With beasts of burden and in manger born,
The Sun of God beheld the light,
And wise men led by star at night,
Wih frankincense bless'd His natal morn
That Christmas night!

And He, who humbly came all men to saye Will guide the outcast in her flight, And shape her course to peace and light, And lead her weary footsteps to the grave, This Christmas night!

And ye who revel in the joys of home, And feign would follow Him who leads, Find in your midst a heart that bleeds, And bid it to your festive table come, This Christmas night!

For there are lives that are unbless'd with

Storm-toss'd and laden down with woe; Whose weary piodding through the snow Need kindly help until their journey cease This Christmas night! Remember what He said, "Whate'er ve do,

To the humblest of my creatures"— Love suffus'd his God-like features— "Whate'er your acts to them I'll judge ye through' This Christmas night!

But not your love on Christmas night alone
Is needed for your suffering kind;
All nights are His, whose loving mind
Bore human pangs to human sins atone.
This Christmas night!

No sparrow's fall escapes his watchful eye, No homeless one who roams the street Shall find His saving care less sweet Because in blinding snow they walk or lie This Christmass night!

#### CHRISTMAS AMONG THE LOWLY.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit." Mr. Spooner was not exactly a selfish man, nor totally indifferent to the moral or domestic condition of those around him; but he was usually too much occu-pied with that what he deemed "his own affairs" to pay much attention to the affairs, or even the necessities of his he could do best in order to relieve, or to assist those who might be entitled to a share of his bounty or benevolence.

He was not a very demonstrative man, and not at all a sensational one, nor by any means given to feasts and festivi-

If he was just in the vein he might have done a kindness to any worthy person who would ask him, but he would suffer many things to spoil, rot, decay, or to be eaten up by "moths and rust," before he would think of offering them before he would think of offering them to anybody, simply because he thought more than ordinarily refreshed, and the not promptly to execute your mission nomination? A majority of the dele-

gift, or any other kind of a gift, on any ground; neatly, although oddly clad, one in his life, nor had he ever received and their hearts all aglee about the one, and hence he permitted the annual copper toed boots and the button gaiters festival to come and go without an active | brought them by the good Santa Claus participation in it. Nevertheless, Mr. the night before. He was almost over-Spooner sometimes did wish that he come, and retired to his room to smoke could or had taken an active interest in his cigar and read the morning papers, that which seemed to concern everybody, but all he could do he could not keep and which was every year becoming more fixed in the hearts and minds of achievement and its effect upon those people; especially, thought Mr. Spooner, those people who have children, or by one corner, looking up towards the camped; wherefore are you wroth with fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, ceiling of his room, and blowing the your servant; who means most rightnephews or nieces, to say nothing about grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins,

Mr. Spooner, although something of a posed that giftmaking is largely the result of habit, and that the habit once formed continues to grow stronger and stronger by exercise, and that the happiness resulting from such a habit correspondingly increases, so that after a time the giver is more signally blest and feels more joy than the receiver.

It is true, of late years he had frequently been tempted to make a gift to some worthy object, but the obstacle in the way of its ultimation was the counter while "What's the use?"-"save your money;" or perhaps the super-cautious when its object was some person, place, suggestion, that his gift may not be acorthing outside of self. Hence, he also did not know what to give, or to whom. If he could only have known beforehand who was in want, and what they go and do likewise. wanted, it would greatly facilitate the

Mr. Spooner, on the day before Christmas, had fared sumptuously at a hotel in a large city, and had repaired to the front of the building to pick his teeth, smoke his cigar, and read the morning

The building next to the hotel was large shoe store, and as he was passing this he observed a little boy and a little girl, peering into the window wistfully, boots, with copper-toes and a dormant condition.
smaller pair of misses' gaiters. They
were bright, intelligent children, but

Nothin poorly and thinly clad, and the air, although not very cold, still was raw and unfriendly, especially to those not com-fortably clothed. He only stopped a moment to take a superficial gaze and pass on, but in that moment the key to the padlock of his heart was developed and it continued to "burn" him until he introduced it into the lock and finally opened it.

"O Sissy," exclaimed the boy, "but I do wish that Santa Claus would bring me a pair of copper-toed boots like those in the box, to-morrow morning."

"Yes, Bubb," responded Sissy, "and if he was to bring me a pair of gaiters

like those just below them, wouldn't I be a good girl?"

Mr. Spooner passed on, but every little boot and gaiter he saw all that blessed forenoon, and every noise he heard, words of those two little children, and he | or sore froats?" half wished they had importuned him to purchase the articles they so much needed; and then he reproached himself for not having done so without being

change; clouds obscured the sun, Christmas goose."- Detroit Free Press. falling. Turning his gaze towards the shoe store, he beheld the same little boy dow. He now scanned them in more

Now, it entered the head, the heart and the mind of Mr. Spooner to perform the functions of Santa Claus for these two children, but the question was how to do it? Happy thought. Mr. Spooner noticed that on two or three occasions when these children were chilled with the cold, and their lips and cheeks behotel and the shoe store, and in about post. fifteen minutes return again, apparently warmed. The next time they retired, he gazed after them and found that the avenue at its extreme end entered into a small court occupied on either side by low, dingy houses, some of which were considerably dilapidated, and barely habitable. On the second story of one of these houses these children had their

yet it was neat and clean like the children themselves. On inquiry among the employes of the hotel he learned that the children had a widowed mother who had long been in delicate health. That she had drawn from the earnings of two elder the other "shined" gentlemnen's boots, but none of them begged.

home, and notwithstanding it was ex-

ceedingly humble, and rather cheerless,

Moreover he was informed that they were konest and industrious, but since had become very poor, and this arose

That information sufficed; nevertheless he chose to act through the mediumship of the inferior employe of the yet no one dared provoke his anger, for hotel who was acquainted with the famcopper-toed boots and a pair of misses' onist. gaiters, besides some other necessary Christmas morning.

The articles were all received on Christmas eve, and Mr. Spooner began neighbors-in fact he hardly knew what to experience a pleasant sensation about tremble, Hebrew, if you mean us falsely; never remembered to have felt before. He, however, chose to remain "in cog," but his feelings would occasionally overflow with shere ecstasy, and when he retired to his room on that, to him, blessed Christmas eve, he fairly chuckled with selfish delight at the good thing he believed he had done, and from that state of mind he passed into a gentle slumber, and dreamed "ever so many" pleasant

dreams. first street view he had, after breakfast, He had never bestowed a Christmas had a little boy and girl in the forehis mind from fairly gloating over his "little ones." Holding the newspaper smoke in a succession of revolving rings,

he thus soliloquized: "Let me see; those boots just cost me 80 cts. and the gaiters 40 cts., \$1.20 in perienced the real satisfaction at a \$5 venison supper, that I have for the paltry sum of \$1.20 given away. I now have a faint apprehension of the often repeated words, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive;' and, it is very probable too, that many glibly repeat those words without realizing any of the pleasures connected with their personal

Mr. Spooner returned to his house an altered man, alleging that experimental temptation not to do it, suggesting the pleasure far transcended that of theory alone-the reality outweighed the idealceptable; nobody wants it; and, that felt it was selfish to hoard up these feel-mortification and self-reproach will be ings of pleasure in his own heart, therethe consequence. The greatest obstacle fore he imparted them to others, and in the way, however, was the fact that he others reasoned that if the indifferent and close-fisted Mr. Spooner could find delight in doing thus, why may we not

act, because he was always afraid his Spooner would select some human ob- part of their guide. On, therefore, they gifts might be too good for one class of ject among the worthy lowly, as the re- were commanded to struggle their way, recipients and not good enough for cipients of his benificence. He saw that encountering fresh obstacles at every another class, matters that are very apt the rich cared for the rich, perhaps in step. At length horses plunged in to control the actions of those who are only half in earnest, or with purposes only half formed. But the opportunity came at last.

the hope of obtaining some part of each others riches; but he for his part, found and died. By the most stenuous lefforts, more pleasure in bestowing his gifts among the worthy and needy poor—mainder of the troop attained an those from whom he could not possibly eminence, overlooking a wild and desert

expect any material return. paper; after which he thought to take a good-indeed, perhaps much latent good strong against the latter, not only for stroll, partly on business, and partly to in every one, but it is surrounded by a bringing them through this morass, evi'gawk' into the showy windows. pulsion," that shell is once broken, the the confusion had he endeavored to copia of goodness, that had hitherto been | with fright or guilt, would do nothing admiring a small pair of in an indifferent, unsympathizing, or but prostrate himself on the ground, and

## Nothing In It.

"I s'pose you has read de President's message?" inquired an old colored man, as he was sweeping an office on Larned street the other day.

"Oh, yes." "Anything speshul in it?" "No, not much." "Say anything bont de way pertaters

has riz up in price?" "Anything bout de world gwine to end

"Guess not." "Git any figgers in dar to play policy "I didn't see anv."

winter?" "No; he didn't even mention the sub-

"Didn't give any cures for chilblains manded the general of the peasant.
"Easily enough," was the reply. "Yo

"Den what's de good of any message? What's de use of sittin' dar an' foolin' 'round an' burnin' out de gas? Sakes to After dinner Mr. Spooner hied himself again to the front of the hotel. The weather had undergone a perceptible change; clouds obscured the sun.

The Hon. Joseph Nimmo, chief of crouching Jew, whispered his commands shoe store, he beheld the same little boy the United States Bureau of Statistics, in a few emphatic words. The aid-de-and girl of the morning, their teeth in a statement of imports of the United camp started; but, with true military chattering with cold, and engaged in an States, shows that in the month of July subordination ventured not upon expos earnest and wishful colloquy on the sub- last 1,436,414 dozen of eggs were im- tulation with his superior. ject of the boots and gaiters in the win- ported; and that in the seven months | In a few seconds the sounds of twelve dow. He now scanned them in more ended July 31st, 6,900,478 dozen eggs spades might be heard trenching the minute detail. Their clothing was thin were brought to this country. Their moist earth, surely and deeply. The but clean, and considerably patched, but estimated value was \$1,021,605, all of sound smote upon the stillness of the their footgear was bad-very bad-and a which American hens might have put night, impressing silence and awe, and world too large for them-insufficient for into the pockets of their owners if the conveying something of terrible import owners had attended to business.

#### THE POLISH JEW.

During the war of 1813, when Buona part made that desperate attack upon his faithless ally of Russia, the Saxon General, S-, had gathered his troops in a deep and wooded defile, and over the bivouac fire conversed with the

was treacherously warm for the season, earth was heaped over the hapless victim and little indicated the approaching of his own duplicity and the general's snewstorm, which was to overwhelm the revenge. . conqueror, and check his hitherto irresistible course.

The form of General S ---, as revealed by the lurid embers, broad and muscular, braced in the tightened uniform of his nation, and decorated with innumerable crosses and orders, contrasted forcibly with the appearance of his com-panion, a Polish Jew, slight in figure, and enveloped in the loose black gaberdine of his race; his cheeks wan, sunken been in delicate health. That she had several other children, all still small, and spiral curl of sandy hair, depending from an unright cap of black felt; his eyes keen and gray, were restless and inboys, one of them sold penny papers, and | quisitive, not unlike those of a famished cat who expects injury, and is watchful to avert or avenge. He bent instinctively, as the harsh tones of General 8-- 's voice smote upon his ear; and the death of the head of the family they his glances fell before the penetrating

regard of the military commander. from the fact that there were a half | The latter was, indeed, a man to be apdozen mouths to feed, and only two that preciated with awe by every one who made any wages. The mother took in knew the sternness of his character. washing when she was able to do it, but Brave to desperation, vigilant and inflexher inaibilities were monthly increas- ible in discipline, the slightest breach of military duty was punished with implacable rigor. His men and officers respected but loved not their commander; ily, and forthwith he produced a pair of duel he fought cost the life of his antag-

"Jew!" said the general in his severest domestic articles, including a stock of tone, "you have promised to conduct provisions, and sent them in on Christmy troop, by a secret path, to the sur mas eve, as a surprise to the family for prisal of the enemy. If you bring us in safety through this labyrinth, name your own reward; gold or lands shall be yours for requital of the service. But the region of his heart, such as he had for by the bones of my ancestors, and the honor of my sainted mother, the slightest suspicion of treachery on your part, insures your certain death-ay, death with all its horrors-long, lingering, fierce and cruel.'

The guide made a low and shrinking oheisance, but without speaking, as though fear denied the power of utter-

"Dog!" exclaimed the wrathful general, "dost hesitate? dost tamper with your happiness!" an instant."

ashen complexion seemed intermingled to a certain man being taken unexwith a leaden hue, as if convulsed by peetedly ill." "What man?" "The man some internal agony of remorse or fear; I hired to get the boss drunk." but habitual command of his passions soon wrought its effect-emotion passed away, and his features resumed their wonted expression of anxious endurance. bring you where your enemies are en- boys.' And I shouldn't think she would, camped; wherefore are you wroth with an old lady like her."

eously to keep his oath?" The general regarded him with a withering look. "No one trusts a spy, even when employing him." He whispered philosopher, yet never for a moment supposed that giftmaking is largely the relooks. If you but suspect him of betraying us, on the instant bring him before me.'

The subaltern touched his hat in sign of obedience, and orders were soon after given for the troops to be in motion.

Their march was conducted with all possible silence and precaution, and for upwards of an hour proceeded in security and hope. By degrees the way became more intricate and entangled with low underwood, or up-hill and miry, breaking their ranks, and scattering the men in confusion, whilst at intervals they had to wade through patches of splashy ground, into which foot and horse sunk knee deep, and with difficulty toiled through, only again to plunge deeper into some marsh.

Still these difficulties might be only on account of the untrodden path it was necessary for them to pursue, and might At each returning Christmas Mr. forebode no sinister intentions on the plain. It was but the work of an instant He felt that "if you salute your breth- to dispatch scouts to reconnoitre, and ren only, what reward have ye, do not seize and bring before the general the even the publicans so?" There is some Polish Jew guide. Suspicion was indeed but if, through the power of "self-com- comfort the soldiers, but twice during heart may be discovered to be a cornu- escape; and now, whether overcome exclaim, "Mercy! mercy!" Vain were assurances of safety, useless all inter-rogatories as to his knowledge of the road or the proximity of the Russians; the same shrill prayer for mercy, the same frantic cry of despair alone arose upon the stillness of the night.

During this paroxysm the scouts returned, bringing with them a peasant, who by dint of threats and bribes, in formed them that the Russians, who were at least double their number, were encamped within a mile of the place, and expecting the arrival of the Saxon detachment; that the road they had traversed conducted them through a slough to the enemy's camp, where, if any survived, they could be easily dispatched before they had obtained a firm footing, being previously worn out with the "Did he say it was gwine to be a hard fatigues they must undergo in their

march. "By which road can we escape the snare into which we have been led?" de-

"Easily enough," was the reply. "You have only to descend on your right, and keep the beaten path, and you turn your

backs on the Russlan forces. "You shall go with us, friend, as a

He leant his month to Sternberg's ear, and glancing contemptuously at the still

to every listener.

### The harsh tones of the general broke upon this unnatural quiet. "Seize and bind you spy, and cast him into the trench which is digging below; then form

into ranks, and every man march over the traitor Jew's grave. For a brief instant there was a pause of horror; but before the general could came of a purple hue, they would retire guide who had offered to lead his look his displeasure the fierce behest through a narrow avenue between the troops to the surprise of a Russian out was fulfilled. Yell after yell burst from The day, which was drawing to its ried down, which was shortly exchanged close had been gloomy and lowering, yet for stifled and smothered cries, as the

#### SELECTED MISCELLANY.

You can induce a boy to eat tar by forbidding him to do so.

Langtry says: "I am not pretty; I am beautiful;" and we suspect she half tells the truth

A quack doctor would look with disgust upon a present of a cane with a duck's head carved upon it. There are 560,000 Masons in the United States, and not more than half of

them claim to be the oldest. English papers seem to be as densely ignorant of American politics as the polities of their own country.

It is now in order for the youth who smoke eigarettes to form a league refusing to kiss the girls who chew gum. "What would you do, Mr. H. if your wife died?" asked Mrs. D. Mr. H. who is very methodical)-"I would bury her.'

The man who claims to have seen a rainbow after dark should prosecute the iquor dealer who sold him his variegated concection.

So much fun has been made of the 'Hub's" favorite food, that a Bostonian feels flattered when told that he "doesn't

He who carries a horse chestnut in his pocket to keep off rheumatism is the fellow who is afraid to look over his left shoulder at the moon.

An artist remarks, "The best part of beauty is that which cannot be expressed." We always thought that powder and rough were sent by freight. "Convict this man of being a gambler?" said the Texas judge. hear of it. He's an infant in cards! Why

I beat him out of \$120 last night—when I was pretty drunk, too."

A good old Quaker lady after listening to the extravagant yarns of a person as long as her patience would allow acid to him: "Friend, what a pity it is a sin

to lie, when it seems so necessary to my patience? By heavens, if you swear "But how did you happen to lose the discreetly and faithfully, life is not yours | gates were in favor of you and every-The Jew looked up, aghast. His date." "So did I, and it was all owing

"Edward, what do I hear-that you have disobeyed your grandmother, who told you just now not to jump down those steps?" "Grandma didn't tell us not to. "By the beard of Airon," was at papa. She only came to the door and ength his answer, "I have sworn to said: 'I wouldn't jump down those steps,

A beautiful young woman, whose veil caught fire in a Troy, N. Y., church, recently, was rescued by the youthful officiating clergyman, who wrapped her in his robe's supply-several elements of romance-but the usual consequence is rendered impossible by the fact that this girl was the "bride of the church" and her rescuer a priest.

Slim John, well known on the West Side said to a very stout German friend: "Hans, why is it that I can't raise a a stomach like yours?" "Vas dot so?" replied the citizen of Teutonic propensities. "Dot vas an easy von and you don't forgot it. You vas seed does carpenter building does houses? Vell, vas you effer see dem patting pay vindows on does schmokehouses?"

A stranger dropped in one morning at Washington drug store and called for bottle of Congress water. The intelligent clerk\_dncked beneath the counter and promptly produced a bottle of old Monongahela. The customer tasted it, and then, depositing his glass, remarked, "Do you call that Congress water?"
"That's it," answered the pill-compounder, smiling pleasantly. "Every congressman who comes in here drinks

"Will you please pass the Shem?" asked a quiet man at a lunch counter. 'Haven't any?" squealed the girl in attendance. "Some Japhet?" qeried the quiet man again. "Don't keep it!" squeaked the damsel. "I say," chipped in a curious passenger, "what do you mean by Shem and Japhet?" "Nothing," responded the little man dolefully, "only the Ham is so old and musty that thought the rest of the tribe must be around somewhere, and I'd like to see

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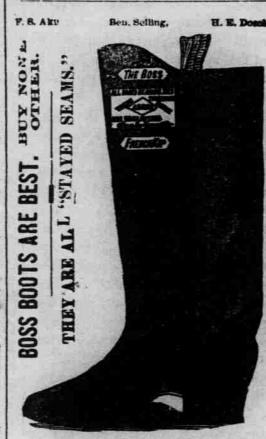
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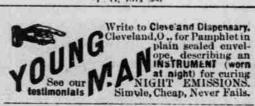


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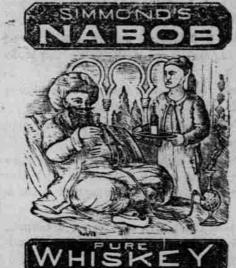
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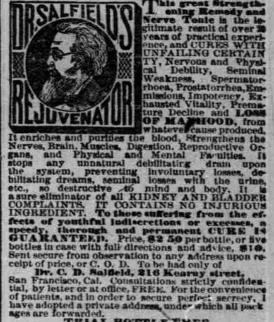
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