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## ANOTHER LETTER FROM -- PROFESROR LOWE --

VERONA, ITALY, NOV. 15, 1912. - most popular productions. Price L. 6. Reached this interesting old place today. That's the way they write prices here. When I got into Milan it was snowing, L standing for lira (20 cents) divided inbut soon changed to a cold rain. I don't believe Portland ever had a worse day at the same season of the year. The second day, however, was some better. Today has been rather cold but beauti-

C. I. K.

derful, but is not built of marble at all have had! There isn't a particle of wood in the whole structure and all the stone had to be studied out and shaped before hand; and it is amazing how was surely enormous, but it has made the city famous. However, the old arena here is more interesting to me than the cathedral. It was built during the reign of Augustus Caesar, and is yet in a perfect state of preservation. In fact, they could use it for their sports today to a passerby, St. Marco, and he'd point as well as they ever could. The seats are solid blocks of stone about 16x20 inches and from three to six feet long, all cemented together. The old stone cages with their iron gratings for doors are yet there. Those openings are the entrances to stairways by which the people came and went. Beneath the seats are three broad corridors running around the structure, and between these corridors were the animal cages, etc. The stairways led down to these corridors, so you see they could enter by 60 or 80

November 16th was spent in Venice. I thought I had seen some interesting my hat he grabbed that also, so I gave to crown all, the praise of the Christthings lately, but they must all take a him my overcoat and he packed them mas pudding, which by the consent back seat compared with this place. The whole city stands on a stretch of tide land as level as a floor which has been der (bread, butter, soffee, and two fried sinking, I suppose, for the last 1500 or 2000 years, so that now only the higher points are above the water forming points are above the water, forming through with my meal a fourth waiter family gathering, no noisy, good huislands. There are something like 70 or brought me my bill (tip 4). Bill L 1.85 mored chaff, and there is not that sub-80, I should say, crossed by at least twice that many bridges. The city is and as I left the table I placed 25 cents the thing the family closer together. reached by an immense stone bridge or by my plate and allowed they might mole, 3600 meters long, so the guide book says, and resting on over 400 arches which in their turn are supported by which in their turn are supported by 80,000 piling driven into the mirey, movable bottom of the laguna (as the long spindle shaped loaves, and it would there have been more reconciliamarsh is called.)

I made at once for St. Marks square, which is the very heart of the city. It is about 280x600 feet, hemmed in on all sides by stores, palaces, hotels, and St. Mark's church at one end. The Camp-Mark's church at one end. The Campanile (recently restored) stands about 50 feet from the corner of the church, and had the old one fallen in that direction, it surely would have cut the church in packages of corn to visitors with which two! The square is completely surto feed them. The little feilows will rounded by a beautiful arcade about 20 flock around you so thick you can't move

play is Lohenengrin, one of Wagner's can divide up among yourselves.

to 100 parts, so that 5 cents with them here means I cent with us.

Back from the opera. It was surely grand. The costumes and setting were the most gorgeous I ever saw, while the bound. It was equal in every way, I

thought, to the grand opera in Paris. any city in the world. Some of them be "plenty of fun. a block from St. Marks square, while the theatre is about one-eighth of a mile away, so I was on the square a little after 8 and followed the crowd and made it alright, but we must have crossed at more than 20 streets in getting there. took pretty good note of things and made it alright, but whenever I wasn't sure of my position I would simply say out the street to me. It's wonderful at times what meaning there is in just a since being in Europe.

Have always got nice rooms so far in higher. These Italians are a set of natural born grafters. They make me tired. Just to illustrate: I stepped insurely give one the dyspepsia, only it's

stores of the city.

Well, I have a ticket for the opera and as it is after S, I must be going. The lock around you so thick you can't move without stepping on them, and I've had as high as six perched on my arm and eating out of my hand at one time. Shall leave for Florence tomorrow if I can get up in time. I send you some views under separate cover which you

## Why Christmas Should Be Spent at Home

cry down Christmas, and it is fast becoming a "can't be bothered with it" sort of day. It is looked upon as a nuisance because Christmastide brings with it a necessary increase of expenditure in the form of tips and

fashion-fashion to be bothered to take less notice of Christmas and spend

are hardly long enough to write the In the good old days spending Christ name on. My room is only one half of mas anywhere but at home was never Geese and turkeys were fattened, plum puddings were made, prospective girls of the home fell to thinking of least a dozen canals and passed through new schemes for decorations. Now, could anything be more delightful than I never saw anything like it in my life making Christmas plans at least two before and began to think that I should months beforehand so as to keep the never find my way back again, but I festive season right royally? All this sort of thing kept the family together. for when the winter evenings brought them nearer and nearer to Christmas day it made them see how necessary each one was to the other in the way of helping and suggesting as regards presents for So-and-so, holly for this single word. I've noticed that so often room and mistletoe for that. Gradually it dawned on every one how dear the home was to all and how still more Italy for L. 2, but living in considerable preclous were the parents and children

When Christmas day did come it was a time of perfect happiness, harmony and satisfaction to every guest to a restaurant this morning to get some and every member of the family. If breakfast. There wasn't an umbrella Christmas is not spent at home what rack, coat or hat hook or anything of becomes of the family gathering, the the kind in the room, but the moment I delight of decorating, the care and stepped in a waiter snatched my um- thought the happy mother has expendbrella out of my hand, and as I took off ed on the cooking of the dinner and. off in another room, (tip 1). Then a of one and all invariably is "the finest second waiter came up and took my orpraise of a Christmas pudding ever comes amiss to a housewife's heart,

> tions, more "divided houses" brought together again, more eyes made dim through a mist of happy tears at some difference or misunderstanding made clear by a Christmas gathering at home There are hundreds than at any other season or place

Charles Dickens, the novelist of Christmas, who did more for Christmas than any one can ever guess, had had a slight difference with Thackeray. He met him on the steps of his club on Christmas morning, hesitated. then held out his hand, which Thackeray grasped with all the warmth of his great heart. Both men returned to their family gathering at h better and happier men

Without a doubt a family gathering at this festive and joyful season knits the bond of love and good fellowship closer than at any other time Old slights and hurts are forgotten: bard men of business relax and soften at the sight of the children who many a time have drawn out all that is best in them after it has lain dormant for years until they have forgotten they had a tender side to their nature at all. Yes, without a doubt home is the place for Christmas. "Oh, it will be so dull and uninteresting at home!" is often the cry. It will only be dull to those who make it so.

And if there is a vacant chair or two which, alas, can never be refilled dash away the silent tear and be thankful that you are spared to taste the joys of still another homely Christmas. Your example of spending the festive season will most assuredly instill the love of the yearly family gathering into the younger generation, who will emulate your ideas in future years. Posterity will be indebted to you for showing how to keep up a good old Christmas which was suffering from

a slump in the twentleth century. By all means, then, spend Christmas at home, decorate your house, remember the postman, the butcher, the servants and even your wife's or husband's relatives. However poor you are you can be rich in mind, thoughts and cheery words. When you sit down to the table-I don't care whether it groans with turkey and plum pudding laid for twenty or thirty or whether it merely trembles under the weight of much scantier fare and places laid for only three or four-if your heart is in

the right place you will say: "Here's to a happy Christmas! Thank God we are at home!"-Pictorial

## An After Dirge.

Broke, broke, broke, Of my hard earned "bones," oh, geel But it brings some relief to utter The thoughts that occur to

Oh, well for the beautiful gifts As they rest in a fair array! Oh, well for the haunting thought That intrudes, Does the whole thing pay?

And the giving still goes on As it has in the years gone by, But the last of the merry holidays Brings again the same old cry:

Broke, broke, broke! Not a single cent, oh, gee! And the dough that I spent for the Christmas gifts Will never come back to me.

## ANNOUNCEMENT-



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