



### INDOOR CHRISTMAS GAMES.

How the Young Folks May Find Pleasure if the Day Be Stormy.

Parlor games like chess, draughts, dominoes, etc., are too heavy for Christmas. The boys and girls want more rollicking, hip-hip-hurray games. A committee appointed to provide desirable amusement for a well-known charity in New York selected the following program. Ten hours were spent in selecting appropriate indoor games and pastimes, and even then no more than were actually needed were decided upon, says the New York Mail and Express. If the children can get out of doors their amusement is easy, for baseball, leap frog, hide and seek, and other games suffice, but indoors something akin to these games is wanted.

In this class is a game known as "The Country Circus." It consists in making riders, tumblers, clowns, strong men, etc., of all the children and with this improvised company giving a performance. Another good game for the house is called "Jack-of-All-Trades," in which those engaged must perform some work in the particular trade to which they are assigned by the foreman. In this game on Thanksgiving the boys and girls of an institution in Jersey cut and sewed a lot of carpet rags, made a lot of brushes, and split and bundled several cords of wood.

"The Boy Hunters," in which the children learn the names, habits, and peculiarities of the entire animal kingdom, is another good game, and "Robinson Crusoe" one of the same kind and value. All these games are active ones, require constant movement, and are meant only for the daylight. For the evening, games less boisterous must be chosen. In this class are "Anagrams," "Authors," "History of Our Times," and shadow pantomimes. The last named, however, are the most popular and enjoyable and have so increased in favor that books written especially to show how to prepare and perform them can be had at any well-stocked book store.

A Financial Transaction. "Say, mister," said a boy who had just overtaken a market wagon after pursuing it for four or five blocks, "do you



Come, old year, 'tis time to go. Age, perhaps, has made you slow. But your time of rule has flown And I come to claim my own.

You are popular no more. All your triumphs here are gone. With what strength is left to you, Had you better hasten on.

Learning from experience. I have promised much, like you. When another year has flown People will condemn me, too.

But what matters that to us? Years, like men, must come and go. We are fast with promises, With fulfillments we are slow.

A Race Track Fiasco Cured. The following story is told by one who for years was an inveterate bettor on horses: "It was Christmas eve. My 4-year-old steed by my knee in his 'lighty' just before being tucked in his crib, and in his infantile manner was praying to Santa Claus to bring him the treasure upon which he had fixed his heart. When he had finished I asked the master of the house what should old-Santa Claus bring papa? He bowed his little head on my



Father calls me William, sister calls me Will. Mother calls me Willie—but the fellows call me Bill! Mighty glad I ain't a girl—ruther be a boy Without them ashes, curls and things that's worn by faintlings! Love to chawnk green apples an' go swimmin' in the lake— Hate to take the castor-olie they give fr' belly-ache!

Most all the time the hull year roun' their ain't no flies on me. But jes' fore Christmas I'm as good as I kin be!

Got a yaller dog named Sport—sick 'im on the cat; Fust thing she knows she doesn't know where she is at!

Got a clipper-ade, an' when us boys goes out to sildie 'Long comes the grocery cart an' we all hook a ride! But, sometimes, when the grocery man is worried and cross, He reaches at me with his whip and larrups up his boss; An' then I lift and boiler: "Oh, you never teched me!" But jes' fore Christmas I'm as good as I kin be!

Gran'ma says she hopes that when I get to be a man I'll be a misioner like her olde's brother Dan. As we sit up by the cannibals that lives in Cayton's vale, Where every prospect pleases an' only man is vile! But gran'ma she had never been to see a Wild West show. Or read the life of Daniel Boone, or else I guess she'd know

That Buffalo Bill an' cowboys is good enough for me. Except jes' fore Christmas, when I'm good as I kin be!

Then of Sport he hangs around, so solum like an' still— His eyes they seem a sayin': "What's er matter, little Bill?" The cat she sneaks down off her perch, a wonderin' what's become of her. Uv them two enemies uv hern that use ter make things hum!

But I am so pertice and stick so earnestlike fr' pie again! That mother set to father: "How improved our Willie is!" But father, havin' been a boy himself, suspecions me. When, jes' fore Christmas, I'm as good as I kin be!

For Christmas, with its lots an' lots uv candies, cakes and toys, Wuz made, they say, fr' proper kids, and not fr' naughty boys! So wuz jes' face, and bresh yer hair, an' mis' yer p's and q's.

An' don't bust out yer pantaloons, an' don't wear out your shoes; Say yessum to the ladies, an' yessir to the men. An' when they's company don't pass yer plate fr' pie again! But, thinkin' uv the things you'd like to see upon that tree. Jes' fore Christmas be as good as you kin be! —Eugene Field, in Ladies' Home Journal.

A Christmas Entertainment. A novel idea for a children's Christmas entertainment is a butterfly's ball, writes Elizabeth Robinson Seovil, in the Ladies' Home Journal. This need not mean late hours nor expensive dresses. The boys wear tight-fitting suits of black or dark-brown, the girls any pretty, fanciful dresses. The framework of the wings is deftly fashioned of wire and covered with paper or the cotton crepon that comes in such vivid colors; these are spangled with gold or painted to represent the tinting of the butterfly's wings. A light ske of wire is constructed to fit the shoulders, fastening under the arms, and to the wings are attached. The effect is very brilliant and graceful. Another pretty fancy is an archery fete. The children carry small bows dressed with flowers, and sheafs of arrows in flower-bedeked quivers.

"You haven't got \$5 about you, Jones?" "No, I haven't. Wife borrowed the last to buy my Christmas present." —Atlanta Constitution.

### IN NORTHWEST STATES

Interesting News Notes From Various Places.

#### OUR HORSE MEAT IN EUROPE

Whitcomb to Have a New Salmon Cannery—Wheat Held for Lower Transportation Rates. Washington.

The taxpayers of Waitsburg have decided to bond the city for the sum of \$6,500.

Samples of fir and cedar blocks for street paving have been sent from Seattle to Leicester, England.

The city council of Spokane passed the \$350,000 bonding ordinance over the mayor's veto, by a vote of 10 to 1.

Another revenue cutter is soon to be built on the Pacific coast, and Everett is to be an active bidder for its construction. It claims to have the best plant north of San Francisco.

The Great Trust Union, as the Central Lumber Company, of San Francisco, is growing stronger every day. The combine now represents \$75,000,000. The Northwest mills represent 3,520,000 feet per day.

The Port Blakely mill will ship 105,000,000 feet of lumber; the largest one-year cut made by any mill in the world. It is estimated that about 150,000,000 feet of lumber has been cut on the Columbia and its tributaries this year.

The report of the directors of the state prison, at Walla Walla, shows that the past year the jute has been a source of profit to the state. The entire output for 1894 was 2,000,000 bags. This year, however, 1,000,000 bags were manufactured, only one-half of which were sold.

There is fully 80 per cent of the wheat in the vicinity of Dayton that is being held by the owners for lower transportation rates. The decision of the contest of the farmers against the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company before the interstate commerce commission, is soon expected.

The fortieth anniversary has just been held at Franchtown, of the four days fight between the whites and the Indians of the Walla Walla valley, it being the site of the battle ground. Twelve Indian war veterans who participated in the fight and a large number of citizens were present.

Another large salmon cannery is to be erected about three miles from Whatcom. It is reported also that a Victoria capitalist will erect a cannery near the same place. This makes five new canneries located in the lower Sound country in the last three months, all of them to be built by British capital.

Oregon. The new map of Josephine county has just been completed.

The gross valuation of Harney county is placed at \$1,736,948.

A new flume will be built across Lost river, near Merrill, which will make it possible to irrigate 1,000 acres of land, not now covered by any ditch.

Among the deaths of well-known citizens are Dr. T. J. Sites, Dallas, Or., a pioneer of that valley; and B. R. Daniel, a pioneer of Tillamook county.

An Astoria contractor has secured the work of constructing the canal which will connect Codar creek and Bear creek. The canal will be 700 feet long.

The game season is now through; the only up land game in the market being California quail. Later there will probably be Eastern bobwhite quail coming in as usual.

Klamath Falls claims the honor of being further removed from a railroad than any new town in the Union, which can lay claim to a thorough system of electric lights and water works.

The largest acreage of fall grain ever sown in Morrow county has been put in this year, and it is expected that next season the wheat shipment from that district will be the largest in its history.

The Grand Ronde Telephone Company has connected its wires with Joseph. Places are being put up on the Summerville branch which will complete the system of a communion through La Grande, Island City, Imbler, Summerville, Elgin, Wallowa and Enterprise to Joseph.

A representative of the horse packing company has just returned from Europe, and reports that the chances for selling American horse meat in Europe are not very favorable. Only the choicest pieces, like the hams, can be shipped at all. Large quantities of horse meat are sold in the cities on the continent at about one-third the price of beef. The main necessity for the growth of the business in this state is a lower rate for transportation.

Roseland now occupies. There are now 3,000 people there, the town has electric lights, a telephone system and water works are being put in. Roseland is in the Trail Creek district, about eight miles from the boundary line. Three-fourths of the mining interests there are held by residents of Spokane.

An official report received at the treasury department states that by actual count 28,000 seals died of starvation on the Pribyloff islands last summer because their mothers had been killed at sea, and that fully 5,000 more were on the islands in a starving condition and would die before the season closed. It is estimated that with this rate of loss, the seals of Behring sea will have become extinct within the next three or four years at the farthest.

Idaho. There are now in the insane asylum 152 people, fifty-six of whom are women.

The promoter of the Montana, Idaho and California railroad has gone East. He says that engineers will soon be upon the ground to locate the line from Boise to camp Lion.

Preparations for setting out orchards and clearing land for the townsite of Plymouth, in the Payette valley, are being rapidly pushed. Great improvements are contemplated during the coming year.

Montana. A two story brick will soon be erected for the Soldiers Home at Helena. It will cost \$10,000.

A New York capitalist will erect a handsome three story building block at Billings, in the spring.

Billings contemplate a proposed system of sewerage which is estimated will cost about \$85,000.

The machinery has been purchased for a complete flouring mill at Butte, with a capacity of seventy-five barrels per day.

The people of Billings, Livingston, and the counties of Custer and Yellowstone are agitating the opening of a portion of the Crow reservation by an act of congress this session.

SEATTLE TIDELANDS. The Board Will Begin Hearing Contests Next Month.

Olympia, Dec. 13.—Immediately after January 1 next, the state board of land commissioners will proceed with hearing the contests for tidelands in front of Seattle. The appeal from the appraisement of the local board to the supreme court has had the effect of deferring such hearings. The time within which a motion for a rehearing of this matter by the supreme court can be made expires about the end of the month, when the commission will be free to proceed. Few, if any, outside of those connected with the state land office have any conception of the magnitude of the undertaking of hearing and determining the contests. There are 800 applications, of which 790 conflict. An application conflicts in some instances with several hundred others, one conflicting with over 400 others. The time which may be consumed in the ultimate determination of the whole matter may be indicated when one follows the results of a blanket application. When such an application has been made, the conflicts must be innumerable. The appeal in such a case may be taken from court to court, with the result of indefinitely delaying final action by the state land commission.

The Business Unprofitable. San Francisco, Dec. 13.—The Grangers' bank of California, one of the oldest commercial banks in this city, is about to go into liquidation. Its action is entirely voluntary, and only awaits the ratification of the stockholders. Albert Mountpentz, cashier, stated that the cause of the bank's re-arrangement was the unprofitable condition of the farming interests of California during the last few years. This being purely a farmers' bank, interested in making loans to wheatraisers and others and receiving their deposits, the condition of the bank was a good barometer of how those interests have fared. The depositors of the bank will be paid in full, and any loss will fall on the stockholders. The paid-up capital of the bank is \$1,000,000. The deposits aggregate \$218,000. H. M. Larue, president of the California railroad commission, is president of the bank.

TO DEPOSE THE SULTAN. Rumored Conspiracy of Armenian and Turkish Officials. Constantinople, Dec. 13.—Rumors which have appeared foundation in fact are current here of a wholesale conspiracy which may have for its object the deposition of the sultan. It is known a number of prominent Armenians here and several military officers of high rank in the Turkish army and navy have been closely watched for months past, but in spite of this they have succeeded in escaping from the country.

That the conspiracy was of a most important nature may be judged from the fact that among the fugitives is the sultan's aid-de-camp, Hassan Djemi Pasha, who, it is believed, was to have led the disaffected of the imperial guards into the palace and seize the sultan.

Hot-Headed Bolivians. New York, Dec. 13.—A special to the Herald from Buenos Ayres says: The secretary of the Bolivian legation has sent his second to the Bolivian minister at this capital. It is not believed a duel will result. Foreign Minister Alvarata will request their government to recall them. The difficulty is the outcome of a charge made by the Bolivian minister that the secretary had stolen official documents and sold them to Chile.



Listen to the Christmas bells, While all the world is praying, They are pealing, swelling, telling, And this is what the bells are saying:

We are the voices of Vedas and sagas, We are the tongues of prophet and priest; We are the lips of the glibest sleepers, Who dreamed of a star in the purple east, and by the gates of the mystical morn, When the Christ was born.

We are the prayers of the wandering Magi, On Syrian deserts all level and lone; We are the choros of Judean Shepherds; We are the notes that from Heaven were blown From the golden throat of an Angel's horn, When the Christ was born.

We are the teardrops of grief and of sorrow, We are the echoes of yesterday's pains; We are the jubilant voice of tomorrow— Let us peal on Earth; let thy good will reign, So our lips break silence on Christmas morn, When the Christ is born.



Johnny's Woe. Curly-headed Johnny had a tear drop in his eye. Curly-headed Johnny couldn't speak without a sigh. And the Christmas preparations that were 'round him every where Had not the least effect upon his melancholy air. "Oh, what's the use of hanging up my stocking," he would say; "There's nothing to look forward to for me on Christmas day. He'll scratch us off his program when he hitches up his team. For Santa needs a replace, and they heat our fat by steam." —Washington Star.

A Christmas Church Idea. If the platform of a church or Sunday school room be deep enough to admit of it an artistic Christmas arch can easily be made by an amateur carpenter, writes Florence Wilson, in the Ladies' Home Journal. The upper part should have wires stretched across, to which may be fastened small hemlock boughs, thus forming a solid mass of green. The framework should, of course, be wound with evergreen, the whole placed about two feet from the wall, so that behind it may be hung the Christmas bells of red and yellow immortelles at different lengths by ropes of evergreen. These bells may be made to hang at different angles by using fine picture-wire. Let each bell be worded, so that they may seem to ring out their own song of "Glory to God in the highest."

For a Sunday school festival, a post-office where each child upon inquiring might find an envelope addressed and sealed, containing a pretty Christmas card, is a unique feature. Then there is the huge snowball made of cotton, besprinkled with diamond dust and filled with gifts for the infant class, which may be rolled through the window with an appropriate letter from Santa Claus.

Now comes the glad New Year; Though fate may do her worst, She cannot blot that legend clear: "All bills due on the first!" —Atlanta Constitution.

"Both men stood at attention." "Sonny," said the market man, in a voice that was remarkably husky, "here's yer 50 cents. I'm in a hurry now—you needn't bother about deliverin' the goods. We'll call it square." —Washington Star.

I will remember the poor if I have to make a memorandum to that effect every morning.

Capital scrapbooks can be made by children. Old railway guides may be the foundation and every illustrated paper a magazine of art. A paste box, next to a paint box, is a most serviceable toy. Looking horses and other animals can be made to go through any amount of paces. But mechanical toys are more amusing to his elders than to the child, who wishes to do his own mechanism. A boy can be amused by turning him out of the house, giving him a ball or a kite, or taking him into the ground for the happy mole. Little girls, who must be kept in a rainy day, or invalid children, are very hard to amuse, and recourse must be had to story telling, to the dear, delightful thousand and one books now written for children, of which "Alice in Wonderland" is the flower of perfection.

At the terminus of the line is a rude shanty and a soldier operator. Close by the shanty are tents of the soldiers, who are setting the poles and pushing the line along until the fort shall have electric communication with the outside world. It is December now—only two days to Christmas. There have been cold rains, snow storms, severe weather, and the soldiers are wondering why they have not been ordered back to the fort for the winter, when a mounted messenger arrives over the trail bearing the expected order. The Colonel's wife has gone East. The operator is to wire her to remain where she is until spring. When her answer is received the shanty is to be closed up, camp broken, and the party headed for the fort. The afternoon wears away, the night comes down, and some of the soldiers are asleep, when Benton City sends in its call, and follows it by a telegram reading: "The Colonel's wife started West four days ago, and ought to be there or at the fort now."

Next morning there was an arrival from the South. The Colonel's wife, riding a horse with a blanket for a shawl, dismounted at the front of the shanty, and opened the door with a cheery "Howdy do, boys!" to the operator and the Sergeant. As both men stood at "attention," she removed the hood and cloak which enveloped her, shook off the snow, and said to the Sergeant: "I came through with hardly an hour's rest, and I'm hungry as a wolf. Tell some of the men to cook something. I'll give the Colonel a surprise."

SANTA CLAUS is the children's friend. Who he was we have little means of knowing. Authentic history is almost silent on the subject, merely stating that he was the Bishop of Myra, in Lycia, and died about the year 820. Tradition has woven many a pretty tale about him, and one runs that he appeared in the night time and secretly made valuable presents to the children of the household. What manner of person St. Nicholas was, seems subject to variation, according to the time, place or manner of regarding him. Medieval painters represent him as slender, and clad in full sacerdotal robes with mitre and crozier. Modern painters and storytellers in England, Germany and America, give us a jovial, rubicund type of a man, with none of the features of the cleric. Kris Kringle is regarded as an alternative name for Santa Claus, but he is a totally different being. Kris Kringle is simply a corruption of the German word "Christ Kindeln," or Christ Child.

Christmas is children's day; it is the day when, as Dickens says, we should remember the time when its great founder was a child himself. It is especially the day for the friends of the children, in hospitals, the lame, the sick, the weary, the blind. No child should be left alone on Christmas day, for loneliness with children means brooding. A child growing up with no child friend is not a child at all, but a premature man or woman.

The best Christmas present to a boy is a box of tools, the best to a girl any number of dolls. When they get older and can write letters a postoffice box is a delightful boon. These are to be fought, but they are far more amusing if made at home. Any good-sized cardboard box will do for this purpose. The lid should be fastened to it so that when it stands up it will open like a door. A slit must be cut out about an inch wide and from five to six inches long, so as to allow the postage of small parcels, yet not large enough even to admit the smallest hand. Children should learn to respect the inviolate character of the post from the earliest age.

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