



SMALL JEWELRY. A stock of rare and lovely designs awaits the inspection of those of our customers who wish to invest in articles of small jewelry. It is a comprehensive and well assorted stock, and every article, whether brooches, pins, lockets, earrings, sleeve buttons or minor trinkets, combine novelty, beauty and modern style. Our prices are always fair, and their scope so wide that none need be disappointed in finding some article entirely within reach of their pocket-book. We present many lovely designs this season, and guarantee every article to be just what it is represented.

BLOOD WILL TELL.—"I understand you're going to marry an heiness, 'Rastus?"
 "Yes, sah. Miss Johnsing am repo'ted to have forty-seben dollahs in de bank, sah."
 "Is it a love match on her part, 'Rastus?"
 "I doan 'spects hit is, sah. It am a well 'stablished fac' dat my gran'mudder wah a nu'se fo' Geo'ge Washington, sah. So I marries Miss Johnsing fo' her money an' she marries me fo' my blood."

"Didn't you meet father in the hall last night as he went out?" she asked, in cold, sarcastic tones.
 "No, he replied, sadly. "I didn't meet him. We were going the same way, and I was only a short distance in front of him."
 "Oh!" she said, with a cruel, significant smile, and sailed away.



PATIENTLY WAITING FOR SANTA CLAUS.

CHRISTMAS STYLES AND FESTIVITES.

Christmas Day in the primitive Church was observed as the Sabbath Day, and like that, was preceded by a vigil, from which arose our Christmas Eve. At this time it was the custom of our ancestors (and one still practiced in many parts of England) to turn night into day by lighting immense tapers, made for the occasion and called Christmas candles, and the burning of the Yule-clog, Yule-log, or the Christmas-block, as it was variously termed. These illuminations, which have come to be expressions of festivity and victory, were doubtless first used as religious symbols, and were typical of Christ, the Light of all lights, who came into the world, as it was supposed, at this time. Making bright the whole house, and giving a tone of comfort and good cheer, it is not to be wondered at that the Christmas candles and Yule blocks came to be regarded as harbingers of good fortune, and to form the nucleus about which associated a host of superstitions.

The Yule-blocks were great logs cut from large trees, which required the strength of several brawny hands and arms to roll them into the wide, open fireplace. This preliminary performance was not without its pleasure, if we may believe the olden song makers:

"Come bring, with a noise,
 My merrie, merrie boys,
 The Christmas log to the firing;
 While my good dame she
 Bids ye all drink free
 And drink to your heart's desiring,"

wrote one, while another makes mention of
 "A mighty jug of sparkling cyder brought,
 With brandy mixt, to elevate the guests."

The festivities were fairly begun, when the enormous log was high on the fire and blazing; the singing of Christmas carols, the ringing of bells, eating, drinking and dancing, entered largely into these merrymakings, which, in England, extended from Christmas Eve to Twelfth Day. Among other superstitions regarding the Christmas log is the one that brings special blessing when the new block is lighted with the last year's brand; also one that apprehends serious family dissensions if the log throws out crackling sparks; and the one that believes cleanliness necessary to the kindling of a successful fire. The old rhyme in regard to this last says:

"Wash your hands, or else the fire
 Will not tend to your desire,
 Unwashed hands, ye maidens know,
 Dead the fire, though ye blow.

Owing to improved sanitary and other conditions, the chances of life have increased five per cent. during the last ten years.

CHRISTMAS—As commemorating the birth of the founder of the Christian religion, it is a religious feast. But in the popular apprehension its religious character has been superseded by its social and charitable significance. It has become the feast of good fellowship in the highest sense—good fellowship with a religious sanction. Nominally it is the birthday of the founder of Christianity. Practically it is the day of St. Nicholas, the feast of Santa Claus, the patron of all children.



This is a point you will do well to heed: Come in and see our holiday attractions; it is a beautiful sight and you will be glad when you have done so. Remember we force our goods upon no one, and you need not feel the slightest obligation to buy anything merely because you happen to be in our store. Come in—you will be very welcome.