THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE: DECEMBER 26, 1909.

MERRY Christmas to all the Busy Bees. The editor hopes that all of the children will have a truly happy holiday and that they will all try to make their little friends and playmates as happy as they are. The Queen Bee, Frances Johnson, has written a Christmas. noem to all of the Busy Bees, which is on the children's page today.

Votes may be sent in any time for the next king of the Red side and for queen of the Blue side. The contest during the last three months between the Red side and the Blue side has been very close, which makes it more interesting for both sides.

Prizes were awarded this week to Mabel Datel, on the Red side, and to Gladys Harris, also on the Red side. Honorable mention was given to Frances liyrne, on the Blue side. Many excellent Christmas stories were sent in this week, and also during the last two weeks.

Any of the Busy Bees may send cards to anyone whose name is on the Postcard Exchange, which now includes:

Jean De Long, Ainsworth, Neb. Irene McCoy, Barnston, Neb. Lillian Merwin, Beaver City, Neb. Mabel Witt, Bennington, Neb. Anna Gottach, Bennington, Neb. Minnie Gottach, Bennington, Neb. Agnes Damnke, Benson, Neb web, (box 12). Los May, Central City, Neb. Voia Uneney, Creighton, Neb. Louis Hann, David City, Neb. Louis Hann, David City, Neb. Lines Freidell, Dorchester, Neb. Aleda Bennett, Eigin, Neb. sunice hood, Fails City, Tieb. schei Reed, Fremont, Neb. Hunda Lundburg, Fremont, Neb. Biarion Cappe, Gibson, Neb. biarguerite Bartnoiomew, Gothenburg, Neb. Lydia Roth, Mb West Koenig street, Grand biang Neb. Frances Johnson, 23 North Twenty-first avenue, Omaha. Marguerite Johnson, 23 North Twenty-fifth avenue, Omaha. Emlie Brown, 2222 Boulevard, Omaha. Helef Goodrich, 4010 Nicholas St., Omaha. Mary Brown, 222 Boulevard, Omaha. Mary Brown, 222 Boulevard, Omaha. Wya Hendee, 4402 Dodge street, Omaha.

Lillian Wirt, 4158 Cass street, Omaha. Laman Wirt, 413 Came street, Omaha, Jack Coad, 3718 Farnam street, Omaha, Junita Innes, 3769 Fort street, Omaha, Meyer Cohn, 346 Georgia avenue, Omaha Ada Morris, 3424 Franklin street, Omaha, Ada Morris, 3424 Franklin street, Omaha, Myrtle Jensen, 2909 Izard street, Omaha, Orrin Fisher, 1210 S. Eleventh St., Omaha, Mildred Erickson, 2709 Howard St., Omaha, Oscar Erickson, 2709 Howard St., Omaha, Gall Howard, 4722 Capitol avenue, Omaha, Helen Houck, 1625 Lothrop street, Omaha, Emerson Goodrich, 4016 Nicholas, Omaha, Maurice Johnson, 1027 Locust, St., Omaha, rauline Coad, Mis Farnan street, Omaha, wilma Howard, 4723 Capitol avenue, Omaha, Wilma Fisher, 1210 South Eleventh, Omaha, Marguerite Bartholomew, Gothenburg, Neb. Jydia Roth, 965 West Koenig street, Grand Island, Neb. Jiaand, Neb. Jiaand, Neb. Lina Vorss, 407 West Charles street, Grand Island, Neb.
Jessie Crawtord, 406 West Charles street, Grand Island, Neb.
Jessie Crawtord, 406 West Charles street, Grand Island, Neb.
Pauine Scnuite, 412 West Fourth street, Grand Island, Neb.
Mattha Murpay, 423 East Ninth street, Grand Island, Neb.
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Hester E. Ruit, Leeshara, Neb.
Marjorie Temple, Lexington, Neb.
Alice Grassmeyer, 1546 C. St., Lincoin, Neb.
Fisle Hamilton, 2029 L. St., Lincoin, Neb.
Hughle Disher, 2030 L street, Lincoin, Neb.
Helen Johnson, 234 South Seventeenth street, Jonson, Neb.
Helen Johnson, 334 South Seventeenth street, Jonson, Neb.
Helen Johnson, 334 South Seventeenth street, Jonson, Neb.
Helen Johnson, 334 South Seventeenth street, Lincoin, Neb.
Helen Johnson, 334 South Seventeenth Alice Temple, Lexington, Neb. Ruth Temple, Lexington, Neb. Anna Neingn, Lexington, Neb. Edythe kreits, Lexington, Neb. Edythe kreits, Lexington, Neb. Edythe kreits, Lexington, Neb. Marian Hamilton, 2022 L. Lincoln, Neb. Earl Perkins, Reddington, Neb. Hatry Prosen, 224 North Sixteenth street, Luncoin, Neb. Earl Perkins, Reddington, Neb. Hatry Crawford, Nebraska City, Neb. Earl Perkins, Reddington, Neb. Earl Parker, York, Neb. Earl Beiling, York, Neb. Earl Beiling, York, Neb. Earl Responds. Little Sloux, Ia. Earl Responds. Mailing, Ia. Mary Brown, 232 Bouleyard, Omaha. Helef Goodrich, 400 Nicholaa St., Omaha. Eva Hendee, 402 Dodge sireet, Omaha. Eva Hendee, 402 Dodge sireet, Omaha. Fred Shelley, 220 Troup street, Kansas City, Mo.



RULES FOR YOUNG WRITERS

1. Write plainly on one side of the paper only and number the pages. Use pen and ink, not pencil

3. Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 250 words. 4. Original stories or letters only will be used. 5. Write your name, age and ad-dress at the top of the first page.

First and second prizes of books will be given for the best two con-tributions to this page each week. Address all communications to CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT. Omaha Bee.

(First Prize.) The Christmas Tree's Story

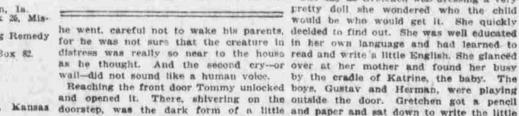
By Mabel L. Datel, Aged 11 Years, North Bend, Neb. Red Side. Santa Claus had just left. The stockings were full of things.

The tree stood in the middle of the library. There were many presents on the heard the angels singing. They were all frightened. But the angels sang: "On. Mr. Tree, won't you please tell us Fear not, for we have come to bring Tidings glad to all man, of a Savior King. a story ?" said one do'l. "The time seems a story?" said one doil. The third sound Then they told them the story of Christian so long and anyway we are waiting for They all brought him presents and worsuch dreadful tortures that it makes me shiped him. shiver."

"Yes," said another doll. "We'll have Xmas. pins stuck right in us. Our hair will be pulled. Oh, dear!"

"Well," said a drum. "I want to hear the story the tree will tell, not about what will happen to you."

"Well," said the tree, "I will tell you about my father and mother. My father In a little village outside of Strausburg, and mother were very tall and straight. Germany, lived a widow and four children. My father was the tallest. They were both Frau Van Brunt made dolls for a firm in very proud of me, Every time Santa came Strausberg and Gretchen, the oldest child, by us my father and mother would spread aged 12 years, dressed them.



how the snow is falling!

doorstep, was the dark form of a little and paper and sat down to write the little dog. Raising his pitiful eyes to Tommy note that was going to shape her future. he stood on his four feet and wagged his She labored hard and long, but finally got

tall, begging in his way to be allowed to it done. It read thus: enter the house. "Poor puppy!" said Tommy. "Come Little Girl: My name is Gretchen and I out again. He buys horses with most of right in. You must be half frozen. Ugh, dress lots of dolls. I am lonesome. Will

He got out of bed the next morning, but One day Santa came through the woods could not stay up. When his mother went saying: 'I need a largo tree.' Then he chopped my father down. My mother and were very sad now.

"The next year my mother was taken way. I was very lonesome and sad "This year Santa brought me here. I am very happy to think I will make the children happy. I will have to stop for I heard the children coming down stairs.

(Honorable Mention.)

would be who would get it. She quickly

They called him, Jesus.

(Second Prize.) A Christmas Story

By Gladys Harris, Aged 10 Years. Red Oak Ia. Red Side. Many, many years ago there was a man

named Joseph and his wife, Mary, They By Crystal Harris, Aged 14 Years, Red lived in Jerusalem, Once every year all the Oak, Ia. Red Side, lived in Jerusalem. Once every year all the people had to go to Bethlehem to pay their debts. Now, of course, Joseph and Mary wont to Bethlehem. The inns, houses and places like that were full and they had to go to an old stable and stay through the night. That night a child was born to them. That night shepherds were looking up In the sky and they saw a light and they

> At last, he succeeded, so Mr. Powell was forced to leave his beautiful mansion and

This was just a week before Christmas. So Christmus came at last and the Powell world was full of trouble for runaway children sang carols about Jesus. Then goats. And he soon wished he was back they hung their stockings up with heavy with his mother. heart for they expected nothing. Next morning dawned, but nothing was in the little stockings, but at the next door house all was happy within.

deathbed called Mr. Powell to his side and Anderson died a pauper.

pretty doll she wondered who the child are living happy to this day.

Sheep Herding

Dortha Burson. Aged 13 Years, Casper, Wyo., Postoffice Box 166. Red Side. My brother Guy has been in the employ it began to snow and blow, we had a not thou vile wretch into this domain." On of Mr. Nicolayson for the last three years bad blizzard that time. Then we went to looking up he perceived a great mole. 20 years old now and is still working for we got in it and went back to Milford. It

his wages-only what it takes to clothe

A Merry Christmas to All Busy Bees.

By Frances Johnson, Queen Bee, Aged 14 Years, Omaha, Blue

Today the bells peal far and wide That the majestic King of Kings Is Born. May blest thoughts with them abide 'Pon their golden path this Christ-

"A Merry Christmas" to Busy Bees, each one my friend. With raven locks or golden hair, May peace on earth; good will attend.

For now the air is free from care.

mas morn!

Billy Whiskers Regrets.

little yet.

dreadful noise and he'll never drive me around any more," The speaker was a small, brown horse, they saw eight big bundles; they carried which was standing in a shady grove.

policy."

"I've always tried to do my duty, and there was Hansel's presents and Gretchel's last winter when my foot was sore, I presents, and presents for their father and never complained but trotted to town as mother. Out in the shed was a big pile best I could," sighed poor Prince, as he The father and mother both thought how he was slighted for an old worked and they never were in need any machine.

went away. If the girls had looked closer

at the stranger they could have recognized

him as Mr. Brown, the store keeper. Jen-

nie hurried home to tell her mother about

it. Her mother told her she was glad

The next morning when Jennie opened

the door a great surprise was there. There

were several large bundles of clothes, a

large pile of wood all ready for the stove

and a large basket of food. On the handla

of the basket was tied a card which read

"For the honest girl. Honesty is the best

A Forsaken Horse

By Phillis Corbett, Aged 13 Years, Sidney, Neb. Red Side.

"Ob dear! my master has bought one

of those automobiles that make such a

she did not keep the purse.

He went on quietly nibbling at the grass, but the "chug chug" of his master's new motor car attracted his attention. "T'll not run up to him as I used to do."

said Prince to himself, "T'll just let him Billie Whiskers was a very bad little come to me first."

Prince watched his master out of the cor goat. He could butt harder than any of ner of his eyes and saw him approaching the other goats and he wanted to see the the fonce which enclosed the field vorld, but his mother said he was too His master leaned over the fence and

Then Billy would say proudly, "Just called out: "What alls my old Prince" Come and see what I have in my pocket walt until I get bigger, then I will run off and play and fight with the other goats." for you."

At this Prince trotted over to his master One day when Billy was a full grown goat and after smelling around in his pockets his master was watching that none of the was rewarded by finding a lump of sugar other goats got away. Billy was walking "And did you think I had forgotten you. along as innocent as a goat could look, Prince? Not a bit of it. You shall still when suddenly he wheeled and ran right do me service. I shall not want to ride all between his master's legs and he was free the time in my new car, but shall harness in the world, but he soon found that the you to your little cart and we will ride to town," said his kind master, as he patted Prince and left him to lie under the cool shade of the trees and think over his future happiness.

of America.

The Horse Sale.

By Edward Stakly. Aged 18 Years. Mil- A Christmas Carol to the King Last winter there was a horse sale in incoln, on the twenty-eighth of January. By

By Lucy Wright, Aged 14 Years, 655 W. Louchs Street, Sheridan, Wyo. Red Side. My father, two of my brothers, and I got In the village of B- there lived a very up early in the morning, went to Milford, and took the 5 o'clock train to Lincoln, wicked man, who died in his sing, and When we got there, we went to a restau. when he opened his eyes he found to his rant and ate breakfast. Then we went to amazement and horror that he had been the place where they were going to have transformed into a black and wiley serpent the sale. We looked at the horses awhile, with grizzle grey eyes. One day as he and then the sale began. After a while was wriggling through the woods, he came we ate dinner, and then went to the sale to an old hollow stump, where he expled again. We did not buy any horses. All a deep excavation. Being filled with at once it began to rain. Then we took curosity he was about to enter, when he the street car and went up town. Then was startled by a voice who said: "Enter

of Mr. Nicolayson for the last three years had blizzard that think a train was ready "Look here, Mr. Mole," said the serpen-as camp mover and herder. He is only the depot, and when the train was ready "It I am only a black snake I am very wise the same company. He does most of his was very stormy by this time. We started and if you will listen to me I can tell you hording on Pineridge and Cole creek range. for home, but had to turn around and go something that will make us both very H+ stays out for about three months' at back to town, and stay there all night, by rich," and as the mole was very eager for a time, when he comes in visiting, he stays morning it had stopped storming and we riches he listened to what the snake had to say.

"In this wood there are beautiful lilles growing and if they are snapp

to his room he was saying strange things. His mother called the doctor at once. Christmas day found Harry still in bed with a raging fever. With constant care them in the house and opened them up, and good nursing Harry was allowed to return to school in two months. By that time the other boys had forgotten their Christmas fun and were looking forward to of coal. their spring vacation. He, too, began to look forward to it. He resolved he would more. always keep a cool head and pack all he needed. By Frederick H. Small, Aged 5 years, Kearney, Neb. Red Side. Why Santa Missed Them

FIR RA

little towns fly past. When they stopped

at a few of the larger stations he got off.

It began to storm and grow cold. He

searched in his stip for his neck sweater,

but to his excitement and haste he found

he had forgotten it. Each time he got back

into the car he seemed colder and he fe't

such a draught. At last they called Lin-

coln. He could hardly walt till the train

stopped. He saw no one he knew but his

mother and two sisters. Going home he

felt so glad, but oh, so cold. He could eat

very little supper and he had thought the

week before how good it would taste. The

girls showed him all their new playthings.

but somehow they did not interest him.

He seemed to be more interested in the

register than any thing else. He was so

glad when bedtime came; he felt so tired.

One day long ago, there was a very wealthy man whose name was Charles Powell. He was very good also. He had four very pretty children, two girls and two boys. Now, Mr. Powell had a neighbor by the name of Tom Anderson. Mr. Anderson was not quite so wealthy as Mr. Powell. He was always trying some way or other to get his money, through Mr.

Powell's ignorance.

go to a little rude hut. Then they told them the story of Christ. That is why we always give presents on

The Van Brunts' Best Xmas A year later Mr. Anderson, while on his

By Frances Byrne, Aged 12 Years, 2405 South Tenth Street, Omaha, Blue Side, told him what he had done, and gave him his own fortune and his too. While Mr.

Mr. Powell had all the expenses, while Mrs. and Miss Anderson were to proud to even think of Powells, so they left the out their arms so he would not see me. One day as Gretchen was dressing a very town to work in a factory. So the Powells

"Strausburg, Germany, Sept. 5, 1997 .- Dear in for three or four days and he then goes went home.

By Maud Walker.

The Halls' Christmas Gift

WAS not a promising Christ- As we all know, the little 'rainy day' fund mas eve for Tommy Hail, was soon exhausted and we began running amined his midnight visitor. The stranger about it. Owing to bis father's recont into debt. But now the way is clear again, and serious illness the fam'ly and very soon we'll forget all our recent found themselves in very hardship and worry."

poor father's work had been discontinued be as we are tonight-all well, comfortably I am to share my good home with you. Louise. Christmas day in the gentleman's for so many months, owing to his illness, housed against the storm and plenty of fuel Ah, that's it!" And Tommy patted the home was bright and cherry. Little Louise that the family purse was in a very de- and food to last till your first week's frisking little fellow on the head. "And I had found her treasure and was gurgling plorable state, and now that the Christ- salary is earned. You go to work on the mas holidays were come there was no first Monday of the new year. Oh, I am clared. Then he got a card and wrote on sat upon his lap admiring the pretty gift. money with which to buy the usual things so very, very thankful." that go to make up the holiday festivity. "And so am I," cried Tommy. "And let

in window. No Christmas tree with glit- them. We are a lucky family, I say. A tering adornments and wax candles graced home and warmth and food. Gee! it's far the little "best room" that was without a shead of being out in the storm, without cold victuals left from supper, and placing After investigating to some extent Mr. fire in the grate.

Knowing all this, it may sound strange tunates are today." kitchen, the only room in which they could ing could have passed so quickly. afford to keep a fire.

we should have liked to. But-we're not our young man." going to grumble over that, for we have haven't any Christmas cheer."

"Yes, mother, that is the way I feel about it," agreed Mr. Hall. "I am so happy to be well again and to have the promise of my old job once more and a soon very fast asleep. raise in salary, too, so the president of the company told me today, that such small matters as the absence of Christmas 'doings' do not fret me. I shall soon be my doctor's bill. And then we shall begin to have some little luxuries occasionally, such as Christmas trees, taffy parties and sosh, for it was frozen shut. Downstairs and we are his the like, for Tommy. I really do regret that our little man's Christmas must be so unlike his former Christmases. Last year we gave him such a great time, with

capital letters." And Mr. Hall laughed over the happy memory of last year's holiday festivities. 'Oh, papa, don't worry over my Christmas-or lack of Christmas, as one might cay. Besidee, who knows what old Santa Claus may bring me? I am past the age

for Santa's presents, for I was 12 years old six weeks ago, and Santa's children are all much younger than that. But be may yet remember me with some little thing-just through pity, you see. But should he want to be generous to any outside his realm of very young children, I would much rather he would bring something to put in dear mother's stocking. You and I, dad, are two old chaps that can do without Christmas and birthday presents now." And Tommy smiled.

Mr. Hall laughed while Mrs. Hall patted Tommy on the head in a loving way. "No. dearle, if Santa has anything for this family I hope it will fall to you, my dear. unselfish boy." And the good mother's eves grew dim.

Then the subject was changed from Christmas to Tommy's school and his comrades. Then to Mr. Hall's promised increase of salary, which rejoiced them all so much.

"Just think, dear." said Mr. Hall to his wife, "my slokness cost me three months" absence from my work, which meant three months' loss of salary. And all the time our living expenses went on and added to them were my doctor's bill and drug bill.

straitened circumstances. The "Yes, indeed, dear, we're very happy to

to the reader when I say that the three The supper over, the three sat beside again went to bed and to sleep. members of the Hall family-father, the cheerful cooking stove fire, Mr. Hall In the morning Tommy was awakened no time in getting the family together and mother and little son-were not unhoppy reading from some interesting book to his by his mother's voice calling up the stairs' Gretchen declared in after years that the persation and manners as they sat about the old family cat. And when the clock the doggie and jumped into his clothes and and poor. the little supper table in the comfortable struck nine they wondered how the even- was down to the cozy kitchen in a hurry. There he saw the little dog frisking about "Well, we must be off to bed, and give as though he owned the place, and Mr.

"Well, tomorrow is Christmas day," said Santa Claus a chance to come down the Hall was watching him with a pleased By Alberta Mutz, Aged 12 Years, Auburn, away. Then she saw a basket and when Mrs. Hall as she poured the tea. "And we stovepipe," said Mr. Hall. "He may bring smile on his face.

"Well, I'd like an airship as well as most little fellow's back; and he was lying on a he lived was back of a mansion. Walter's and I think you and I would have been so much to be thankful for-even if we any toy," laughed Tommy. Then kissing rug fast asleep when I came down this mother had to wash for a living and so too. Don't you? his parents goodnight he ran upstairs to morning."

by a low cry. It sounded like some one in presented us to the dog instead of the hole. He saw the sweetest little girl he great pet. Whenever he saw anyone eatdistress. He raised his head from the pil- dog to us," laughed Mr. Hall. "He was had ever seen. He said, "Hello," to her. low, listening intently. Yes, there it came homeless and alone, and Santa gave him a After that they came to the hole every on my feet again, able to pay the rent and again, and apparently from beneath his home and friends." window. Leaping from the bed he ran to "The gift is both ways," declared from today is Christmas, Walter." "Oh, and I had to let my grandma take care

> -----TTTTTTTTT THE AND MAN WHEN HAD A PROPERTY OF THE "COME RIGHT IN. YOU MUST BE HALF FROZEN.

you write me once? I am just writing for him. He has about twenty-eight head of The little stranger needed no second in- fun. Gretchen Van Brunt, Strausburg, horses and he is still buying. He thinks vitation to enter a warm house, and Germany,"

jumped in beside Tommy. Tommy shut She folded the paper and pinned it to until he gets some sheep of his own. Guy By Opal Nuss, Sutton. Neb., Aged 11 Years. twenty-four of these lovely little creatures. Blue Side. the door and made a light. Then he ex- the doll's dress and no one knew anything likes Mr. Nicolayson fine.

wore no collar, and Tommy knew he was About three months afterwards a gentle a waif. Then suddenly an idea came to man was walking through the stores of him: "Santa Claus has brought you to Boston, and reeing a display of dolla By me, brought you to me for a comrade, and chose one as a Christn as gift for his little must surprise father and mother." he de- happy words in her father's car as sho

"From Santa Claus to The Halls." "Just look, papa," she said. "The pretty This card he tied to a cord and fastened clothes. Oh! I sticked myself. I did." There was no turkey for the Christmas Christmas gifts and all that sort of thing to the long hair on the little dog's back. "We'll find that naughty pin. Ah! ha! dinner, no floral decorations on mantel and go to people who cannot be happy without He fixed it in such a way that the dog here it is, and a note too." And Mr. Van would not feel it, or be conscious of its Brunt unfolded the bit of paper that presence. Then, feeding the doggle some Gretchen had pinned to the dress,

shelter or friends, as many poor unfor- a basin of fresh water for him, and a Van Brunt found that his dead brother's warm rug for him to sleep on, Tommy family was struggling in poverty while he was rolling in wealth, as it were. He lost

despondent. Indeed they were quite wife and son. Mrs. Hall mended Tommy's "Come, Sonny, come and see what Santa Christmas of 1907 was the best Christmas sheerful if one could judge from their con- school cost and Tommy played idly with has brought to us." Tommy remembered of all for all the Van Brunis, both wealthy

Walter's Christmas Dinner

Neb. Blue Side. have not spent a penny for gifts, much as an airship-or something else as small-to "What seems mysterious to me," said Walter was a little boy of ten years. He saw a tiny baby boy. Rose was so happy Mrs. Hall, "is this card which was on the lived in Philadelphia. The house in which she could hardly go to sleep that night

Walter stayed at home alone all day. He) is own little room. It was cold there, but Then Tommy explained about the dog's had no playmates, but could hear children

the window, but he could not raise the Tommy. "This puppy is our Christmas gift is it? Well I don't expect anything." "Don't expect anything, why not?"

'Oh, we are too poor to have anything. but mamma is going to be home all day." Katherine sat down a few minutes in deep thought. "Well," she said finally, "I have a plan"

"We have a large clock in the dining room. Christmas morning you can slip out and come over and I will hide you in Polly the big clock. From there you may see

Christmas morning Walter woke up with Christmas day before him. Mamma klased him and said, "Merry Christmas." He had a new suit of clothes and cap. They were his first Christmas presents. At 10 o'clock he slipped out. He met Katherine at the gate. They exchanged greetings and went then to the big clock.

He got inside. At 12 o'clock they assembled in the large room. Oh, the good things he saw. In the middle of the dinner there was a pop and out fell Walter. They were all surprised, but the story was soon told and a place was made for Walter at the table. He ate a big dinner then received candy, etc., and went home and he and a cap." has never forgotten his first Christman dinner.

Harry's Christmas Holidays.

into his throat. He could not settle him- of water, the children picked up the bucket not have any other money. Jennie gave "Peace be to America and may you

he will still stay with Mr. Nicolayson

Phoebe came running in.

warming pan," I walled.

"'Why, what is the matter child?"

with snowballs. Francis had done it.

so much at liberty with him as before.

cis and I, fled all the shyness."

"And on Christmas day adht had a very

"Why chlidren." broke off grandma, "it

An Honest Girl

good dinner, and at that both from Fran-

The Fairy's Promise Gladys Mickel, Aged 8 Years, #331 Harney Street, Omaha. Blue Side.

Once there was a little girl whose name was Rose Marie Violet Elizabeth Vann. One day as the was sitting on the grass by the brook she saw a little fairy trying a story," and "I second the motion" from Mole (at the mouth of the excavation) to get away from a big black beetle. When Archie, and "I, too," from Tiny Tim. she saw Rose she cried out for help. The beetle heard and looked up. When he saw Rose he ran back into a little tuft of grass. After the fairy had recovered her breath she said: "I thank you very much. You have saved my life. As a reward I shall grant the wish you wish most. What is that wish?"

Then Rose answered that the only thing she wanted was a baby brother. "Your wish shall be granted," said the fairy. Then she spread her beautiful shining wings and flew away, away off

to Fairyland. That night just as Rose was climbing into bed the door bell gave a loud, quick ring. She ran down stairs as fast as she could. She could just see a stork flying the peeped in under the warm blanket she

My grandma had a parrot that was a ing he would start to chatter as loud as he could and would not stop until he was day. Finally one day she said, "One week given some of it. I have a canary bird of it for me while I went to Nebraska with my father and mother, and after six months I went to see grandma and took my canary back to Nebraska with me. Now I notice that whenever I stand near his cage with anything to eat in my hand Dick, the canary, will come to the side of

his cage and flutter about and chirp until I give him a piece. He never did it before, so I guess he must have learned from

is pretty near time for Santa. Scamper Waiting For Santa Claus. off to bed quick."

By Lennie Dumell, Sidney, Neb, Red Side It was on Christmas night. In a little hut sat two children named. Hansel and Gretchel. Their parents were very poor. It was snowing and there was a bliszard and they had to go to bed early. The two children sat talking.

"Gretchel," said Hansel, "what do you want for Christmas?" "Hansel there's no use wishing, but I

a pair of shoes. What would you like to and a hood. have?" said Gretchel.

The two children did not see a shadow. we must go to bed. The fire is nearly about it.

By Rector Scarle, Aged 12 Years, Ogalalla, out and we haven't any more fuel than Neb. Red Side.

When Grandma Was a Little seasonable time, just before the bud bursts a beautiful maiden will appear and I want Girl you to arrange a parlor to hold captive

Blue Side. The stockings had been hung by the fire-about through the great cities and have side, for it was Christmas eve, and three them perform in dance and song to enterchildren sat on the hearth, stroking the tain the people of the world."

big Newfoundiand dog, while grandma sat Mr. Mole thought and thought and looking listlessly into the fire and thinking finally said, "All right, Mr. Snake, I am of sixty years ago that very night. She was with you in this scheme."

suddenly startled by a sudden exclamation Then the snake started out to look for from Anita. "Oh, grandma, please tell us the lillies and the first bud he handed Mr. bursted forth and a beautiful fair maiden "Airight, children." This is what it was: slipped from his hands. She was indeed "When I was just your age, Anita, I so very lovely that Mr. Mole, on entering went to spend Christmas with my Aunt his palace rooms crowned her queen and Phoebe. It was three days before Christ- put a sceptre in her hand. "We will call mas when I arrived and I received a hearty her name Queen Solla," said he, "since welcome from all, especially from Francis, she was taken from the illy that King my aunt's stepson, who was very full of Solomon spoke of in the scripture and mischief, and he knew he could play off she was very wise."

tricks on me, for I was a little grown-up- When the serpent had brought twentybefore-my-time girl. The first two days three beautiful maidens to Mr. Mole and we were good friends. Well, by the end had gone for the last one, two school of the second day the attic and every boys came along and perceived the old nook and corner had been scanned by my snake wriggling in the tall grass with a eager eyes, and every day afterward for flower in his mouth. One youth exclaimed! the remainder of my visit you could see a "See that snake! Let us kill him! How little grown-up girl perched up among the much he looks like the old saloon keeper cobwebs, under the drying herbs and chest- who once lived opposite my father's gronuts, reading. In some way the day after cery store." So they gathered rocks and I had arrived I choked up with a severe stoned Mr. Serpent to death. In an incold, and after being dosed up I was put stant he turned into a little white rabbit. to bed. The nurse went before with the He at once made off to the mole paince, lamp and warming pan, for they had no but, of course, had to introduce himself, stoves or fireplaces in the bedrooms, and because the mole did not recognize his Aunt Phoebe followed, carrying me. When friend. After he had told the mole his we reached my room Aunt Phoebe warmed story they both feit very pleased, because the hed and I was carefully tucked in and the rabbit might now enter the palace room given my good-night caress and was left without fear of scaring the singing alone. How nice and warm the bed felt. maidens. I stretched my toes down as far as I

Mr. Mole said twenty-three maidens is could-a scream rent the air, and Aunt enough, it is a good number and a lucky one. So one day he took Mr. Rabbit into the malden's chamber and he was greated "Oh, I burnt my toe-burned it on the with such exclamations of admiration and

love that Mr. Rabbit was very pleased, "She looked and there sure enough was indeed, to think he had been transformed a warming pan, but not hot. It was filled to such an honored condition. However, one day when he was out in search of food "The next day I felt backward and shy for the lovely maidens he was entrapped whenever Francis came around, but though

Francis begged my pardon, I didn't feel beautiful white dove. He went home with and was immediately transformed to a a very cheerful heart and related his experience to his friend the Mole, and now said he: "I can fly to the president of the United States who, in a few words, can transform me into a prince of peace." After bidding farewell to the lovely maidens and Mr. Mole, he flew away to Washington and alighted upon the White House balcony, and, when the door opened, By Agnes McDermott, Aged 18 Years, Oak he made his way to William Taft's private Street, Casper, Wyo. Red Side, room and perched upon a picture frame. room and perched upon a picture frame.

May and Jennie were coming home from You can imagine the president's surprise school. It was Christmas eve and the girls when he heard that bird exclaim. were telling what they were to have. "Transform me into a prince of peace

May said she was going to get a great Oh, ye king of men." many presents. Jennie said she did not Immediately Mr. Taft's hands were up-

would like to have a dress, a new hat and expect anything but some warm mittens lifted as if in suplication, and he said: "Behold a man." At once a prince of As they were thus talking Jennie saw peace stood before him who bowed his

"Oh. I don't know. I believe I would like a small purse in the road. She picked it thanks and said: "Christmas eve a carrol to have a new pair of shoes, a new suit up and saw it was very old. When she will be sung for your benefit by twentyopened it she saw several pieces of silver, three beautiful maidens of a woodland May asked her what she was going to do glen."

glid away from the window. It was a with it. She told her of all the presents We will follow the march and sit with neighbor. He was a very rich man. Just she could buy with it. Jennie said she his friends and listen to the carroling of then Hansel's mother said, "come children would take it home and ask her mother these maidens who filled the White House halls with valumes of inspirational song.

They had not gone far when they saw and, as they strengthen the soul of your will last over tomorrow." The two chil- an old man coming up the road. May American king with their carroling, the Harry was away at school. The last dren went up stairs to their beds and soon whispered to Jennie and told her to hide door opens and they pass out into the week before Christmas holidays seemed as ware fast asleep. They never dreamed nor the purse. When the old man reached night taking on the symbolic wings of if it wouldn't come to an end. But as last saw the men at their work. Next morn- them he asked if they had found a small purity and love and waiving their hands Priday night came and when Harry stepped ing they got up and their mother said, purse with some silver in it. He told as if to say good-bye, while their echo aboard the train his heart seemed to leap "now children go out and get me a pail them it was his wook's wages and he did rings over the earth.

self to read, but watched the fields and and opened the door and to their surprise him the purse and he thanked her and follow is our footsteps."



Tommy did not mind that. He only made midnight appearance at the door, and how playing in the yard of the great mansion has to get between the covers and was he had taken him in as a present from over the wall. Santa One day a stone fell out of the wall. He ings, Neb. Red Side. About midnight Ton-my was awakened "Well, I am inclined to think that Santa went to the wall and looked through the