

COUNCIL BLUFFS

CLEAR THE TRACK.



Whoop! Get along! Go! 2.13 and you may know We're en route for the Boston Store,

Nothing like it since old 'Noar.' Heaved his anchor and left the Shore.

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LOOKING AT THE ALBUM

BY EDWARD WICK. This one is John—that's Cousin Joe. I think she's pretty—do you not? The boys also seem as if they had been doing the most proper and natural thing in the world.

Old ball-head! Why, you wretch, that's father; and here is Uncle Jonathan; His ears are long! You needn't bother: Your ears are too long for a man!

CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE BUSH

In 1849, on a burning Christmas eve—summer weather in Australia—two young gentlemen, in light coats, were sitting opposite each other in a bark hut, weary, dusty and rather disconsolate.

Well, Jack, said the shorter of the two, "this is a pleasant look out for Christmas Day, no dray up, our last forger gone to-day, and our last sugar melted away last week; that disgusting emu has eaten up all the pumpkins and melons, so we may dine tomorrow on tea, an nutmeg and the remains of the last bit of salt beef; unless you prefer to kill a bit of fresh, and eat it without dumber, salt, or pickles.

"No, but I saw him walking down the servants' hall with a great side of beef!"

"Well, we have dropped into clover; but what a pretty girl! Is she one of the daughters?"

"No, but I saw him walking down the servants' hall with a great side of beef!"

"Why, you see, Buller, said Martyn, 'in this country all the girls go by contraries: It is Christmas day, and, instead of frost and snow, it is a burning sun and green leaves we are preparing under. Instead of a skate, I am thinking of a swim; and, in the same way, while in old England, very often it's the more mouth the less to eat; here, as every mouth has a pack of hands, the more food the more mouths the more food."'

"I don't know his name, but rode up confidentially, according to the custom of the country." "Hurray," cried Jack, "no starvation here; there's a six-pair oxen dray unloading, by a whole generation of youngsters; sugar-plums in plenty; and look at the black fellow grinding away at the hand-mill—how fat the reaper looks! We'll have reached the land of plenty this time."

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children were not the kind of young stock they had been accustomed to. With a cluck, and a crack of his miniature stockwhip, the boy sent the big horse off at a swing gallop, and slap over the fence of the paddock.

"Get away with 'ee, you young scamp," cried the grandfather, and then they all went into the cottage.

A great about of "Here comes Aunt Mary," brought every one out into the paddock, and slowly creeping up to the door came a high-wheeled dog cart, in which sat, beside the driver, a fair-haired young Australian, of the true colonial type. Aunt Mary was a pretty woman, in a fashionable light mourning bonnet. Her double parasol looked not a little incongruous and droll amid such wild scenery.

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"I have worn your watch for over a week and it has neither gained nor lost a dozen seconds; but then I am, from a corporal point of view, your antithesis. I am exceptionally thin and slender."

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