

The Home Circle

Conducted by Mrs. Harriet T. Clarke.

CHRISTMAS SHADOWS.

The needles have dropped from her nervous hands As she watches the dying embers glow...

Shadows that show her the faces loved Of many a half-forgotten friend; And the Christmas eve is passing by...

Or was it the embers' last bright flash That started the shadows round the room? The Christmas Eve it has passed at length...

A long sigh bathed gladly flows. CHRISTMAS HYMN. Christ is born of Blessed Mary; Sing the wondrous life begun...

CHRISTMAS SHADOWS (continued)

The clock is ticking the moments on; While the tears in her aged eyes still shine. If only out from the silent world...

But, ah! by the broad old chimney-place The angel of death keeps watch alone. For straight to the Christ-child's beckoning arms...

Wonderful, the Seer proclaimed Thee, Mighty God and Prince of Peace, King whose everlasting Kingdom...

Jesus—Saviour of His people; Jesus—Shepherd of His flock; Well of life and hidden manna...

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL.

We wish all the readers of our Home Circle a merry, merry Christmas. This time of the year when all the civilized world are rejoicing over this day of our Lord...

On India's coral strand, under the palmetto's shade, there will be many who will rise in the soft morning air with the gentle memories of Christmas at home.

DECEMBER 16, 1879. EDITOR HOME CIRCLE: I see in your last paper a piece concerning the poem, "She Answered No."

I did not intend for my name to be signed to it at all. I copied it from a scrap book, and as I liked it and wanted it for my scrap book...

my initials signed to it. I don't think you ought to be quite so fast until you know more about it.

We give place to the explanation of our correspondent, and will say to others who may send us matter for publication, that all communications received at a printing office...

Cooking Dried Apples.

A friend gives her mode of cooking that much-abused dish, dried apples: "Dried apples are not only a very cheap article of food, but very wholesome."

"After the apples are well washed and rinsed in at least two waters, place them in a porcelain kettle or tin pan; fill the vessel nearly full of cold water; this, however, must depend on the size of the apples."

"I must not omit to mention that the juice off of nicely stewed dried apples is a delicious beverage for the sick, and possesses a flavor that is peculiarly refreshing and grateful, especially where there is fever."

History of Christmas Observance.

The following history of Christmas observances is taken from the "Universal Cyclopaedia." Christmas, so called because an especial mass, the "mass of Christ," was celebrated on that day...

Christmas is celebrated the 25th of December in nearly every part of Christendom. Among the causes that operated in fixing this period, perhaps the most powerful was, that most heathen nations regarded the winter solstice as the beginning of the renewed life and activity of the powers of nature.

In the Roman Church three Christmas masses are usually performed—one at midnight, one at day-break, and one in the morning. The day is also celebrated by the Anglican churches...

FOR THE CHILDREN.

"Between the dark and the daylight When the night is beginning to lower, Comes a pause in the day's occupation That is called the children's hour."

HANG UP BABY'S STOCKING.

Hang up the baby's stocking, Be sure you don't forget; The dear little dimpled darling! She never saw Christmas yet; But I've told her all about it...

I know what we'll do for the baby, I've thought of the very best plan, I'll borrow a stocking of grandma— The longest that ever I can; And you'll hang it by mine, dear mother, Right in the corner, so, And write a letter to Santa, And fasten it on the toe.

Write: "This is the baby's stocking That hangs in the corner here, You never have seen her, Santa, For she only came this year; But she's just the blindest baby! And now, before you go, Just cram her stocking with goodies, From the top clear down to the toe."

BIRDIE'S CHRISTMAS.

When every stocking was stuffed with dolls, and balls and rings; Whistles, and tops, and dogs, (of all conceivable things!) Old Kris Kringle looked round, and saw on the elm-tree bough...

"Quite like a stocking," he laughed, "pinned up there on a tree! I didn't suppose the birds expected a present from me! Then old Kris Kringle, who loves a joke as well as the best, Dropped a handful of flakes in the oriole's empty nest."

LETTERS FROM LITTLE FOLKS.

EDITOR HOME CIRCLE: Another letter I will write for Aunt Hetty, for I do love her, she is so good and kind to little girls. I have not been to school since the Fair for ma has been so sick that I have had to help do the work and take care of ma the last ten days.

PEKIN, December 8, 1879. EDITOR HOME CIRCLE: As I have seen letters in the FARMER from little girls, I thought I would write a few of the Lewis River items. We have a new school house here which was built last summer. We have a good school now, taught by Mr. Wm. Glendye, who got a first-class certificate at the Teacher's Institute at Kalama.

A LITTLE CITY BOY.

A LITTLE city boy four years old, taken into the country for the first time, was astonished at everything, particularly at finding blackberries "tied onto sticks out-doors," as he expressed it.

"WHAT made you quit the East?" said a man in Nevada to a new-comer. "I got into trouble by marrying two wives," was the response.

A WRITER tells us to place our hand upon our heart and feel its muffled beat—that it will sadden us. True; but not half so much as placing our hand upon our wallet, and realizing from its thinness that we must soon become the muffled beat.

POSTMAN'S FRIEND: "Got a heavy load, John?" Postman: "Load? I should think so. Blow this wet weather, I say. Folks can't get out, so sit indoors and does nothing but write all this ore stuff to one another."

ALL the spelling reforms of all the men in all the world will not succeed in lessening the intensity of the school-boy's affection, who scrawls on his slate with a broken pencil: "I luv you," and hands it across the aisle, with a big apple, to a pretty little blue-eyed girl who reads in the Second Reader.

CHOICE RECIPES.

MINCE PIE.—Three pounds of meat to five pounds of apples, one half pound of suet, two pounds of sugar, half pound of butter, one quart of molasses, one half pint of boiled cider, two quarts of new cider, one tablespoonful of salt, two of pepper, same of cinnamon, allspice, cloves, grate nutmeg into the pies and add raisins. This recipe can be varied to suit the taste but it makes a standard mince pie.

COOKIES.—Two thirds cup of butter, one cup of sugar, half cup of milk, one egg, one tablespoonful of soda dissolved in milk, four cups of flour, nutmeg to taste.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.—To a quart of buttermilk add sufficient buckwheat to make a stiff batter; to this add two eggs, a gill of yeast, and half a teaspoonful of salt. Beat all together and let rise until morning. Then, to a cupful of sweet milk add a teaspoonful of soda, and with it thin the batter sufficiently for baking.

HOME PUDDING.—One quart milk, four eggs, beaten separately; eight tablespoonfuls flour, wet with milk, little salt, four teaspoonfuls baking-powder, one-half cupful sugar. Bake in greased pan thirty-five minutes. Sauce for home pudding—One half pint milk, three tablespoonfuls sugar, one tablespoonful butter, one small tablespoonful flour; heat milk boiling hot, and mix sugar, butter and flour, previously well beaten together, into it. Flavor with vanilla.

NEW SUET PUDDING.—Four eggs, half pound suet, one pint bread crumbs, one quart milk, half teaspoonful each of cinnamon and nutmeg, two tablespoonfuls of flour; chop the suet very fine and beat the eggs very thoroughly; heat the milk scalding hot and pour it over the crumbs; mix the suet, cinnamon, nutmeg and flour (the latter wet a little to prevent lumps), and beat all together; add eggs; sweeten to taste; add salt and brown in oven half an hour.

BREAD FRIED CAKE.—Take any bits of bread you may have left after meals; soak them in milk or milk and water until perfectly soft; mash fine, add two eggs, pinch of soda, salt to taste, and enough flour to make them fry nicely; drop three spoonfuls into hot butter or lard. These are inexpensive and good, and a better way to use dry bread than in puddings.

QUICK CAKE.—A favorite cake of ours is made in the following way: One cup of sugar; one egg; one half cup of sour milk; a little over one cup of flour; one teaspoonful of soda and one of cream of tartar. Bake in a quick oven. This is nice for jelly-cake, when baked in thin cakes and excellent when raisins are mixed with the jelly. Or, it may be put together with a rich custard, but I often bake in one loaf. Raisins may be added to the loaf if desired.

Don't Betrad the Children.

Times are hard and work abundant in every farmer's place, and the danger is that the children will be kept from school more than they should, to help in the house or on the farm. I know that it is a common impression, that this state of things cannot be helped, yet the evil done to the children is a very grave one, and no after regrets can remedy it.

There are many who might so arrange their affairs that the boys and girls could go steadily to school. They could limit the farming operations, though it would require a sacrifice in the income. No sacrifice is too great that leaves you food and raiment, so it secures this desirable end. It is pitiable to see the slight pretenses for which children are kept at home from school.

A mother should not be allowed to over-work herself for want of a daughter's help, but she should be supplied with a substitute, if it requires much self-denial in other directions. "All that a man has, will he give for his life." It is a matter of life with many this season, whether they shall keep help or not. Wages are cheap and food on a good farm is abundant, so that the board of another is not much considered.

Of course there are circumstances under which this may be impossible, but where this is the case give them still every facility for home study in your power. Let them have a copy book of their own and encourage them when work is done, to study for an hour faithfully over some text book that is most handy, but by all means secure it for your own and the children's sake.

Of course there are circumstances under which this may be impossible, but where this is the case give them still every facility for home study in your power. Let them have a copy book of their own and encourage them when work is done, to study for an hour faithfully over some text book that is most handy, but by all means secure it for your own and the children's sake.

Remember that you can buy ANY KIND OF Fruit and Ornamental Trees

DAVID COLE & CO., Corner of First and Salmon Sts., PORTLAND, OREGON.

They are Agents for the Vancouver Nursery.

Remember the place, which is well up town, on First Street. DAVID COLE & CO.

SHINDLER & CHADBOURNE, FURNITURE AND BEDDING Of Every Description. CARPETS, OIL CLOTHS, Mirrors, Wall Papers, Etc. First St., bet. Morrison and Yamhill. PORTLAND, OREGON.

Natural Business College English Training School. For instruction designed to impart a thorough knowledge of the English language, and of Business Affairs. College Journal, giving full information sent free to any address.

"And the Leaves of the Tree were for the Healing of the Nations" No more wonderful exhibition of the wisdom and power of the Creator can be given than the provision made for the curing of diseases by the use of those remedies which Nature furnishes in the roots, bark, leaves and berries of the common trees and shrubs which adorn our beautiful valleys and mountains.

COMMON PLANT! THE OREGON KIDNEY TEA

A Vegetable Production which is Performing Wonderful Cures. It is a specific for Pains in the Back, Non-Retention of Urine, Inflammation of the Bladder or Kidneys, Brick Dust Deposit in Urine, Leucorrhoea, Painful or Suppressed Menstruation

ORECON KIDNEY TEA Presents the Leaf in its Natural State. ABSOLUTE PURITY AND FREEDOM FROM ANY INJURIOUS DRUGS

Read the following Testimonials from some of our most Respected Citizens:

Dr. Wm. HENLEY—Dear Sir: My kidneys were in a bad condition. The urine was like brick dust, and I suffered a great deal with my back. All remedies were unavailing until I tried the OREGON KIDNEY TEA, which gave me almost immediate relief.

Dr. Wm. HENLEY—Dear Sir: Having a severe headache last winter, I was induced to try the OREGON KIDNEY TEA. I found it very beneficial in its results. It is not more unpleasant to take than other tea.

Dr. Wm. HENLEY—Dear Sir: Your OREGON KIDNEY TEA has cured my back and kidneys, and I am able to express my gratitude to you. As your motive seems to be to alleviate the distress of your fellow-men, it may please you to know that in my case you have succeeded and made many hearts glad.

Dr. Wm. HENLEY—Dear Sir: While I was in Tillamook last winter I was afflicted with a pain in my back and kidneys, so that it was almost impossible for me to reach Portland. When I got here I was induced to try the OREGON KIDNEY TEA. I drank it by meals the tea made from it, and it has effected a radical cure.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS. PRICE ONE DOLLAR. HODGE, DAVIS & CO., Proprietors, Portland, Or.

STOVES. ONLY \$90! THE Famous Standard Organ. 10,000 Of which have been sold on the Pacific Coast.

DAVID COLE & CO., Corner of First and Salmon Sts., PORTLAND, OREGON. They are Agents for the Vancouver Nursery.

JEWELRY AND PRECIOUS THINGS FOR THE HOLIDAYS. B. L. STONE, Corner of First and Morrison streets, PORTLAND, OREGON. Sole Agent for the Northwest Coast.

Give Him a Christmas Gift. Watches, Jewelry and Silverware