

THIRD SECTION FREE TRADER-JOURNAL

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The Christmas Bird

QUESTED swan was the Christmas piece de resistance in Chaucer's day, but this dish gave place to the peacock, and the peacock in its turn was conquered by the turkey. When Capt. John Smith, fresh from his Virginia wars, came home to tell the amazed English folk of the bird that he saw parading the new world forests, "exactly like a proud Turk showing off before his harem."

When the peacock was in its glory it Christmased its plumage was generally restored to the roasted bird and its beak gilded. Sometimes the whole bird was covered with gold leaf and a drip of cotton, saturated with spirit, set alight in its beak—a relic possibly, with the English snapdragon and blazing pudding, of the fire worship of pagan days. A lady of noble birth and great beauty was always chosen to bear the bird into the banquetting hall. In the days of tournaments it was over the peacock that the knights, with uplifted swords, swore their oaths of

chivalry and valor. The last record of such fare seems to have been not upon a Christmas, but at the banquet given by the duke of Granada to the duke of Clarence, afterward William IV of England.

It must be admitted that golden peacocks and bears' heads have most alluring sounds to one with a jaded appetite, and the England of old, with its roistering carol singers, seems a most attractive land to have lived in. But the Englishman of today is more than well content to have his carols sung by a little cockney lad, to laugh at the pantomimes in his magnificently comfortable theaters and to feast at home on turkey, mince pie and the blazing pudding.

Ridicule and Rumor.
The chief difference between ridicule and genuine humor is that ridicule is cruel and humor is kind. Ridicule shows lack of understanding and consequent lack of tolerance. Humor, by means of understanding, becomes tolerant. The really great humorists are great humanitarians.—Exchange.

SOLDIERS THREE—ACROSS THE GERMAN PATH



—Ireland in Columbus Dispatch.

How the Mistletoe Came to Mean Kissing

We decorate our homes with sprays of mistletoe at Christmas time, but few of us know the history of it as a Yuletide symbol. Pretty girls are kissed under it and a great deal of fun and nonsense are carried on apropos of it, but no one stops to think of how ancient a decoration it is or how sacred it was once thought to be. The ancient Celts in their Druidical religion had two great festivals, one in June and the other in December, the latter being equivalent to our Christmas. In both of these great festivals the gathering of the mistletoe was a sacred rite.

The Druids believed that a potion prepared from mistletoe would increase their flocks and that the plant was a remedy against all poison. It was believed to be a curative for many ills, and this belief is still to be found in many remote places in Europe. In Lacause, France, for example, it is always administered by the party-dwellers as an antidote for poison.

In the northeast of Scotland people used to cut withes of mistletoe at the March full moon; these they bent in circles and kept for a year to cure hectic fevers and other troubles. In Sweden on midsummer eve mistletoe is diligently sought after, the people believing it to be possessed of many mystic qualities, and that if a sprig of it is attached to the ceiling of the dwelling house, the horse's stall or the cow's crib, the trolls will then be powerless to injure either man or beast.

Many German peasants also consider the mistletoe a powerful charm against evil spirits. A similar belief seems to have lingered among the Romans. When Aeneas descended into Hades he gathered, to protect himself from the infernal powers, a branch of mistletoe, which Vergil calls the golden bough.

The custom of kissing under the mistletoe goes back to the days when Thor and Odin and all the other gods of the Northland walked and talked with men. Baldur, the son of Odin and Frigga, the Apollo of Scandinavian mythology, the flaxen-haired god of sunshine and its attendant blessings, was loved by all earthly and heavenly beings save one—Loki, the god of earthly fire and its attendant evils.

How of all the things animate and inanimate in the world, except the sorry mistletoe, swore never to harm the sun god and how Loki slew Baldur with a branch of it, has been told with

WINS BRIDE ON SOUP RECORD

Cook in Ohio Regiment Finds Way to Soften Heart of Alabama Girl.

Montgomery, Ala.—Robert Fisher of Company C of Lima, Second Ohio Infantry, knows the way to a woman's heart. He met Miss Lillie Belle Sweatt of Greenville and won her hand upon proving to her that he was the best soup-maker in the Ohio guard. He proved his worth as a citizen by having the mayor of Lima and the chief of police of that city, as well, wire to the young lady that he was a regular fellow, and held down the position of second cook at the Manhattan hotel, Lima. He is at present second cook of Company C, and has promised his bride to save for her each day a portion of the soup made for the Lima soldiers at the camp.

OHIO GIRL REAL WAR BRIDE

Wedded to Trooper of Rainbow Division at Mineola, N. Y., Before 800 Soldiers.

Mineola, N. Y.—A real wartime wedding was solemnized at the camp of the rainbow division when Sergt. Walter Valentine of the 168th infantry, formerly the Fourth Ohio, was married to Miss Mary Winter of Delaware, Ohio, at an outdoor altar by Chaplain Duffy of the 163rd infantry. Sergeant Valentine and Miss Winter marched across the field, escorted by 800 soldiers of the Ohio regiment. The troops also escorted them to their automobile when they left camp on an 19-hour wedding trip.

beautiful poetic power by Matthew Arnold.

In conciliation, hoping to soothe the passionate sorrow of the mother, Frigga, she dedicated the mistletoe to her. And now sin and sorrow had hallowed it; for henceforth it was to grow, not as a symbol of bitterness and hatred, but as a sign of tenderness and love.

But the gods decreed that it was to stand for these things only so long as it touched not Loki's kingdom, the soil; and for this reason it is never seen growing on the ground and we ourselves always hang it high on the rafters or chandeliers. And now that it was the plant of love, the custom arose for enemies to become friends under the mistletoe; for lovers to pledge their truth beneath it; and for those who met there to kiss as a sign of affectionate friendship.

Try the Free Trader Journal Want-Ads for results.

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Swiss pure linen and silk, 25c, 35c, 50c and up.
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For women, of Eiderdown and beacon blanket at \$2.95, \$3.95, \$5, 6.50.
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For house wear—in Rose, Blue, Red, Pink, Tan, in the new corded empire style at \$5.00.
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Such as Embroidery Sets, Guest Bags, Safety Pin Holders, Dress Hangers, Sachet Bags, Pin Cushions, Dresser Ornaments, A splendid variety of dainty gifts at 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50.
- Leather Bags**
Special values in genuine Pin Seal Leather Bags, neatly lined, bags have reinforced frame with patent safety clasp, fitted with coin purse and mirror, special values at \$1.00 and \$1.45.
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Of silk crepe de chine, net lace and Georgette prettily trimmed with fine val lace and ribbons, one in a box, at 25c, 50c, 75c and \$1.00.
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A wonderful showing of georgette waists, all put up in holly boxes, at \$1.95, \$2.95, \$3.95, \$5.00, \$6.95 and up.
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For men or women at \$1.50, \$1.95, \$2.95, up to \$6.50.

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Come to Stanton's for Gifts for the Womenfolk

Furs for Christmas Gifts
Winter Coats for Christmas
Serge or Silk Dresses for Christmas

EXEMPTION BOARD BUSILY ENGAGED IN MAILING QUESTIONS

TASK DOES NOT END UNTIL JANUARY 3 — EVERY REGISTERED MAN WILL GET ONE OF THE PAMPHLETS—LIST OF CLASSIFICATIONS.

Rushed with work in getting their questionnaires mailed to draft eligibles, the local exemption board is keeping up with the government's plans for mailing five per cent of the total from day to day, until all the men registered on June 5 have received this very important document.

This practice will continue until January 3, so that every man who is not now in the service of his country will have received one of the official lists of questions. The task of mailing began Saturday and will be kept up until all the registrants have been supplied.

On the first page of the questionnaire is printed the warning: "You are required by law to return this questionnaire filled out in accordance with instructions contained therein within seven days from date of this notice. Failure to do so is a misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment for one year, and may result in the loss of valuable rights and in immediate induction into military service."

Five Classifications Made.
Five classifications are provided for in the questionnaire and that in which a registrant will be placed will rest with the manner in which he makes reply to the various questions asked. Although each registrant will mark the class under which he believes himself to be, the selection board of his district has the privilege of placing him in another should his replies indicate that he should be so placed.

The various divisions of class one are given as follows:

- A—Single men without dependent relatives.
 - B—Married men, with or without children, or father of motherless children, who has habitually failed to support his family.
 - C—Married men dependent on wife for support.
 - D—Married men, with or without children, or father of motherless children; man not usefully engaged, financially supported by income independent of his labor.
 - E—Unskilled farm laborer.
 - F—Unskilled industrial laborer.
 - G—Registrant by or in respect to whom no deferred classification is claimed or made.
 - H—Registrant who fails to submit questionnaire and in respect to whom no deferred classification is claimed or made.
 - I—All registrants not included in any other division of this schedule.
- Class Two.**
In class two are placed the following:
- A—Married men with children or

The Mother's Christmas Gift

It never comes to Christmas but I think about the times
We used to save our pennies and our nickels and our dimes,
And we bunched them all together,
Even little baby brother
Put in something for the present that we always gave to mother.

We began to talk about it very early in December,
'Twas a very serious matter to us children, I remember,
And we used to whisper nightly our suggestions to each other,
For by nothing cheap and tawdry could we show our love for mother.

Hers must be a gift of beauty, fit to symbolize her ways;
It must represent the sweetness and the love that marked her days.
It must be the best our money, all combined, had power to buy,
And be something that she longed for; nothing else would satisfy.

Then it mattered not the token, once the purchase had been made.
It was smuggled home and hidden and with other treasures laid,
And we placed our present proudly in her lap on Christmas day,
And we smothered her with kisses and we laughed her tears away.

It never comes to Christmas but I think about the times
We used to save our pennies and our nickels and our dimes,
And the only folks I envy are the sisters and the brothers
Who still have the precious privilege of buying for their mothers.

—American Boy.

Here's a Merry Christmas Game

THE old English game of tip requires the use of enough assorted Christmas candles, nuts, raisins and other dainties to make a small pile upon a table, also a pair of sugar tongs. One of the party is chosen, who must retire to another room, while the remaining players decide upon one of the dainties in the pile to be known as "tip." The chosen person is then recalled and with the tongs removes pieces from the pile, trying to avoid the piece named Tip, of which, however, he does not know the location. All pieces removed belong to him unless he moves "tip," when all must be returned to the pile and the turn passes to the next player, who retires to the other room while another "tip" is named. A player may pass his turn when, after drawing several pieces, he wants to avoid the possibility of losing them through drawing "tip." The game continues until the pile disappears.

YULETIDE SPIRIT PREVAILS IN CITY AS HOLIDAYS NEAR

BIRTHPLACE OF DISCIPLE OF PEACE WILL BE IMPRESSIVELY CELEBRATED IN OTTAWA'S OF DIVINE WORSHIP.

Christmas services in the Ottawa churches this year will be very impressive. The majority of the houses of worship in the city will hold programs Christmas morning, but many will hold their special services on the Sunday before Christmas day.

Choirs have been training for weeks for this special occasion and the selections have been chosen with a great deal of consideration and thought on the part of the leaders, or the chairmen of the special service committees.

Below are the programs for the special services in the Ottawa churches:

Christ Episcopal Church.
Celebration of the Holy Communion Christmas morning at 8 o'clock. Morning prayer and celebration of Holy Communion at 10:30. The following program of music will be sung at the services at 10:30:
Processional hymn.
Vente.
Te Deum (Buck).
Hymn.
Introit—Plain song.
Anthem, "The Lord is My Strength" (Thayer).
Tris Agion.
Sung Gloria.
Gloria in Excelsis.
Nine Penitents.
Recessional hymn.
Strangers are cordially invited to these services.

First Methodist Church.
Christmas services at the First Methodist church will be held Sunday evening at 7:30. The program for the special service follows:
Opening voluntary.
Song, "America"—Congregation.
Song, "While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks"—School.
Prayer—Rev. Briggs.
Announcements.
Collection.
Giving of gifts for orphanage.
Song—Mary Helen Kile.
Anthem—Choir.
Reading—Mrs. Hatheway.
Solo—Miss Vera Ham.
Song—Primary class.
Solo—Mr. Heim.
Reading—Miss Lillian Pike.
Solo—Miss Hinchaugh.
Song—Primary class.
Solo—Rev. Briggs.
"Star Spangled Banner"—Congregation.

First Congregational Church.
Sunday morning the choir of the Congregational church will give the Christmas cantata, "Bethlehem," by Paul Bliss. Miss Gladys Elliott will assist. Following is the program:
Organ prelude.
Processional.
Invocation and Lord's Prayer.
Chorus, "Hark! the Glad Sound."

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