

YULE-TIDE.

BY LADY COOK, née TENNESSEE C. CLAFLIN.

Again Christmas with all its delightful associations approaches, fostering domestic harmony, and repeating the glorious gospel of peace on earth and goodwill towards men. No other period of the year is so potent as this in healing the wounds of friendship, and in warming the heart of man towards his fellows. And whosoever has British, Scandinavian, or Saxon blood in his veins, welcomes it with enthusiasm. He observes it with gladness whether it comes to him in a torrid or arctic clime or any intermediate zone. The best of good cheer is spread, his dearest friends are invited, and whatever else may grace his table, a plum pudding stuck with berry-laden holly will, if possible, be there, and a bunch of mistletoe not far off: customs strongly savouring of Paganism, without doubt, and handed down from heathen ancestors, who were, nevertheless, in their own time and way, good men and true.

Christmas is the Christian Saturnalia when even the strictest and most decorous countenance some degree of license. The politic leaders of our faith in the earliest days of Christianity thought it wise to graft most of the rites and ceremonies of Paganism upon the doctrines of Christ in order to make the latter popular. Thus they caused His birth to coincide with the Roman Saturnalia which for a whole week from the 18th to the 25th of December commemorated the freedom and equality that existed during the whole of the golden reign of Saturn. We are told that long before the foundation of Rome these heathen feasts were remarkable for their universal liberty. Slaves were permitted to ridicule their masters and to discuss every topic with freedom. Friends made presents to one another, the schools were closed, no criminals were executed, public and private animosity ceased. While they lasted war was never declared, and mirth, riot and debauchery had full swing. During the sacrifices the priests made their offerings with uncovered heads, which was never done at any other festivals. The fetters were removed from the public statues of the god, to whom every emancipated slave devoted his own. The temples were decked with holly and ivy, and other sacred evergreens, and as profusely as our own were in the last century, when Miss Jenny Simper thus complained to the "Spectator": "Our clerk, who was once a gardener, has this Christmas so overdecked the church with greens that he has quite spoiled my prospect, inasmuch that I have scarce seen the young baronet for three weeks, and unless the greens are removed, I shall soon have little else to do in church than to say my prayers."

The holly and the mistletoe are indigenous although not peculiar to this country, and the latter, as every one knows, was pre-eminently the sacred plant of the Druids, that mysterious, learned, and remarkable caste whose history remains to be written. In the Scandinavian mythology, the mistletoe was consecrated on a memorable occasion and for a most beneficent purpose, to Friga, the Northern goddess of love. For the protection of her son Balder, an oath was imposed on all things of earth, air, fire, and water, not to injure the beautiful young god. The mistletoe alone from its apparent harmlessness, was excepted, and it was with an arrow fashioned from its wood that Loki, the evil one, slew him. All nature bitterly mourned his death until Hela pitied and restored him to his mother and from that time the fatal plant was consecrated to Friga our native Venus, that it might henceforth become an instrument of love but never more of hatred. Thus at Christmas, when the Druids were wont to cut it with golden knives, we pass under its branches with kisses, and formerly, whenever it was scarce, our maidens not to be defrauded of their customary rites, made "kissing bunches" of evergreens ornamented with oranges and ribbons, to do duty instead.

His must be a sour heart that can view these sweet old customs with any other feeling than that of genial approbation. Hundreds of generations have enjoyed them and made merry over them, the young and the unlearned in happy and innocent thoughtlessness while the learned and philosophic have busied themselves with the deeper import that lies beneath their popular surface. These see in them the relics of a universal religion devoted to Nature, whose origin is shrouded in the Cimmarian gloom of the north, and in the myths of remotest antiquity. They observe their close relation, not to the Saturnalia of Rome alone, but to the Egyptian Pamyli, the Bacchic and Dronyesian orgies of the Greeks, the obscene festival of India, Mesopotamia, and South America, and to the other religious mysteries in those and all the rest of the world where Nature-worship has been symbolised and corrupted by priestcraft, and its pure stream diverted into impure channels. This trading in mankind's best emotion, and subordinating worship to gain or power, has slain in succession all the religion of the past just as it will destroy those of the present. It may be that in the cycle of religious evolution the time will come when mankind will reach the point whence they started, and their hearts will be again filled with love and reverence for all nature as the sure and universal manifestation of God to man.

Let us endeavour, then, to make the use of Christmas, whatever its history, a

shortcoming, and to join in the general spirit of love and goodwill. All periods that knit the hearts of men more closely together, are most worthy of human observance. Let the tables smoke with festive cheer, and hall and cottage ring with joyous greetings and prove to the world that England is merry England still. The absent will return to gladden those at home and the dead will be lovingly remembered. For those who cannot be present, whom necessity or distance has parted from us, there will be kindly messages, even to the ends of the earth, borne by the swift mail or swifter telegraph. Let us rejoice that it is not in the power of time or space to sever us from those we love, and that though they may be toiling through the defiles of the Khyber Pass, or broiling under an Indian or African sun, or living lonely lives in Canada or America, in Australasia, or any of the numberless colonies where British industry adds Empire to Empire, yet their places will not be forgotten on Christmas Day, but affection will make the absent present. Above all, on this day beyond every other, let the outcast be amply provided for, that they may partake of the general rejoicing, and if all the remaining days of their years be wretched, let them be happy on this; the day of days, when as tradition tells, the Prince of Peace was born, to bring a message of love from Heaven to Earth.

EATEN BY RATS.

MORE THAN 200 FIERCE RODENTS ATTACK A MAN WHILE LOCKED IN A GRANARY.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 13.—Robert Crook, a farmer of Fairview, has been losing produce and grain eaten and destroyed by rats which infested his barn by thousands. So fierce and large were they that they drove all the cats from the place.

Crook, about two weeks ago, built a trap in the loft of his granary and did not visit it until Friday when he found more than 200 rats in it.

He sent the dog in among them but the rats fought it so fiercely that they quickly overpowered the animal. Crook went to aid with a club. He himself was attacked so fiercely that he had all he could do to keep the swarm of rodents off. He killed a large number but soon grew faint and rushed for the door. Then he found he had carelessly closed it behind him forgetting the spring lock which now held him tight. He tried to break the door open but it was too strong. He fell exhausted and unconscious. How long he lay there is not known. His family missed him and at supper one of the boys remembering Crook's intention to kill the rats went to the granary. There he saw Crook's body almost covered by rats and quickly dragged the man out.

By that time his nose had been completely eaten, his ears were badly chewed and his face, neck and hands bitten, while his eyes are so badly injured that physicians say he can never regain his sight.

NATURE'S MEDICINE.

Nature's medicine for constipation, liver complaint, sick headache, biliousness, jaundice and sallow complexion is Laxative Liver Pills. They are a perfect laxative, never griping or causing pain. One pill each night for thirty days will cure constipation.

A BIG ROBBERY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—It was learned yesterday that one of the biggest robberies in the history of the New York post office occurred on Nov. 9th. The amount is stated to be in the neighborhood of \$100,000, and was taken from registered letters in the railway mail service on that section of the Central railroad of New Jersey known as the New York, Somerville & Eastern branch. On November 9th, it is stated, two bags, containing \$30,000, were taken. How long the defalcations had gone on before that date has not yet been ascertained. Major Charles F. Lewis, of the Philadelphia branch of the government secret service was in this city yesterday investigating the robbery, which has been kept secret until now by the postal authorities.

ON TO KHARTOUM.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—According to a despatch to the Daily Mail, from Cairo, six hundred British troops will take part in the advance of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition in the Soudan, which was postponed after the capture of Berber last September in order to avoid the hot season.

PYN-PECTORAL

Positively Cures

COUGHS AND COLDS

in a surprisingly short time. It's a scientific certainty, tried and true, soothing and healing in its effects.

W. C. McCORMACK & SON, Bouchette, Que., report in a letter that Pyn-Pectoral cured Mrs. C. Gareson of chronic cold in chest and bronchitis, and also cured W. G. McCormack of a long-standing cold.

Mr. J. H. HURRY, Chemist, 228 Yonge St., Toronto, writes: "As a general cough and lung remedy Pyn-Pectoral is a most invaluable preparation. It has given the utmost satisfaction to all who have tried it, many having spoken to me of the benefits derived from the use of their families. It is suitable for old or young, being pleasant to the taste. Its sale with me has been wonderful, and I can always recommend it as a safe and reliable cough medicine."

Large Bottle, 25 Cts.

DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., LTD. Sole Proprietors Montreal.

AN EVERYDAY HEROINE.

The Country Maiden, the Wicked Stage Company and the Tailor Made Girl.

Four reckless persons had clambered into the stage, an old man, a middle aged woman, a young man and a tailor made girl. At Fifth street a dress-maker's little girl struggled in with a huge box. Town life was evidently new to her. Her rosy cheeks announced country air to the least observing. She held her money in her hand.

Looking dubiously about, she finally spied the money box and dropped in the coin. After this she waited expectantly. Nothing occurred, however, and she began flushing and palling with nervous indecision. At last she resolutely stood up, attracted the driver's attention and called to him:

"How do I get my change? I put a quarter in the box," she asked.

"Yes oughter a-handed it up," said the man. "Yes can't get it now."

"But it's all I have," protested the girl.

"Get it off the new passengers," yelled the driver and turned away.

It was all the money she had, but how could she "get it off the new passengers?" Every one in the stage had become interested, but no one volunteered any advice. Two tears rolled down the rosy cheeks.

The stage stopped, and an old lady scrambled in. As she took out her money, a 5 cent piece, the tailor made girl leaned over to her.

"Will you give me that for this little girl?" she asked. "She dropped in a quarter by mistake, and the driver said the new passengers might make it up to her."

The old lady beamingly handed over the nickel. She felt that the stage company was being rigidly but justly dealt with at last.

Then a man got in. This was harder for the tailor made girl, but she made the request again and handed a second fare to the grateful young person from the country. The whole stageful was now interested watching for a new passenger as a spider watches for a fly. A woman vapored desperately from down a side street for the stage to wait for her, but the driver passed on unheeding and exclamations of disgust arose. Another corner, and another smartly dressed girl got in. The new arrival did not seem at first to understand the request, and, flushing, the tailor made girl repeated it and secured one more of the precious 5 cent pieces.

The little girl had reached her destination.

"I am so much obliged," she murmured to the heroic maiden who had been taking up fares in her behalf. "I ought to get out here, so I guess I'll let the other go."

"No, no, you must not," said the fair conductor, opening her purse. "Take this and I can get it from the next one who gets in."

"You are awfully good," murmured the unsuspicious little one with new tears in her eyes, and one of the men took the big box and handed it down to her when she had stepped out.

The stage rattled on and the tailor made girl looked unconcernedly out of the window. The next passenger was allowed to drop his fare unmolested into the box, unconscious of the little comedy that had brought the others together in a common interest for a moment, and the stage company was still ahead of the game.—New York Sun.

AN EVENING WITH DICKENS.

How the Great Author and His People Can Be Studied by Literary Clubs.

"For an evening with Dickens," advises Fannie Mack Lothrop, writing of "Evenings for Literary Clubs" in The Ladies' Home Journal. "One of the items of the programme might be a sketch of his life condensed into about 200 words. The Dickens drawings by Charles Dana Gibson might be cut from The Journal and hung up before the audience and the story of each character and incident illustrated told. The trial from 'Pickwick' could be arranged for individual reading or for a number to take part in it. A bright paper may be written on 'The People of Dickens World.' In Dickens' works there are 1,550 separate characters, enough to people a whole village.

"Some of Dickens' poems have been set to music—notably 'The Ivy Green'—and would make a pleasant feature. Anecdotes of Dickens might be given by ten or a dozen members, each giving one. These might be interspersed through the programme. A member with any cleverness in photography might make a series of Dickens' lantern slides from pictures in standard editions of the novelist's works and give a magic lantern entertainment. The death of Paul Dombey would make a pathetic reading from 'Dombey and Son.' Mrs. Jarley's waxworks, as described in 'The Old Curiosity Shop,' could be given with some of the members grouped as characters in the famous show and designated, as Little Nell did, with a pointer."

The "Gallery Gods."

The frequenters of the lofty gallery of any theater have a good deal to do with the making or marring of any new play. Yet that is not how they acquire their title of "gods." As a matter of fact, the origin of the expression is this: Years ago Drury Lane theater had its ceiling painted to resemble a blue sky with clouds, among which white Cupids were flying in every direction. This ceiling extended over the gallery, whose occupants thus appeared to be very near heaven. Hence the expression arose of "gallery gods."—London Answers.

All Quiet There.

"I'm glad to know," remarked Miss Cayenne, "that Mr. and Mrs. Jinkles are living far more happily than they were formerly."

"Indeed?"

"Yes I am informed that they have not spoken to each other for weeks."—London Tit-Bits.

NEW I. C. R. ENGINES.

The Montreal Journals have announced that the Government is going to supply the I. C. R. with engines which will haul 15 express cars at the rate of 50 and 60 miles an hour. There is no doubt that on a straight-away level roadbed, there are engines at the present time constructed that will easily make that time, but a practical locomotive engineer in conversation with The Transcript reporter last night said that the I. C. R., which for character of construction work is unexcelled in this hemisphere, nevertheless contains a number of very steep grades. The engineer in question cited an instance where two of the finest machines in the locomotives works here, running a train of twelve coaches on some of these grades, could make at the most only 38 miles an hour. These are the grounds that he bases his contention that if the new engines can make an average rate of 50 miles an hour over the whole I. C. R. route, it will certainly be surprising.—Transcript.

D-O-D-D-S

THE PECULIARITIES OF THIS WORLD.

No Name on Earth so Famous—No Name More Widely Imitated.

No name on earth, perhaps, is so well known, more peculiarly constructed or more widely imitated than the word DODD. It possesses a peculiarity that makes it stand out prominently and fastens it in the memory. It contains four letters, but only two letters of the alphabet. Everyone knows that the first kidney remedy ever patented or sold in pill form was named DODD'S. Their discovery startled the medical profession the world over, and revolutionized the treatment of kidney diseases.

No imitator has ever succeeded in constructing a name possessing the peculiarity of DODD, though they nearly all adopt names as similar as possible in sound and construction to this. Their foolishness prevents them realizing that attempts to imitate increase the fame of Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Why is the name "Dodd's Kidney Pills" imitated? As well ask why are diamonds and gold imitated. Because diamonds are the most precious gems, gold the most precious metal. Dodd's Kidney Pills are imitated because they are the most valuable medicine the world has ever known.

No medicine was ever named kidney pills till years of medical research gave Dodd's Kidney Pills to the world. No medicine ever cured Bright's disease except Dodd's Kidney Pills. No other medicine has cured as many cases of Rheumatism, Diabetes, Heart Disease, Lumbago, Dropsy, Female Weakness, and other kidney diseases as Dodd's Kidney Pills have. It is universally known that they have never failed to cure these diseases, hence they are so widely and shamelessly imitated.

Notice of Sale.

To Angus McEachran, of the Parish of St. Mary's, in the County of Kent, and Province of New Brunswick, "Farmer" and Isabella McEachran his wife, and to all others whom it doth or may concern:

Take notice that there will be sold at Public Auction in front of the "Bay View Hotel" in Buctouche, in the parish of Wellington, in the County of Kent and Province aforesaid, on SATURDAY, the FIFTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, next, at the hour of two o'clock in the afternoon, "All that certain piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Parish of St. Mary's, in the County of Kent and province aforesaid, and bounded and described as follows:—Beginning at a stake stading in the north west angle of the grant to Nicholas Seaman and others, and running westerly along the south line of the grant to Duncan Shaw and others, twenty-seven chains and fifty links to a stake standing at the north east angle of the grant to J. W. Weldon; thence south twenty-two degrees, east twenty-four chains and fifty links to a stake; thence north, eighty-two degrees and fifteen minutes east, twenty-seven chains and fifty links to the west line of the Seaman grant; thence northerly along the said line to the place of beginning, containing seventy-three acres more or less, being the north-east part of lot number seventy in the middle township "Monroe Survey," and being the same lot or parcel of land conveyed to the said Angus McEachran by Ebenezer Sherwood and Emma C. Sherwood his wife by deed dated the sixteenth day of September A. D., 1887, and recorded in the records of the said County of Kent in Libro G., No. 2, page 136, and numbered 18109 therein, the eighth day of February A. D., 1888, together with the buildings, improvements, privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or appertaining, and all the estate, right title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever, at law or in equity of them the said Angus McEachran and Isabella McEachran his wife, of, in and to the said lands and premises and every part and parcel thereof.

The above sale will be made under and by virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain indenture of mortgage made by the said Angus McEachran and Isabella McEachran his wife, of the one part, and the undersigned James Barnes of the said Parish of Wellington, in the County of Kent aforesaid, gentleman, of the other part, dated the twenty-second day of November A. D., 1894, and duly registered in the records of the said County of Kent, in Book M., No. 2, pages 686, 687 and 689, and numbered therein 31292, the fourth day of December A. D., 1894," default having been made in the payment of the monies secured in and by the said indenture of mortgage.

Dated the twenty-sixth day of November A. D., 1897.

H. H. JAMES, Mortgagee,
Solicitor for Mortgagee.

\$500⁰⁰ in GOLD!

20 PRIZES.

1st Prize	\$200. ⁰⁰	200. ⁰⁰
2nd Prize	\$100. ⁰⁰	100. ⁰⁰
3rd Prize	50. ⁰⁰	50. ⁰⁰
2 Prizes of	25. ⁰⁰ each	50. ⁰⁰
5 Prizes of	10. ⁰⁰ each	50. ⁰⁰
10 Prizes of	5. ⁰⁰ each	50. ⁰⁰

\$500⁰⁰

To the Twenty people who solve this Puzzle, if there are so many correct, we will give the above Prizes IN CASH.

SEND NO MONEY WITH YOUR ANSWER.

If more than Twenty should be correct, every correct one will (in addition to the Money Prizes) be awarded our famous "Faithful Timekeeper Silver Watch

F - - TH - UL.	A word her meaning "True to the Time"	The qualities of our Watch which are acknowledged to be the foremost in the English and American Markets.
F - R - M - ST	Our Proud position in the Watch Trade	
& END - R - - G	A word which here means they will last a life-time.	

As this wonderful offer is only made to advertise our far-famed Silver Watches, every Competitor must read the following conditions and comply with them.

1. Send your answer "International Post-Card" which can be bought at the post office (price 2 cents). There is no entrance fee or charge whatever.
2. In addition to the Cash Prizes, everyone who sends the correct answer will thereby win one of our "Faithful Timekeepers" Silver Watches which we sell in England for \$10 each, and could be sold retail in America for \$15 to \$28 each.
3. Every winner of the watch is required to purchase one of our SPLENDID VALUE inexpensive Solid Silver Albert Chains to wear with the Watch, as per our unprecedented offer which we will send. These Chains are Hall-marked on every link by the English Government. If the same Watch is required with Gold-filled case instead of Solid Silver, a Chain to match may, if desired, be chosen.
4. With our Watch and Chain you will receive our mammoth Catalogue quoting Wholesale Factory Prices for Jewellery, Plate, etc. The first prize will be given to the one who solves the Riddle, receives the Watch and Chain, and orders altogether the largest amount of Goods from the Catalogue; the Second Prize to the winner who orders the second largest amount and so on. If not more than twenty win and receive the Watch and Chain, and if these do not buy anything from the Catalogue, the whole of the prize money will be equally divided among them, giving \$25 each. All amounts in this advertisement are taken at the exchange of \$5 to £1.
5. A form will be sent free to you which must be filled up and forwarded to reach us by December 25th of all Goods ordered on account of these Prizes.
6. The names and addresses of the cash prize winners will be printed in the Times, Daily Telegraph and Standard, of London, on Dec. 31st next, and subsequently in the New York Herald. Drafts for the prizes will be posted same day.
7. Write your name and address in full every time you write to us to avoid mistakes.
8. Orders for these Prizes may be sent in separately from time to time, and you will be credited with the total of all when you send in the report from us above.
9. When sending Orders please remember that the letter postage to England is 5 cents per half ounce and if insufficient postage is used the letter is liable to go astray.

Send your answer at once! You are sure to win a prize if correct, while even if not correct it cost you nothing.

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A. W. KINNEY, Yarmouth, N. S.

NOTICE.

As all matters in connection with the estate of the late Henry O'Leary, of Richibucto, are now being wound up, all parties indebted to the said estate will settle their accounts at once, and all parties having claims against the estate must present the same, duly attested, to the undersigned executors, within three months from date.

Richibucto, N. B., 7th Dec., 1897.

R. O'LEARY,
WM. O'LEARY,
GEO. V. MCINERNEY, Executors.

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