial tomb at Agra, in India, cost \$16,000,000, but this is less than the endowment of the Stanford university. The one monument is but a masterpiece of beauty, the other is the source of education and inspiration to higher achievements for the countless thousands in the years to come. Mrs. Stanford has given her entire time and attention to her son and to her husband, who bequeathed to her this trust of affection.

How the Raw Eggs Helped Him.

William H. Leonard, Tammany candidate for assemblyman, was complimented on his fine voice at the close of a campaign speech and was asked what he took to produce such pleasant tones. "It's a secret," he said, "but I don't mind letting you in. I swallowed three raw eggs on my way to the hall and kept one in my pocket as a reserve. I sat down on the pock-

and of course they were right. But fully put up in a box or bundle and ed a marine turbine engine to drive vessels at high speed, which is highly praised by the experts. The Astor turbine differs from other forms in that it has no stationary parts other than the journals and foundation frames which carry it. The casing of the tur-Along about four o'clock Stanwix bine revolves as well as the shaft, but work together. They all labored hard got crowded out of his room-slippers in an opopsite direction. While the piled half way to the ceiling-and had shaft propels one propeller, the case, with a view to inducing the minister to put a chair out in the hall and sit whirling in the opposite direction, there with an atlas of the world in his moves a second screw, both screws driving the vessel.

Physicians Much Interested.

Northport, Mich., Dec. 9 .- The medical men are just now eagerly discussing a most remarkable cure of a severe case of Kidney Disease in this county. Mr. Byron O. Leslie of Northport has for years been a victim of kidney derangements, with all the consequent

is permanently cured and his an-It was not more than half-past nine nouncement of this has caused a prothe next morning when the Rev. Mr. found sensation among the physicians,

No Place for Phelps or Stone.

In some parts of Peru-for example, had his chair drawn close up beside eight or fifty being counted as a dollar. In the market places and in the "Jane," he was saying, "I've loved shops the Indians make most of their you ever since the first day I saw you, purchases with this brittle sort of but I never knew it until I opened eggs for brandy, another for indigo and a third for cigars. These eggs "Then you liked them, did you? are packed in boxes by the shopkeepers and sent to Lima. From Jauja alone several thousand loads of eggs are annually forwarded to the

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

each the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a Jane had stopped breathing at the word meerschaum. Now she caught directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, price 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Some men's idea of being a Christian is to look solemn.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.-N. W. SAMUEL Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Don't wait for opoprtunity to call on you. Go and meet it half way.

RED CROSS BALL BLUE

Hapy is the man whose smile is tne same in prosperity and adversity.

many good physicians and nurses use Wizard Oil for obstinate rheumatism and neuralgia. It's the right thing to

If a man thinks only of himself he hasn't much use for brains.

Half an hour is all the time required to dye with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES.

He who follows his own advice must

take the consequences. Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold

Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25c.

Some people spend a lot of time in regretting things that never happen.

DO YOUR CLOTHES LOOK YELLOW? Then use Defiance Starch, it will keep them white-16 oz. for 10 cents.

When bread is wanting, oaten cakes are excellent.