

Christmas on Taft's Ranch.

SECRETARY OF WAR TAFT is part owner of one of the largest ranches in Texas, the Coleman-Fulton ranch, so called, a 175,000 acre "farm" eleven miles from Corpus Christi on the San Antonio and Aransas Pass railroad. One hundred men are always and 250 men sometimes employed on it.

"I was so fortunate as to have the pleasure of seeing a unique Christmas tree on this ranch," writes Mary Elissa Muncey in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. "Christmas morning, though warm, was foggy, and a slow rain fell, but by 12 o'clock the sun came out, and the people at the ranch house began to make their preparations. Ever since early morning the employees from the different farms had been coming in. All kinds of vehicles were pressed into service. Some came on horseback and some on foot. There were many children.

"I saw what I had never seen before, a growing Christmas tree. Just in front of the house was a large mul-



"I SAW WHAT I HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE, A GROWING CHRISTMAS TREE."

berry tree. The ladies of the house came out about 2 o'clock and decorated the tree, with the assistance of some of the men. Even the men required stepladders to reach the topmost boughs. First, the ladies gave them some artificial icicles, which they hung on the branches in great profusion. As the sun was shining brightly by this time, it gave the icicles a very glittering appearance, and the wind, commencing to blow, shook them gently, making the illusion more perfect. Then long bright ribbons of many colors were suspended from the topmost limbs and fruit and candles tied on with ribbons of the same color—orange with orange ribbon, apples with red ribbon, limes with green ribbon, etc. Small toys were suspended from the tree; large ones were at the base. It presented a very gorgeous spectacle, and the sight of the happy children that surrounded it made one wish to be a child again to enjoy it to the utmost. But the best was yet to come.

"In the front yard were the presents intended for the grown people, and each man received one. One was a fine surry. Five were each given fifty and seventy-five dollar saddles. Several married men got handsome metal bedsteads, with springs and mattresses. Twenty or thirty fine hats, costing \$7 apiece, were distributed and many other articles, all the best of their kind. I saw a young man who received an all leather suit case. This last item may seem strange on a ranch, but there are many polished gentlemen among the employees who would consider suit cases very necessary should they have occasion to visit the city.

"All this while music was to be heard from a band stationed on the front porch, where many of the visitors were seated. After the Santa Claus of the Christmas tree had retired and the presents to the grownups had been distributed all repaired to the porch and front yard to see again the gleeful children and the tree, and surely it was a thing of beauty and, with its fruits and flowers, looked as though it had been transplanted from fairyland.

"The people that came from a distance departed before nightfall, but those that lived near by remained for an evening of music and good cheer, and thus ended a happy Christmas day."

"The Queen's Christmas Card." Queen Alexandra has not given up her interest in behalf of the unemployed. Last Christmas she sanctioned a unique plan to raise more funds for them. This was in the shape of the issue of a Christmas book, consisting of poems, stories, sketches, drawings and music, which was entitled "The Queen's Christmas Card." Algernon Charles Swinburne, Alfred Austin, the poet laureate; Thomas Hardy, Marie Corelli, Hall Caine, George Meredith, Arthur Wing Pinero, Sir Laurence Alma-Tadema, Edwin A. Abbey, William Holman Hunt, Sir Edward John Poynter and Sir Edward Elgar are among the host of those who contributed. The production of the book was practically gratuitous. It sold for half a crown, and the proceeds were devoted to the queen's unemployed fund.

What Grandpa Knows.

SOME folks say 'at Red Riding Hood She didn't live at all nor go Down where th' wolf was in 'at wood, But grampa says 'at it is so!

An' some folks say 'at Goldilocks Don't meet th' bears an' run away, A-bumpin' into trees an' rocks, But grampa's seen her many a day.

My grampa takes me on his knee An' tells me all 'bout Puss in Boots An' 'bout th' fairies you can't see For their in-vis—their funny suits. An' he knows where the 'beanstalk is 'At Jack th' Giant Killer climb To get 'at gold an' things o' his, 'Cause grampa's seen it many a time.

An' Cinderella, too, my pa Ist laugh an' say 'at he don't know, But grampa—w'y, my grampa saw Her slip 'at slipper on her toe!

An' Simple Simon—would you think He never was like some folks say? But grampa only laugh an' wink, 'Cause he has seen him many a day.



CAUSE GRAMPA'S SEEN IT MANY A TIME.

'At Alfred Brown, 'at lives nex' door To us, I don't like him, 'uhcause He say 'at he don't think no more 'At there can be a Santa Claus, But grampa whisper in my ear 'At Santa will find me all right, 'Cause he has seen his sleigh an' deer An' pack o' playthings many a night.

My grampa knew Boy Blue an' all Th' children 'at live in th' shoe. When Humpty Dumpty had 'at fall He's standin' close as me an' you! An' he say ist to don't bulhieve Th' folks 'at say there ain't no chim O' reindeer bells on Christmas eve, 'Cause he has heard 'em many a time. —Chicago Tribune.

THE PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS

How the Big and Little Roosevelts Celebrated Last Year.

President and Mrs. Roosevelt had only the immediate members of their family to celebrate Christmas. Just before going to bed on Christmas eve the children hung their stockings in the president's room, and bright and early the next morning they were up to claim their prizes. Everything that was ever designed for a Christmas stocking found a place in the line that hung from the mantel, and when the boys awakened there was a merry scramble to see just what was inside.

After breakfast the president, Mrs. Roosevelt and the children went to the library to exchange presents too big for the stocking.

Each member of the family had a special corner for his or her gifts, and there were any number of mysterious little parcels to be opened. This very pleasant little ceremony took the entire morning.

After this the president walked to his church, Grace Reformed, and the rest of the family went to St. John's Episcopal church.

In the afternoon the president, Mrs. Roosevelt and the children went over to the home of Captain and Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, where they always spend Christmas afternoon and where there is always a tree for the Roosevelt and Cowles children. They were joined there by Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, and a little family reunion was held.

After the visit to the Cowles' the president played tennis with his sons. At night was given the Christmas dinner in the private dining room. Among the few invited guests were Senator Lodge, Dr. Rixey and family and Mr. and Mrs. Longworth. The string section of the Marine band furnished the music for the evening.

THE THREE WISE MEN.

Who Were They?—An Unsolved Christmas Mystery.

One Christmas mystery remains unsolved. Who were the wise men of the east—the magi who followed the star of Bethlehem from afar to do homage to the newborn Saviour?

The simple story as told in the Bible is one of the most familiar in Christmas lore. Any child could recite it in detail. Painters and sculptors have made it the theme of the most inspired products of their brushes and chisels, but to this day the identity of these wise men remains a mystery. A search of the great paintings in which

the subject is treated produces a bewilderingment. There are half a hundred different ideas presented. The varying versions of the books of the ages are as many.

It is fair to assume from the fact that the visitors were received at court by King Herod and that they carried gifts of value that they were in their own country men of royalty or close to it. Herod evidently deemed it well to treat them with deference, for disquieted though he was by their news of the comet that was to lead them to the birthplace of the Redeemer he dissembled and told them that when they had found the newborn he would return to worship with them.

Much of our information about the early days of the Christian era comes from the monks of the fourteenth century, who delved deeply into historical sources since lost to the world. Their story of the three wise men has received wide credence. According to these monks, the wise men were three great kings called Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. Caspar was the oldest and from the north. At the time of the birth of Christ he was sixty years old, and for more than two-thirds of that time he had ruled in Arabia. Balthasar was black, a native of Saba, from the east, and forty years old. The youngest was Melchior, from the south, whose country was Turkish. He was twenty years old.

Impelled by some mysterious power, they dropped all the cares of state and followed a single star thirteen days and nights without eating or sleeping till it led them to Jerusalem.

Then the story follows that of the Bible until they returned to their own countries.

The story does not stop here. It tells circumstantially the after life of the three wise men. The good Apostle St. Thomas journeyed to their country and baptized them, and all three went out to preach the doctrine of the Christ.

They were slain by barbarous gentiles, and later the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine, recovered their sacred bones and took them to Constantinople. Thence they were carried to Milan and finally found an ultimate resting place in Cologne, where they now are.—New York Post.

WHEN SANTA WENT ASTRAY.

Miracle of the Loaves Repeated For Washington's Poor.

The day of miracles has not passed, according to the firm belief of a hundred or more poor people in Washington. Last Christmas day Almas temple of the Shriners gave its annual dinner to the poor. "It was a well planned affair, generously contributed to, and turned out a big success. But the most notable thing about it was not on the programme and made the hit of the occasion.

While the Shriners were feeding their guests there came to their hall 150 loaves of bread. The huge six foot Santa Claus was busy cracking jokes as he waddled about and took down the gifts from the Christmas tree. In the middle of one of his stories there entered another big, fat Santa Claus, carrying a colossal basket full of bread, and behind him were three or four negroes, also carrying baskets of bread. One of the Shriner committeemen at once inferred that some one had sent a gift of bread to be distributed and signed a receipt for the 150 loaves. In a few minutes they were handed around to the heads of families, and an additional smile of Christmas joy went around with them.

When the festivities were nearly over and the crowd had begun to disperse a man came running in and asked:

"Did you get 150 loaves of bread?" "We did," was the reply. "What did you do with it?" "Gave it away." "Well, that was an order from the Carroll Institute. It came here by mistake. But it is all right. We are glad you gave it away, and if you need more let us know," and the man went away, evidently fully satisfied with the incident.—New York Times.

The Sun Typewriter.

E. M. Furman sells the Sun Typewriter No. 2 at \$40.00. The U. S. Government have adopted this machine for use in the Department of agriculture and for the army. The natural tendency of the ordinary mind is to accept the Government's endorsement as of the very highest order, on which we could not go amiss.

Monthly payments will be accepted by those who prefer.

Here's Good Advice.

O. S. Woolever, one of the best known merchants of Le Raysville, N. Y., says: "If you are ever troubled with piles, apply Bucklens, Arnica Salve. It cured me of them for good 20 years ago." Guaranteed for sores, wounds, burns or abrasions. 25c at C. Y. Lowe's drug store.

Lumber \$5 per M.

We have a quantity of No. 3 lumber, suitable for building shed walks, etc., which we offer in lots of 1000 feet and upward, at \$5 per M.

CODY LUMBER CO.

The Eldorado

Wines, Liquors and Cigars.....

Rasmussen Bros.

Proprietors.

Bandon, Oregon.

CLARENCE Y. LOWE, Bandon, Oregon.

Druggist and Apothecary

Is just in receipt of a new and fresh stock of

Drugs and Chemicals,

Patent and Proprietary Preparations Toilet Articles,

Druggists Sundries,

PERFUMES, BRUSHES, SPONGES, SOAP

NUTS AND CANDIES,

Cigars, Tobacco and Cigarettes,

Prints, Oils, Glass and Painters' Supplies.

A. B. SABIN

Manufacturer and Dealer in

All Kinds of Saddlery.

Harness and Saddles Repaired.

BANDON, OREGON.

Furnished Rooms

—AT— The Pacific

BANDON

Nice clean rooms, 25 and 50c a night; \$1.25

a week; \$5.00 a month.

MRS. SARAH COSTELLO.

BANDON TRANSFER CO.

C. H. PATTERSON & SON

Dray and General Delivery

Meet all Boats.

—All orders handled with care.—

BANDON, OREGON.

The Question?

How can I increase my sales? What incentive have I to offer to induce people to buy? Every business man racks his brain for new means of attracting customers. Coupons, lotteries have all been tried, with more or less results, and now for something new! Have you glass show cases where you can display new goods, thereby calling the attention of every customer at your store? Others have tried it and the results not only pay for the outlay in the cases, but soon are a source of revenue in themselves. It is worth considering.

Another Question?

Do you still follow the old pen methods in business corresponding and in making out bills and statements? It is time to get out of the old rut. A typewritten bill or letter has an air of business about it that leaves a good impression of business methods. You will save time in the end, and time is what counts now days. We handle the Underwood Typewriter, the best machine on the market. Holds all records for speed and durability. Is not built like a threshing engine and is of other use than an ornament. Have our salesman call on you.

The Modern Company,

W. C. Bradley, Mgr. Marshfield.

IF YOU WANT FIRST-CLASS PHOTOGRAPHY, CALL AT

Lint's Studio

The Up-to-Date Gallery

All work done in the highest style of the art and at as low prices as consistent with first-class work. Portrait Work, Copying, Enlarging and View Work. Amateur work finished. Kodaks and amateur supplies on sale at all times. Local views and post cards always on hand.

News Stand in Connection

The latest and best city daily papers always on hand. By far the largest and best selected assortment of magazines in the city. Also 5c and 10c literature.

Stationery and Cigars

A complete line of stationery of all kinds. The finest stock of Christmas Box Stationery in the city. See our Post Cards. Examine our goods and get our prices.

Your Patronage Solicited, J. W. LINT.