

Early Christmas Morning

Four little feet patter on the floor,
Two little hands busy making in at the door,
Near the merry laughter of the chimney's rear,
Early Christmas morning.

Two little stockings full of socks and ties,
Overnight on chairs for little gifts and ties,
How could they help, then, making such a dreadful noise,
Early Christmas morning?

Down beside the stockings many gifts were spread,
Pillows, dresses, a cradle, and a brand new sled,
"What's it for?" "It's for the baby," said the mother,
Early Christmas morning.

Four little feet on the sidewalk cold,
Two little faces with wet and happy eyes,
Peeking through the window where these gifts were stowed,
Early Christmas morning.

"Yes," says John to Nellie, as he spies the tree,
"It's so so merry present—tell me what we'll do,
I'll give half of mine over, New Year, tell me,
Early Christmas morning."

Two little hungry eyes into the house were cast,
From the happy eyes from all they stood outside,
Was not this the angels' song, "Peace, good-will to all?"
Early Christmas morning.

—Har & Paul

Decorate the Christmas Package

EVERY one when sending a Christmas gift desires it to appear as attractive as possible. When we receive a gift nicely wrapped with tissue paper and decorated with pretty Christmas seals, there is an added pleasure. This is especially so when we realize that the sender has spent time and cleverness to give this little touch of personal thoughtfulness.

Many varieties of Christmas seals may be purchased, but a little originality will not come amiss even in these small details.

There are seals for the outside package and the heading to be used on the note paper, conveying the good wishes of the giver, or on the little card of greeting. These two in each set match. This gives another touch of the unusual, which is always sought after.

Have a piece of carbon paper, place it over the note paper, card or seal, and on top of this one of the designs. Carefully trace with a sharp pencil the entire outline. An exact duplicate of the design will be found on the note paper or seal ready for fitting. This may be easily done with water colors or wax crayons. Poinsettia should be colored a warm, bright red, with yellow centers and dark green stems.

Holly, the special emblem of this season, has berries of vivid, fiery red and glossy leaves of dark green.

A dainty basket of forget-me-nots would be pretty colored yellow, the flowers a faint light blue and the bow-knot of pale pink. Now we have the mystic sign of the hollyhock, borrowed from the Druids, the mistletoe. The berries of this plant are a pearly white and the leaves a yellowish green.

Send a little extra time giving the Christmas gift this novel decoration, and the pleasure it affords will never cause you to regret having done so.

Economy is to be considered at Christmas time. Our purse-strings have been stretched to the breaking point purchasing gifts for relatives and friends. To put this fascinating bit of handiwork upon the Christmas package costs comparatively nothing, aside from the time you spend doing it. This fact counts very little when we add to the enjoyment of others.

These few suggestions will probably cause endless ideas for the Christmas package to present themselves to you. Make your gifts radiate the holiday spirit; give this little bit of personality and attractiveness to as small a thing as the Christmas seal.



HOW UNKIND

"Fred is getting nearsighted."
"It doesn't follow that there is anything the matter with his eyes because he can't see one under the mistletoe."

Christmas Packages.

A woman whose Christmas packages never fail to reach their destination in safety says she always writes the name and address of the recipient upon the inside wrapper of the box containing them. Packages sometimes lose their outside wrappings, but if the postal clerks can find the address on the inside wrapping all will be well. This woman also ties up the inside wrapping securely before putting on the outside cover.

COVERED HEADS IN CHURCH

Before the Year 1661 Men Did Not Remove Their Hats During Religious Services.

About 1661 an agitation commenced to have men remove their hats in church—Pepys makes gentle fun of it. The custom was first to remove the hat to cover the eyes in prayer, and later it was taken off altogether.

The introduction of the wig helped the custom—for it proved difficult to keep one's hat on over a tousled mass of false curls. This also led to large hats with plumes going out of style.

Then, instead of wearing hats indoors, men went to the other extreme, and often carried them in their hands when out of doors. The Puritans in England continued to wear their broad-brimmed hats, however, indoors and out.

Men's hats and clothing were changed with the French Revolution; wigs went out, and then with the rise of Napoleon, dress became military in style. In 1815, during the Restoration period, arose the "stovepipe hat," and breeches, at the same time began to be worn to the ankle.

How Old Armor Was Made.

Ancient armor cost money. A complete iron suit of exclusive design might "suck" the purchaser for as much as \$1,000, which was a great sum in those days. Baronial gentlemen, however, had their own professional armorers to turn out such metal garments. The common soldiers went to battle with nothing better to protect them than leather jerkins and steel caps. Recently samples were taken from a dozen of ancient pieces and put through a chemical and microscopical examination by experts in order to find out something about how the stuff was made. It was found that all the pieces thus tested were made from very pure wrought iron, converted into steel by the old "cementation" process. The original iron was produced much like our modern wrought iron. It was carburized, hammered into sheets and the sheets welded together. The whole was then hammered into shape while heated and plunged into water, thus producing the final hardening.

Religion in Everyday Life.

The widespread impression that religion is a thing of life apart and not an essential part of profitable life is at the bottom of all our social problems. Were the people taught, not merely preached to, on Sundays, but taught in school from infancy to old age, that to deal justly, to be kind and generous, and to revere the powers above earthly powers, our social affairs would soon assume, or approximate, the conditions contemplated by the Master. In these more enlight-



Christmas Again

Christmas again, and hearts again
And songs and merry tunes;
New friends to make, old friends to greet;
And over all the other-world
Exchanging Christmas cheer.

A CHRISTMAS LEGEND

Crowing of the Cock to Keep Away Evil Spirits.

Tale of Saint Stephen, the First Martyr, Whose Day is December Twenty-Six.

EVER since that first Christmas eve the cock has crowed all night long on the anniversary to keep away evil spirits; for the cock is a holy bird and a knowing one. There is a pleasant tale of him and Saint Stephen, the first martyr, whose day is December 26, close by his dear Lord's.

Saint Stephen was King Herod's steward. It seems, who served him in the kitchen and at table. One night as he was bringing in the boat's head for his master's dinner he saw the Star shining over Bethlehem. Immediately he set down the huge platter and exclaimed:

"No longer, Herod, will I be thy servant, for a greater King than thou is born."

"What allest thee?" cried the King wrathfully. "Do you lack meat or drink that you would desert my service for another's?"

"Nay," answered Stephen. "I lack neither meat nor drink. But the Child that is born this night is greater than all of us; and him only will I serve."
"That is as true," quoth Herod, snuffing the table with his fist, "as that this roast cock on the platter shall grow before us."

Hardly were the words out of his mouth when the cock stretched his neck and crowed lustily, "Christus natus est!" At this proof that Stephen's words were true, Herod was so angry that he made his soldiers take Stephen outside the walls of Jerusalem and stone him to death. And this is the reason why, unto this day, Saint Stephen is the patron of stone-cutters.—Abbie Farwell Brown, in Lippincott's Magazine.

Cleaning the Saucepan.

Here is a simple but most successful method of cleaning a saucepan in which milk has been boiled. After pouring out the boiling milk, quickly replace the lid before the steam has time to escape, and allow the saucepan to cool before taking it off again. Then put the pan in cold water to soak. It can be cleaned quickly and easily.

LIQUID FIRE IN WARFARE.

THE use of so-called "liquid fire" is imagined by many to be an outgrowth of the late World war, but there are records of the projection of inflammable liquid materials as far back as the wars of the ancient Greeks. The material was thrown from cauldrons or forced through tubes. Its secret was jealously guarded, but it appears to have been a compound of naphtha, sulphur and nitre.

(Copyright.)

Announcement Column

For City Marshal:
GORDON F. WILLS.
J. E. CHINN.

"What's in a Name?"

By MILDRED MARSHALL

Facts about your name; its history; meaning; whence it was derived; significance; your lucky day and lucky jewel.

ELEANOR

ELEANOR, signifying light, is derived from Helios, the sun-god, who, according to Greek mythological legend, drove his flaming chariot around the universe day by day. Helios furnished the Teutonic adjective meaning bright or clear, which eventually evolved Helen, and later Ellen, through abolition of the aspirate.

The Latinized form of Ellen was Elena, a feminine name that won great popularity in Italy. In the Romanesque population of Provence the name became Allenor. This so seized upon poetic fancy that the name received all the homage the langue d'oc could pay. Aliena was the next step in the evolution and the first famous woman so called was termed Eleanor by the French king who married her, and it was she who became the grim Eleanor of the dagger and bowl, the Aquitanian grandmother who handles words with Constance of Brittany in Shakespeare's "King John."

Her daughter carried the name to Castile, where she became Leonor. Her descendant, the daughter of San Fernando, brought the name back to England as "our good Queen Eleanor" and gave it renown which largely counteracted the bad impression left by the Provençal Allenor, wife of Henry III. Eleanor was a popular royal name under the Plantagenets. It was later spelled Elinor and sometimes Elinor. Dame Eleanor Davies gave the name a quaint notoriety by constructing out of her name the prophetic anagram: "Reveal, O David." But her contention was disproved by Archbishop Laud, who showed that the words also spelled "Never so mad a ladie." Italy calls the name Eleanora; Germany makes her Eleanor, and Ireland, Eileen.

Eleanor's gem is the jacinth, which is a talisman against accident or disease. It is said to pale in color at the approach of danger, and is proof against lightning. Sunday is Eleanor's lucky day and 5 her lucky number. (Copyright.)

How It Started

AFRAID OF SANTA

Black Tots at African Mission Make for Place of Safety.

Presents of Apparel and Sweets Bring Confidence to the Men, Women and Kiddies.

AN AMUSING story of how Santa Claus frightened the black children at a mission station when he first appeared to them a few years ago, is told by the wife of a missionary stationed at Ballunda, Africa. They had celebrated Christmas at Ballunda before, but they never had had Santa Claus; so Mr. Stover, the missionary, dressed up as good Saint Nick.

"He had been padded and powdered and packed until his own mother would not have known him," Mrs. Stover afterward related. "Presently we gave the signal, the door flew open and in walked Santa Claus. But, dear me! What consternation! He was greeted with shrieks and groans and cries of 'Let me out! It is the evil one. It is the day of judgment!'"

"The urchins, catching the infection of terror from the older black people, fled to their bedrooms, fell down upon their faces, crept under chairs and tables—anywhere to hide themselves. Poor old Santa Claus never had such a greeting before. As soon as he realized the panic he had caused, he tore off his tall hat and white cotton beard. Then from the bags on his back he began to throw gifts right and left and to tell who he was.

"Reassured once more, everyone was soon laughing and chatting, munching the great 'red breads' (doughnuts), tasting their fruits or nibbling at the sweets from the familiar little bags. One man wondered which end up he was to hold the fork Santa Claus had given him. Another immediately tried on his new shirt. The girls arranged their bright-headed handkerchiefs into turbans, while others sought to find some place about their scanty clothing where they could stow away their bunch of bread, as well as the paper of needles and cake of soap given to each.

"It seemed as though everyone tried to talk louder than his neighbor as they examined the costume of Santa Claus, whom they now no longer feared. One man said that he thought it was John the Baptist; another that it was Elijah returned. Yet another thought it was Satan himself.

COZY THEATRE

ONE WEEK STARTING

Monday, January 2



Monroe Hopkins, America's Cleverest Song and Dance Comedian.

Mr. and Mrs. Mon roe Hopkins Players

12—People—12 All New Plays

and Vaudeville.



Lola Axtell Hopkins You remember "The Brat" and "Daddy Long Legs." She's as sweet as ever in "Believe Me Xantippe."

Opening Play

"BELIEVE ME XANTIPPE"

Adults 60c

Children 30c

Tax Included

Doors Open at 7:00

Show Starts at 8:00

WOODROW WILSON POSES FOR CAMERA FIRST TIME SINCE HIS RETIREMENT

Washington, Dec. 28.—Perhaps it was the fact that there were thirteen photographers, present and thirteen is his luck number.

Perhaps it was because one of the photographers, after all had stood in futile expectancy for many hours, rubbed a rabbit's foot for a change of luck.

In all events, Woodrow Wilson, on the occasion of his sixty-fifth birthday, late Wednesday volunteered, for the first time since he was stricken in the fall of 1919, to pose for photographers in front of his residence.

Wearing a dark suit, a silk hat, a cape-cloak and a red poppy in his lapel, looking and reflecting a somewhat benevolent spirit, Wilson smilingly stood for snaps of all kinds for ten minutes.

At one time when he was swinging hiscan as he stood before the camera men, one of them noting he was quite still, asked him to please "stand steady" for a moment.

"That's a pretty large order for a man standing on only one good leg," the former executive responded laughing.

He appeared in better health and spirits than he has for many months. After the ordeal was over he queried the photographers:

"Don't you think I'm good natured?"

And as affirmative replies were returned he waved them off and entered his automobile with Mrs. Wilson and his daughter, Margaret, for a late afternoon spin.

New Western Union Operator.

Mrs. J. B. Lee of Houston has been appointed permanently to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Billie Wilsford, as local operator of the Western Union at Snyder.

Mrs. Lee expresses herself as being well pleased with Snyder. We welcome her to our community.

Served Turkey Dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Gross served turkey dinner to a few of their friends Christmas day in honor of Mrs. Fred Graym of Waco, and Mrs. V. S. Adamson of Ranger.

Subscribe for the Signal. \$1.50.

OUR FARMER FRIENDS:

As the Fall Season is drawing to a close and new plans and arrangements are being made for the coming year, we invite you to place your account in our hands.

None of us can intelligently prophesy as to what the coming year really holds in store; but a friendly connection with a strong bank is the best security against the uncertainties of the future.

The Snyder National Bank

Dead Negro Found Near Hermleigh.

A dead negro was found Thursday in a gulch on the Breeden farm about two miles north of Hermleigh by a renter on the farm. He had been dead about three or four weeks.

Judge Holley went down to the scene and also Sheriff Byrd and deputy Frank Brownfield. It was said by those who saw him that the bullet entered his head and came out of his neck.

The body was brought to Snyder and placed in the Stokes undertaking establishment.

The officers are working on a clue.

Subscribe for the Signal. \$1.50.

Mrs. Kate Cotten informs us that she will be a candidate for re-election to the office of county clerk and will make her announcement next week.

I build new tanks and repair old one in the country or city. When in need of either, call or see Frank Carby, Higginbotham Bartlett Co. 29

Mrs. W. E. Adamson of Ranger is the guest of Mrs. Wm. Wilsford, and other friends in the city.

Subscribe for the Signal. \$1.50.

Prof. and Mrs. C. C. Johnson of Roswell, New Mexico, are spending the holidays with Mrs. Johnson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Warren, Mrs. J. W. Warren and Nibbs and Ruth Warren of Snyder, were visitors in Post Sunday.—Post City Post.

Subscribe for the Signal. \$1.50.