

THE HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE chill air is crisp, for the frost king has blown his icy breath...

See, whirled in mid-air are white snowflakes... Each like a spirit dropped down from above...

A CHRISTMAS REUNION.

T was Nell who thought of it first. But about all of the clever ideas in our family had their origin in Nell's fertile imagination...

"I know, but he is stronger than most men of 70, Uncle Harvey, who is only 73, could come in a day and a night, and Uncle Joel could come in ten hours...

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GRANDMOTHER UNDER THE MISTLETOE.

THE event which Christmas commemorates possesses for humanity the deepest meaning. Compared with its profound importance all other events, or indeed the sum of all other events, sink into insignificance...

"Well, I guess there wa'n't," said Uncle Joel. "I guess—O, say, boys, do you remember that Christmas we four boys went bear hunting back there in the Maine woods when we wa'n't none of us fully grown?"

"I remember it as well as if it was yesterday," said Uncle Henry. "I remember just how that bear squealed when I shot him."

"You still stick to it that you shot 'im, Henry," said Uncle Joel, "an' I'm as sure as 'an' I'm in that my shot that fetched him."

"In a horn it was!" said Uncle Henry, testily. "Your bullet went clear over the bear and lodged in that big pine we found with a bullet hole in it."

"There's no use in Henry an' Joel spatin' so about which killed that bear," put in Uncle Harvey, "for I've an idea the bear was shot with me in my gun room, where he brated his brothers carefully. Grandpa stalked off to his own room."

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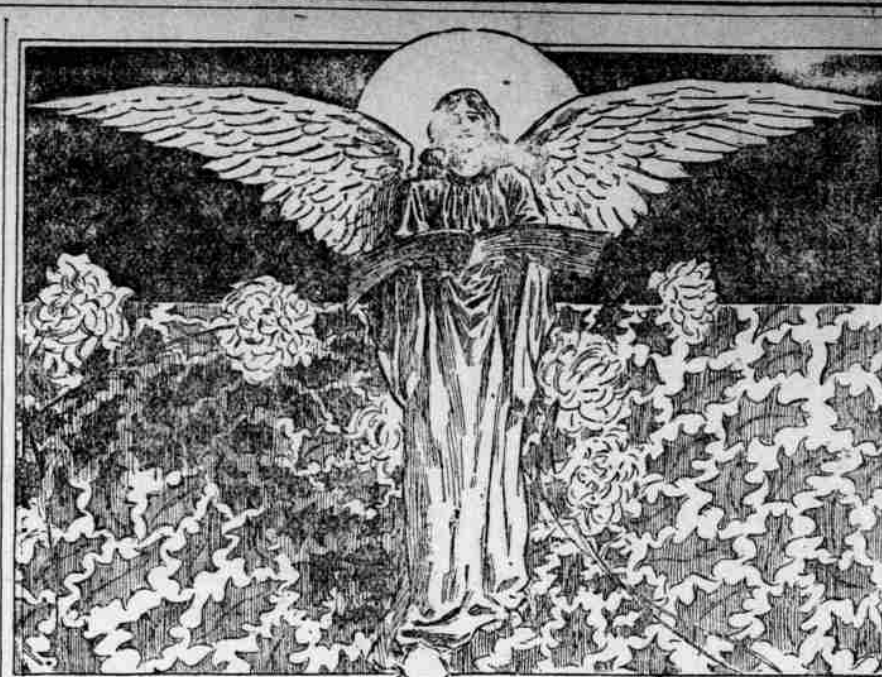
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made of this crisp, brown cake, or gingerbread, can be bought in different sizes and at all prices. These sweet creatures are often called "sweethearts" (creators we say in Dutch), and the girls receive a "man, the boys a "woman," a remember quite well that it used to be to bear a "servant come in with: "If you please, ma'am, here is Miss Annie's sweetheart"—and hand a gingerbread man to my mother.

Christmas Gifts for Men. It is a great relief to note that some philanthropic writers throughout the country are engaged in telling what sort of Christmas gifts men would like. The writers are not all successful, and they reveal frequently the inspiration of woman's ideas, man's innate modesty and self-effacement preceding him from speaking for himself.

But somebody should speak for him before Christmas has elapsed. It is recorded in the seventh chapter of "The Autobiography of Pharaoh I," that the monarch's wife gave him for a Christmas present a necktie which he could not wear without exciting insurrection in all Egypt. That's where the Christmas necktie joke began, the Christmas cigar joke following it, when Sir Walter Raleigh first amazed England by puffing tobacco fumes. The jokes have endured, but the joke has not—if the man knows it. He may have an incorrigible passion for neckties, but to have his own wife go out and buy out his own money for a tie which he will wear only on dark nights and when his coat collar is turned up is what he objects to. The trouble being, probably, that a woman buying something for a man sees it merely as it looks on the counters, while the man sees it in its relation to himself and to the uses to which it must be put.

All that is needed is a Wives' Information bureau, where husbands can leave a list of the presents they would find acceptable, with details concerning size, color and weight. The wife would simply have to join the bureau's subscribers, find her

Knocked Out. It knocks out all calculations of attending to business in the right way for a day when we wake up in the morning and find stiff. The disappointment lies in going to bed all right and waking up all wrong. There is a short and sure way out of it. Go to bed after a good rub with St. Jacobs Oil and you will wake up in the morning with stiffness all gone. So sure is this, that men much exposed in changeable weather keep a bottle of St. Jacobs Oil in their medicine chest to make sure of going to work in good luck.

Long Distance Signaling. The Greenwich observatory has been put into telegraph communication with that of the McGill College, Montreal, and the signals can be flashed between the two places, a distance of 3,900 miles, in three-quarters of a second.

The Last Man on Earth. To recklessly experiment upon himself with the use of a powerful microscope, for the purpose of seeing the sand of the sea, and, possibly, the atoms of matter, is a foolish and dangerous undertaking. It is a fact that the microscope, when used in this manner, is liable to cause a severe attack of rheumatism, kidney complaint and febrile conditions.

An even cubic foot of average soil was weighed and analyzed at Cornell University. It was found that the soil in one acre one foot deep weighed 2,082 1/2 tons.

An Open Letter to Mothers. We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA" and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark. I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hingham, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the facsimile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look carefully at the wrapper and see that it is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years.

Lightning rods may be valuable if large enough and insulated sufficiently to carry away a bolt of lightning. The common lightning rod is not of much use.

Home Products and Pure Food. All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose, "free sugar," and is made from sugar cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the Pacific Coast Syrup Co. All genuine "Free Sugar" Syrup has the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

In a recent lecture Professor Bergmann, of Berlin, stated that in 50 cases of perforating the skull for epilepsy, he knew of only one permanent cure.

"King Solomon's Treasure," only Approbriated Tontine, (See Circular No. 250, a box, 707, Philadelphia, Pa.)

Firelighters are made in Germany by twisting wood into a rope, cutting it into short lengths, and dipping the ends of the pieces into melted resin.

I believe my prompt use of Piso's Cure prevented quick consumption.—Mrs. Lucy Wallace, Marquette, Kans., Dec. 12, 1903.

The French Academy has accepted a legacy from M. Pierre Lasserre, amounting to over \$100,000. The income from one-third of this is to be awarded by the academy of science for a scientific discovery.

Last of John Brown's Jury. The recent anniversary of the raid of John Brown has brought to light the interesting fact that George W. Boyer of Harper's Ferry is the sole surviving member of the jury which tried this famous leader.

A Spanish woman kissed her pug dog and died of typhoid a last week. The retritions of Providence for lack of sense are often mysterious and severe.—Pomona Progress.

Mrs. Pinkham's Victory. Mrs. Sidney Hamlet. Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Red Horse, Va.—To Mrs. Pinkham: "My heart goes out in sympathy to all who are suffering with troubles peculiar to the female sex."

A Warning. Rhymes on the mistletoe. Are all very well, y' know; I'll be in love with you, I know. The promptings of reason I'll obey, I'll be true to you, I know. The gallant lad better go slow, For kisses at times ring slow, To the doubtful young folks, May come breath of promise in the wind, and leave you in a lull, I know.

Last Chance! The \$2000.00 missing-word contest closes December 31st. Result will be announced about January 15th.

Schilling's Best baking powder and tea are because they are money-back. What is the missing word?—not SAFE, although Schilling's Best baking powder and tea are safe.

Get Schilling's Best baking powder or tea at your grocers; take out the ticket (brown ticket in every package of baking powder; yellow ticket in the tea); send a ticket with each word to address below before December 31st.

Better cut these rules out. Address: MONEY-BACK, SAN FRANCISCO.

Hercules Gas Engine Works advertisement featuring an illustration of a gas engine and text describing its power and efficiency.

American Type Founders Company advertisement for Portland, Oregon, highlighting their printing services and equipment.

Sanden Electric Belt Co. advertisement for Boston, featuring an illustration of a health belt and text about its benefits for various ailments.

Men Who Are Weak advertisement for The Medical Co., offering a cure for weakness and general health improvement.

Jerry's Seeds advertisement for Detroit, Michigan, promoting high-quality seeds for various crops.

Kodaks advertisement for Portland, Oregon, advertising their camera products and services.

Wheat advertisement for Portland, Oregon, discussing the importance of wheat and the company's role in the industry.

Seeds advertisement for Portland, Oregon, listing various types of seeds available for purchase.