

Earth's Lenten vigil, drear and from is past-her pain and penance sore, And now Easter giories gleam, From mountain crest to wood and

stream. rments of joyful praise are bers. While from her forest sepulchers Myriads of fair creations rise Exuitant 'neath the cloudless skies. Yet Winter's syramy again Shall bind her in its thrall and chain. One thing, for aye, endures alway, God's Love that gave the Easter Day.

Today, beautiful flowers will hang in graceful garlands about solemn church chancels; somber altars will be bright with lillies and roses; white baptismal fonts will be decked with carnations and violets; the gloom of the grave will be dispelled with joyous bloesoms; around pulpits, from which will be told the glories of a risen Savior, will be placed the emblems of the resurrection, and the very air of cathedral, church and chapel will be laden with the sweet incense of Nature, distilled through the sunshine, the rain and the dow. For this is joyous Easter day, the fostival of beautiful flowers and bright music, and the glory of the Christian year. It is the day when Nature smiles and the heart of all mankind is glad. It is the day when the spirit of content comes down and gives its blessing to whoever comes seeking it. It is the day when great organs peal forth passars to the glory of God and when the Holy Split descends, even where there is neither flower nor

This is Easter morn, and the divine voice speaks through the bright sunchine, the beautiful flowers and the joyoue notes of the birds: "I am the Resurrection and the Life," and, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be

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Easter is the festival of flowers. Easter is the festival of flowers. For the past week Portland has been filled with them. The florists' windows have been bowers of beau-ty. Lillies predominate, but Oregon rosce, carnations, hyacinths and tulips have added their wealth of fragrance and bloom. Their pres-cess today will make the churches ence today will make the churches fairyland, and the sermon they preach, though mute and wordle will supplement many a story of the

Origin of Easter.

Hasten, O Son of Mary; 'tis thy resur-

stone away! Surely the Christ doth loiter; Appear:

Prophet, Messiah and Tencher revealed

the central fact of the revealed religion of Christianity, has always, been regarded as the greatest feslival of the Christian year, and has been, from the earliest times, observed with a stately and claborate ceremonial. There is no trace of the celebration of Easter as a Christian fertival in the New Testament, or in the writings of the Apostolic fathers. The sanctity of special times or places was an idea quite

tical historian Socrates, said neither Christ nor his apostles en-joined the keeping of this, or any other, fortival. He attributed the introduction of the festival of Easter into the church as a perpetua-tion of the old usage, "just as tion of the old usage. Just as many other customs were estab-lished." The first Christians, inti-mately connected with the Jewish church, naturally continued to ob-cerve the Jewish festivals, though in a new spirit, as commemorations of events of which these had been shadows. The Passover, enno the bled by the thought of Chr.et, the true Paschal Lamb, the first fruits from the dead, continued to be celebrated and became the Christian Easter. Thus the human instinct which everywhere craves for the commemoration of marked epochs in the personal, social, ecclesiantical or national life, found its legitimate





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by the Saxons, continued to be cele-

cervances as could not be roded out, and, in this case, the conversion was particularly easy. Joy at the rising sun and at the awakening of Nature from the death of Win-

ter became joy at the rising of the Sun of Righteousness-at the resur-

And All Hearts Are Glad.

rection of Christ from the grave.

That might add to the attraction

Of the bendgear rich and fine; It would double all the envy And would emphasize the style, And add to all the triumph

Of the journey down the aisle, If, when she duttered softly

In the very foremost seat And had listened to the whispered "Oh!" and "Ah!" and "Atn sweet"

Could by some means touch a spring. Or if that were too unhandy, Skyly pell a hidden string. And thus cause to bob up cally From her bonnet a neat sign.

Signs of the end of the dull peni-

Then the lady with the bonnet

Paris Importation.

Costing \$50.99.

Lending:

This is mercly a suggestion In the Easter bound line

tential Lenten period have been very much in evidence all the week, Easter is universal. From the time the memory of the o's st inhibitant runneth not, every wilman who did not have a new hat and an entirely new costume for Easter Sunday was miserable. This custom has been growing in popularity, as the years go by, with the women, and the shope and stores cater to this custom to such an extent that the Easter openings in millinery and dry goods establishments are the Easter millinery this year is prettler than usual, and, in Portland come beautiful displays have been noticed during the past week. The windows of the most prominent windows of the mast prominent stores are very benutiful, and on fine days throngs of women have pacsed in front of and admired them. Not all of this throng, however, were mirely "lookers-on in Vienna," for be it said with pride that there are few, very few, women in Portland who will not have new Paster rise for their heads have new Easter rigs for their heads this Easter. Since the Spring goods have been placed on sale, the merchants have enjoyed an increase in trade of about 321-3 per cent. It costs money to celebrate the resur-rection of the Savior in the regulation way. But this brings joy-joy to the milliner, to the merchant and to the dressmaker, and perhaps joy to the woman who did the Easter weakness, if weakness it be, of desiring new things for Easter is not confined to the fair eex; many men-in fact, most men-are not abave the vanity of longing for new of this god, introduced into England clothes on this day, when all Na-ture is in holiday attire. In men'a braidd in many parts of the North of Germany down to the beginning of the 19th century, by the kinding furnishing goods and sultings, many handsome and attractive patterns are offered, and the haberdashers' of bonfires and many other rites. L'he the May observances of Eng-land, it is especially a fostival of shops display ties, vests and hore that are really temptations to all men who possess, in any degree, a love for the beautiful. joy. With her usual policy, the Church endeavored to give a Chris-tian significance to such of the ob-

priest and sonorous Latin and swinging censors could make them ot that the Christ who rose from the dead rose for them.

The procession of gally dressed people on their way to the churches will begin early today. Early mass will bring out many, and, until night, if the weather be fine, the streets will be thronged with peo-All the churches will be filled with worshipers, and the cometerles will be visited and the graves of the dead decked with flowers.

Many Curtous Customs.

re altars cloquent with bloom, ats crowned with garlands of perfurnie,

mellow chime, the tuneful bell, The deep-toned organ's rhythmic swell, The load and pempous pasan's praise, And softer strains of infant lays. Our solemn thankfulness upbear.--Yet eager feet of cark and care Too soon shall bring the world's alloy To mar our holy Easter joy. Unchanging and unchanged doth stay The Love that gave us Easter day.

Perhaps it is well that all the customs of glad Easter Day are not religious. It may be better for the happiness of humanity that some of them are of pagan origin. But whatever may be their origin, many of them are quaint and pret-



eat cold boiled opportunity to eggs, and there is nothing they like better, not even excepting water-meions and baked 'possum. The boy who owns a gooso egg, or a turkey egg, is a prince among his fellows. It is true his shoes may be run down at the heels; his cothes may be old and ragged, and his face and hands are sure to be dirts, but he smidd he approximate dirty, but he could be no prouder. nor could he command more re-spect, if he were adorned in regal

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Given Over to Revelry.

In some parts of the East, and particularly in the South, among the lower classes, Easter is a day given over to revelry and Bacchanalian pursuits. In some of the smaller towns and country places, expeditions are gotten up to popular resorts, and the day means a big debauch. Just what significance this has with reference to the resurrection of the Savior no one has been able to determine.

Among these same classes in some of the Southern states-in all of them where the climate will permit its adoption-Easter Sunday is the day set apart for the children to begin to go harafooted for the Summer, regardless of the condi-tions of the weather. This rule applies when Easter comes on the ides of March, with the same force as it does when the day falls late in April. The children begin to wear shoes for the Winter on Christmas Day, and the footgear must last until Easter. Unfortu-nate children with whom this rule is enforced are only allowed one pair of shoes each season. By Easter the shoes are generally so well worn out that the little fellows are glad to get rid of them.

Spring Brew of Bock Beer.

- In the Spring the purple lapwing takes unto himself a mate: In the Spring the land abounds with the festive candidate:
- In the Spring the dread housecleaning fills the manly breast with fear;
- In the Soring the young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of beer. -Not by Alfred Tennyson.

More people than would care to plead guilty look forward to Easter because, just at this season, the Spring brow of bock beer is announced. This is one of the mysteries. Just why bock beer is preferable to pule ale in the Springtime, and light beer is considered better than the heavy article later in the season, when the heated term is on, cannot easily be explained. But it is the custom, and unless Easter comes very early, the day, or rather the season, is celebrated in most saloons and brewerles by advent of a fresh brew of heavy

bock. It can be said that among the worldly things that are "given up during the penitential Lenten sea-son, the habit of taking a drink is one of them. Of course, the habitual drunkard does not keep Lent. or anything else, but many men who occasionally take a drink in saloons deny themselves this luxury during the season preceding Easter.





Easter is a movable feast. It comer on the Sunday following the 14th day of the calendar moon which falls upon or next after March 21. The returns of the anniversary are calculated by the cal-endar of Judea, in which the months were coterminus with the revolutions of the moon. A mean lumation being, roughly, 2% days long, a lunar year falls short of a solar year about 11 days. Any anniversary regulated by such a calendar as this is necessarily movable. In order to find the time for Easter, it is necessary to calculate the exact time of the new moon in that year for March and try whether the lith day of that moon would fail not earlier than the flat day. In which case the Sunday following is Easter, Should this 14th day come earlier than the 21st, the conclusion is reached that the new moon in April must be taken.

Caused Division in Church.

Christ the Lord is risen today, Sons of men and angels say: Raise your joys and triumphs high, Sing, ye heavens; and earth reply.

The proper time for the celebration of Easter has occasioned na little controversy. In the second century, a dispute arose on this point between the Eastern and Western churches. The great mass of the Eastern Christians celebrated Easter on the 14th day of the first Jewish mton, and the Western churches kept it on the Sunday fol-lowing. The Council of Nice (325 A. D.) decided in favor of the Western usage, branding the Eastern usage as heresy. This only settled the point that Easter was to be celepoint that Easter and brated on Sunday. Many of the popular observances connected with Easter are of pagan connected with Easter are of pagan

origin, and are tracsable to the feast of the Saxon god "Eastre," that being the Anglo-Saxon name of the Easter month, April. The worship

In Portland.

Hasten, O Son of Mary; 'tis thy resurrection day; Scatter Death's key fetters, and roll the

scatter Deams step jetters, and roll the stone away: Surely the Christ doth loiter; Appear: for I long to see Prophet, Messiah and Teacher revealed to the world in Thee.

Everybody in Portland will celebrate the festival of Easter today, although they will not do it in the same way. A great many people will go to church. Some will go who have not darkened the door of a sanctuary since last Easter, and some who only attend services on feast days. The Easter music is the pretticst of the whole year, and many will attend the morning services' to listen to the magnificent music that will be rendered at some of the churches. Some will go to show their new bonnets; others will go to see the hats of their friends and of those who are not their friends. Some will be there from a deep sense of religious duty. To them the grand music of the "Gloria in Excelsis" and "Kyrle Eleison" has a meaning. And to these, religion is reni and not even all these stately observances of

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ty, and are as dear to the hearts of children as the legends of Santa Claus. Just how long the idea of gally colored eggs and funny little rabbits has been associated with Easter, no one knows: perhaps no one cares. But the custom is almost universal in civilized countries to bestow gifts of this kind on children.

Egg-Rolling.

In some cities of the United States the children have egg-rollings on Easter morning. At the capital city of the Nation, from almost time immemorial, the children have gathered at the White House and have taken possession of the lawn of the President's mansion and devoted the entire day to the sport. It is one of the April sights of the capital. Of late years the time for this custom has been changed to the day after Easter. The schools are closed, and practically the entire city turns out. It is a holiday throng such as is seen nowhere else. Thousands of children of all ages, some attended by nurses, and each carrying a basket of bright-colored eggs, appear on the scine early in the morning and spend the day there. Many of them bring lunches with them, and they are allowed to eat it on the grounds. They climb up on the higher ground, roll their fancy colored eggs down the grassy slopes toward the broad waters of the Po-tomae, and gleefully go chasing after them. Just outside the grounds, on the edge of the sidewalks, are quaint old darkies, old black mammiss, with red bandanas on their heads, curious donkey carts and venders of lemonade and ginger cakes. Kids Crack Eggs.

many places-in fact, in all In places-the children are not content to roll eggs down grassy inclines. They eat them, and go in for winning the other children's eggs. They roll eggs together, and the owner of the hardest-shelled egg captures the broken one. Boys sometimes obtain porcelain eggs, so deftig manufactured and so well colored as to be difficult to detect from the real thing, and practice a fraud on all the other children in the neighborhood.

This game is particularly well liked by the colored children of the Southern States, as it gives them



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