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CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND.

"Wish you a simple Christmas" is to be the Christmas words, self denial—but a self denial free from dismalness—is to be the keynote of the country's coming Yuletide season.

The advent of the food dictator and the realization by the British people that after two years of war there is urgent need for the husbanding of their food stores, is responsible for the simplicity of the coming festival of joy and thanksgiving.

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Children's Evening Story

SUSIE AND THE BLUE FAIRY.

They were talking about Uncle Wigwig's visit to the red fairy, in the rabbit burrow the next day, when Susie remarked:

"Well, if I saw a fairy, I think I'd ask for something more magical than having my rheumatism cured."

"No you wouldn't," said her uncle, as he nibbled a bit of chocolate-covered carrot that Nurse Jane Fuzzy-Wuzzy had made.

"You think you would, but you wouldn't. In the first place, you never had rheumatism, or you'd be glad to get the first fairy you saw to cure it."

And in the second place, when you see a fairy it makes you feel so funny you don't know what you are saying. But I am certainly glad I met that one. I never felt better in my life since my rheumatism is cured. I believe I'll dance a jig."

"Oh, no, don't," begged Mamma Littleall.

"Yes, I shall to," spoke Uncle Wigwigly. "Begging your pardon, of course, Alvinah." You see, Mamma Littleall's first name was Alvinah. So Uncle Wigwigly danced a jig, and did it fairly well, considering everything.

That afternoon Susie Littleall went for a walk in the woods. She was all alone for Sammie had gone over to play with Bully the frog, and Billie and Johnny Bushytail, his squirrel chums.

Susie walked along, and she was rather hoping she might meet the fairy prince who was changed from a mud turtle into a nice boy, and came to Lulu and Alice Wibblewobble's party. But Susie didn't meet him, and when it began to get dark, she started for home.

"Oh!" she exclaimed aloud, as she came to a little spot where the grass grew nice and green, and where the trees were all set in a circle, just as if they were playing. Rine Around the Rose, Sweet Tobacco Posey.

"Oh, dear, I wish I would meet with a fairy, as Uncle Wigwigly did. But I don't suppose I ever will. I never had such luck. Only last week I lost my ring with the blue stone in it."

And just then—oh, in fact, right after Susie finished speaking, what should she hear but a voice singing. Yes, a voice singing, a sweet silvery voice and this is what it sang. Of course, I can't sing this in a sweet, silvery voice, but I'll do the best I can. Now this is the song:

"If anyone is seeking A fairy for to see, If they will kindly glance up Into this cherry tree They'll see what they are seeking, I'm truly telling you, For I'm a little fairy All dressed in baby-blue."

Then, you may believe me or not if Susie didn't look up into the tree and there, in a hole where the owl school teacher once lived, was a really and truly fairy. Honest, Susie knew at once it was a fairy that she saw because the little creature was colored baby blue, you know, the shade they put on tables, and she had gauzy wings, with stars on them, and carried a magic wand which also had a star on it, did the little blue creature. Still, the little rabbit girl wanted to make sure, so she asked: "Are you a fairy?"

"Am," replied the little creature in blue. "Can you kindly tell me how and I'll let you go." There is no reason to believe that the entente allies have as yet "had enough" or are at all convinced that they cannot attain their desired ends.

It is most regrettable that the coming Christmas day cannot see peace restored to the world. The day would see such rejoicing as has never before marked it. But we must not delude ourselves by letting our wishes dictate our expectations.

There is not going to be peace in Europe until one set of the war dogs has been whipped and forced to recognize the other set as superior. Otherwise, the war dogs will meet and fight again. The Briton is no less determined than is his famous bull dog, but the Teuton clings to his purpose just as steadfastly. One or the other is going to win and any peace which does not leave one a winner, will merely be a resting spell until they are at it again.

A Japanese statesman has already prophesied that the present struggle will mark the beginning of the end of occidental domination over the world. And if that is the case, it likewise means the hardest blow that civilization and Christianity has ever received. This prophecy may not appear very weighty to most of us. Yet it may be that we are at one of those periods in history which mark the fall of one world power and the rise of another. These powers have not always been nations.

We do not blind ourselves to the fact that the future of Christianity and civilization is being jeopardized by the European war.

HAS ANNIVERSARY EDITION.

Saturday's issue of the Muscatine Journal was a fifty-eight page edition commemorating the seventy-sixth anniversary of the publication's first appearance. The edition was labeled "Improvement Edition" and it was a satisfactory and pleasing issue in every way. Its pages were filled with the news of the day, with historical data relative to Muscatine and the state, interesting items of purely local interest and feature articles, besides attractively gotten up advertisements. All in all, it was an issue worthy of a live wire, up to the minute publication which can truthfully claim to be "older than the state of Iowa."

HAVE MUTUAL INTERESTS.

The city man and the agriculturist are learning that their interests are identical; that what is good for one is good for the other and that when something hurts one, the other feels it. In this new concept, the city is merely the trading center for all the surrounding territory, and the trading center and the surrounding territory make up the true community.

That was the idea uppermost in the minds of the farmers and business men who met at the Commercial association Tuesday afternoon and laid plans for engaging an agricultural expert to work in Wapello county in connection with a farm bureau which is to be organized by the association and made one of its predominant features.

The city men know that if the agricultural expert is able to help the farmers produce bigger and better crops and solve their problems, the city will gain as much therefore as will the farmers. Their interests are mutual.

Administration officials have discovered that the army's treasury "is already some \$25,000,000 overdrawn because of the mobilization of state troops on the border of Mexico. It has also been discovered that the deficit is apt to grow to \$50,000,000 or even \$75,000,000 before the troops can be cut off the payroll. Waging peace with Mexico is pretty expensive.

It was an Iowa man—W. W. Marsh—who handled the finances for the successful campaign of President Woodrow Wilson. It takes Iowans to do things.

LITTLE BENNY'S NOTE BOOK

BY LEE PAPE

I was passing my sister Gladdis room and the door was shut and I knocked on it saying, Good morning, Gladdis, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, good night.

Which nobody dident anser, and I knocked on the door again, saying, How are you Gladdis, were was Moses wen tre lites went out?

Which nobody dident anser that time either and I peked throo the keyhole and Gladdis was setting by the window reeding a book and chewing chewing gum, wich I cood see her face going.

Ah, hah, I see you chewing gum, I see you, I see.

And I kepp on looking throo the key hole and Gladdis kepp on reeding and chewing as if she thawt she dident heer me and I sed, Hay Gladdis, do you know wat they make chewing gum out of?

Which Gladdis dident say weather she did or not, and I sed, if you knew wat they make it out of you wooodnt set there chewing it as if you was doing sumthing gaur, all rite.

And I waited another litle while and then I sed, They make it out of horses hoofs.

And I wated another litle while and then sed, Not live horses hoofs either. And I wated another litle while and then I sed, Ded horses hoofs.

Which Gladdis made a farsee face and took it out of her mouth and I went away from the keyhole and kepp on going down stairs, proving that men have stronker wills than wimin, on account of nobody coodent make me stop chewing it by telling me that.

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BLOOMFIELD—Sax Hotel, Tuesday, December 19.

ALBIA—Hotel Monroe, Wednesday, December 20.



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Zeb Smith Ottumwa, says: "I was cured after suffering for twenty years and had suffered everything."

John Sharp of Selma, Iowa, says: "I was cured of piles without chloroform or much suffering."

H. M. Chidester of Albia, Iowa, says: "I was cured of a rupture I had for forty years."

Mr. L. Goodwin Oswalt, Albia, says: "I was cured of a very bad rupture by Dr. Bonham. I am much pleased. Write me if you want to know about it."

Charles Lowe of Mystic says: "My little girl is cured of umbilical rupture taking four treatments."

Chronic diseases of all kinds are treated and cured by modern methods. Electricity and mechanical means are used in many cures.

Diseases of Women. I treat a great many women for their ailments, and cure many cases where it is said surgical operation is the only method. Healing, soothing methods are better in many cases than radical means.

Catarrh of nose, throat, bronchial trouble, treated by methods that remove the obstruction from nose and throat. Diseases of the stomach and bowels cured by electrical massage and vibration.

Rheumatism is treated by electro-thermol baths which start the circulation and eliminates the cause of the disease.

Varicocele or false rupture. This resembles rupture but is an enlargement of the veins, causes pain in back and becomes larger in standing. Over 200 cases cured.

Hydrocele (water in sack) resembles rupture, cured without knife operation.

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I have been located in Ottumwa twenty years. Call for further reference.

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Priced at last season's prices, because we bought them many months ago. You'll not buy bags as low again.

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Oskaloosa, Dec. 12.—The new bridge over South Skunk river at Cur-

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