

The World's First Christmas

(By Selma Lagerloef.)

On the eve of the first Christmas on this earth—Nature's Christmas—a man went out into the night to borrow fire. From house to house he went and knocked.

"Good folks," he said, "take pity on my helplessness. Wife has just borne a wee babe, a boy, and I want fire to warm her and the little one."

But as the night was far advanced, and as it was very dark, no one answered his prayer. The happy-unhappy father proceeded, disconsolately, crying in vain for a bit of warmth, when in the distance he perceived a bright light. Gaining the spot, he saw around a big fire a flock of sheep, attended by an old shepherd, whose authority was reinforced by three mighty dogs.

The hounds awoke at the stranger's approach, and it looked for a moment as if they were going to throw themselves on him and tear him to pieces, for they opened wide their jaws, baring their teeth, their back hair stood up in anger, greenish eyes gleamed viciously in the darkness, but not a sound escaped their lips. "This dark one will go for my feet, the other for my hands, the third for my throat," thought the stranger. But as the dogs reached him, their threatening attitude changed into silent submission and they wagged their tails.

The dogs had leaped over the backs of the sleeping sheep and the stranger could see no other way to reach the fire than by walking over the peaceful animals, they lay so thick. He was a tall man, well built, evidently a man of brawn and muscle, but the patient cattle did not seem to mind his weight.

When the stranger came toward the fire, the shepherd looked up. He was an ill-tempered man, given to regard his fellow-beings with rancor and distrust. Perceiving the stranger, he unhesitatingly threw his weapons at him, which was a mighty pike, ending in a sharp point, which he used to fight sheep stealers. Ordinarily, the shepherd was an excellent shot and the lance went straight to the mark as usual, but just as it was about to strike the tall man it swerved sideways and whizzed past him into the open field.

The stranger thanked the heavenly Father for his miraculous preservation, and then addressed the herdman:

"Friend," he said, "I pray thee to help me. Three days ago my good wife had a babe, a lovely boy; I assure thee, and I am looking for a bit of fire to warm him both."

In his heart of hearts, the shepherd felt like denying the petition, but when he reflected that his dogs, the fiercest in all Judea, were evidently powerless to hurt the intruder, that his sheep had borne the stranger's weight peacefully, and, finally, that his own feared weapon had gone wide of the mark, though he threw it with deadly aim—considering this, for the first time, he strangely constrained to perform an act of kindness. Much as he wished, he had not the courage to deny the wanderer's request.

"Take what you want," he said, gruffly.

SWEET SCENTED

A SALEM TEACHER AMONG THE FILIPINOS AND SOME OF HIS OBSERVATIONS.

He Tells of the Honesty of the Native Officials and a Queer Kind of a Post-Office—The Chief of Police and Mayor Divided With Robbers.

C. A. Rateliff, son of T. A. Rateliff, of this city, was the first man to be examined and to go from the neighborhood to the north of the Philippines under pay of the United States government, to teach school in the islands.

Following are two interesting letters from Mr. Rateliff:

Lillo, Laguna, Nov. 30, 1904.

"Dear Folks at Home: I have no time to write now, though I must admit that I had time enough yesterday and neglected it. This is the last day of the month and shall report from both here and Majajay. Thus I have an unusually busy day before me.

"There have been some evidences of good (?) Filipino government here by Filipinos this past week. The province to the north of this (Cavaba) has for some time been molested by ladrones, i. e., bands of cutthroat robber marauders, etc.

"The native army force under American officers has been trying to catch them for some time, but they always get away and hid, the authorities knew not where for some. At last in a skirmish with them one was wounded and captured. He was induced to tell of their retreat. It was in the country belonging to Lillo. An expedition was made and the police force of Lillo called upon to assist in finding the men, but nothing was found. Further information from the prisoner made it appear to the American in charge that a second expedition should be made secretly, conducted by the wounded prisoner who was now able to travel.

"They came by way of Majajay, where I first saw the outfit. There was an American lieutenant and six native soldiers. The soldiers were disguised and went straggling along the road like ordinary wayfarers, but under their loose Chinese shirts were 45-calibre Colt's revolvers. They reached Majajay about dark. I took the lieutenant with me for supper. He stayed with me until 9 o'clock, then went on. They reached the house about midnight and captured three. One was the captain of the band. From all pretty full information has been gathered, and right here is where the honesty of the Filipino officials comes in.

"It has been shown that the chief of police of this town was giving them protection; that they have had the use of the police guns; that two policemen on several raids accompanied them; that the chief of police received the stolen goods; and the president (mayor) said them; that the chief of la-

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An American girl only 19 years old is winning an enviable place as a magazine illustrator in the line of face and figure work. Her pictures are signed "G. B. Dillon," or "Boyd Dillon," which is her real name, but those who do not know suppose her to be a man.

Miss Emily H. Bourne has given her school building to the George Junior Republic at Freville, New York.

Every day we have opportunities to make our life a bridge on which another may pass over to something that he could not himself have attained. Mrs. Frona Eunice Wait, once a newspaper woman, is now a professional wine taster, and one of the most expert in the world. Mrs. Pomery of the famous wine making family was the greatest wine tasting expert at her time.

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"COUNTERPART OF WAR GOD"

IS WHEAT CONGRESSMAN BAKER CALLS THE PRESIDENT.

FORTIFICATIONS BILL PASSED

Secretary of Navy Will Sign Contract for Four Submarine Boats Soon.

Chief of Trade Bureau Resigns—Extradition Treaty With Panama Ratified by the Senate—Other News From Nation's Capital.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The House passed the fortifications bill and adjourned until Monday. After Representative Littauer of Pennsylvania had drawn a lesson from the siege of Port Arthur to show that the submarine mines proved of the greatest importance in warfare, Representative Baker enlivened the proceedings by attacking the President, who, he said, wanted to hold himself up as the "counterpart of Wilhelm II, the great war god." Later Baker found fault in the provision of the bill permitting the entry of such war material as might be purchased abroad and charged the Republican party with being guilty of fraud in its contention that the foreigner paid the tax.

Opposes Omnibus Statehood Bill.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Senator Bard today occupied the time of the Senate given to the joint statehood bill. He made an argument against the union of Arizona and New Mexico on the ground that the people of the two territories did not desire it. Several bills of minor importance were passed.

Treaty Ratified.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The Senate, in executive session today ratified the extradition treaty between the United States and Panama, and also a treaty amending the convention between the United States and Sweden and Norway.

Will Contract for Submarines.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Secretary Morton will soon sign a contract with the American Company for four submarine boats \$600,000, the amount necessary for their construction, having been appropriated by the last Congress. The boats will be built, largely for experimental purposes.

Chief Emery Resigns.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The resignation of Frederick Emery, chief of the Bureau of Trade Relations, has been accepted by Secretary Hay, and he will retire March 31.

WALKING UP TO THE LICK LOG.

I met a man from Texas a week or so ago and his woe-begone face moved me to ask what troubled him.

"Wisdom tooth," said he.

"Why don't you have it out?" I asked.

"I've been meaning to," he said, "but when it aches I couldn't bear the extra pain of having a dentist look with it, and when it doesn't ache there's no need to bother about it. To tell you the truth, I lack the nerve to walk up to the lick-log and have it over."

"Is lick-log a Texas name for dentist," I asked.

"My goodness, where were you raised?" he asked. "Didn't you ever see the old lick-log walk up and lick out of a hollowed out log, a lick-log? Lick-log doesn't mean dentist. It's a metaphorical Texan expression for toeing the mark, facing the music, coming up to the scratch."

Sickening Shivering Fits

Of ague and malaria can be relieved and cured with Electric Bitters. This is a pure, tonic medicine; of especial benefit in malaria, for it exerts a true curative influence on the disease, driving it entirely out of the system. It is said out of a hollowed out log, a lick-log? Lick-log doesn't mean dentist. It's a metaphorical Texan expression for toeing the mark, facing the music, coming up to the scratch.

"THE HOLY CITY"

WONDERFUL SPECTACULAR PLAY AT COLUMBIA THEATRE, PORTLAND.

AMINSTER'S REVIEW OF THIS BIBLICAL DRAMA, BY REV. GEORGE T. DOWNING, OF LOS ANGELES, CAL.—ALL AGREE THAT IT IS INSTRUCTIVE.

The following review of the wonderful spectacular play, "The Holy City," which is to be put on at the Columbia Theatre by the Columbia Stock Company this week, was written by Rev. George T. Downing, of Los Angeles. The Columbia production is on a scale of magnificence never equaled before in Portland, except perhaps when "Ben Hur" was produced. All ministers agree that "The Holy City" is the most beautiful and instructive drama of the day, and reconciles the stage with the pulpit. The review follows:

"The author, Thomas W. Broadhurst, has shown that he understands the power of reserve. He knows not only what should be said and done, but also what should neither be done nor said. The action revolves about the closing days of Jesus' life in Jerusalem. It was a delicate experiment, and if the author had attempted to have introduced a presentation of the Lord himself, his efforts would not have survived the opening night. But while he is the central figure, he never appears. He is described by those who see him, by the results which he accomplishes: the turning of Barnabas, the robber chief, into a penitent; the rescue from sin of Mary Magdalene; but that is all. And the effectiveness with which this is done is one of the highest evidences of the writer's art.

"As a result we have a revelation of what, with the accessories available in these modern days, may yet be accomplished when the drama shall become as it once was, an interpreter of religion. The reverent worshiper of Jesus Christ who would at first shrink, as did the writer of this review, from witnessing the story of that divine life, presented from behind the footlights need not hesitate to attend this performance. The whole atmosphere is one of quiet reverence and some of the scenes are remarkably beautiful.

Cathrine, Countess will do the finest work of her career as Mary the Magdalene, and in the first act, which is the best of all the play, the climax is superb. Mr. Baume will present an ideal Barnabas. The scene in which the women in insane and the silver in his hand turns into clots of blood, as portrayed by William Bernard, will never be forgotten by those who witness it. "The Holy City" is a play which can do good and only good.

Salem people desiring tickets may address A. H. Ballard, care Columbia Theatre, Portland, and they will be cared for.

A Grim Tragedy.

Is daily enacted in thousands of homes as death comes, in each one, another victim of consumption or pneumonia. But when coughs and colds are properly treated the tragedy is averted. F. G. Huntley, of Oakland, Ind., writes: "My wife had the consumption and three doctors gave her up. Finally she took Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, coughs and colds, which cured her, and today she is well and strong." It kills the germs of all diseases. One dose relieves. Guaranteed at 50c and \$1.00 by Dan J. Fry, drug-gest. Trial bottles free.

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Historic Old Landmark

BOSTON, Jan. 7, 1905.—Curiously enough Boston's latest step in the march of modern progress, the opening of the East Boston tunnel as one more extension of the city's remarkable transportation system, is the means of preserving one of the last of the Puritan capital's famous historical landmarks, the Old State House at the head of State street.

The lower story of the building, a great underground passenger station for the tube under the harbor by which the rapid transit lines of the island suburbs of East Boston and Winthrop have just been connected with the elevated, subway and surface car systems of the mainland.

Probably no building in the country has older or, in a certain way, more important historical associations than this. As is told on the two bronze tablets set in the passage way out through the end of the ground floor of the building to give entrance to the underground car lines, this was, in 1634, the site of the public market place; here, in 1657, was erected Boston's first town house, which was burned in 1711 and replaced two years later by the present building. The Great and General Court and the royal governor under the first three Georges occupied these quarters while Massachusetts had a colonial government; in them John Hancock was inaugurated first governor of the Commonwealth in 1780, and the State's General Court sat from then until 1798. From 1830 to 1839 the city government was in possession, and in recent years the upper part of the building has contained the collection of the Boston Historical Society, as it will continue to do.

The East Boston tunnel which has converted this ancient seat of government to modern industrial uses is simply the newest branch of the Boston Elevated Railway Company's system which serves practically the whole of greater Boston. It is not an extraordinarily important branch, except to the city's detached ward across the harbor, which heretofore has been dependent entirely on ferry boats, with the consequent delays and discomforts of such means of transportation. Already work has been started on the construction of a tunnel running the length of the city's congested district in which will be put the trains of the elevated lines, now carried through the same territory by the old Subway, which was the first underground road built in this country. Very shortly the construction of a combined subway and elevated line to afford more rapid transit between Boston and Cambridge will begin. But the East Boston tunnel is interesting as the first of the lateral arms, stretching out from the main system, by which the local transportation management plans to solve what is possibly the most difficult problem of its kind any community has to meet.

As a railroad station the Old State House becomes an integral part of the most remarkable network of transportation lines and terminals in the United States, and probably in the world. Greater Boston, as distinct from the incorporated city of Boston, is a very much scattered community of upwards of two million people, hundreds of thousands of whom travel every working morning "into town" and every evening out "home again. No other city in the land has relatively such a large proportion of commuters; fully 7,500,000 men and women pass in and out of street and steam railroad stations of the city each day—a total of not less than \$25 million a year. Then, too, Boston has become the channel of a surprising vacation traffic that is brought into New England from the Middle States and the West, and that flows outward from the Hub to every corner of the whole New England coast.

JAPS ARE CELEBRATING.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 7.—Fifteen hundred Japanese are marching the streets of Vancouver this evening in celebration of the fall of Port Arthur.

OPPOSE CLOSED SEASON.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 7.—The British Columbia Fishermen's Union in mass meeting today adopted resolutions opposing the proposition that the canners have closed season on salmon fishing on the Frazier river in 1906 and 1908.

TO REMOVE RUSSIAN PRISONERS.

TOKYO, Jan. 7.—It is understood the San Yo railroad has instructions to prepare to transport 20,000 Russian prisoners from Shimonoseki to Kure.

It is probable the prisoners will be quarantined near Kure. The most serious cases of sick and wounded will be left in Port Arthur for the present.

It is proposed to extend the motor line from Portland to Hillsboro on to Tillamook. Such a road would have more than it could do in the summer season, and plenty of business the balance of the year.

If the line to Hillsboro and Tillamook goes, and the one from Portland to Salem, Salem and Seaside to Roseburg, a very fair start will have been made in rendering Western Oregon a checker board of motor lines, which it is bound to be.

A GREAT OFFER

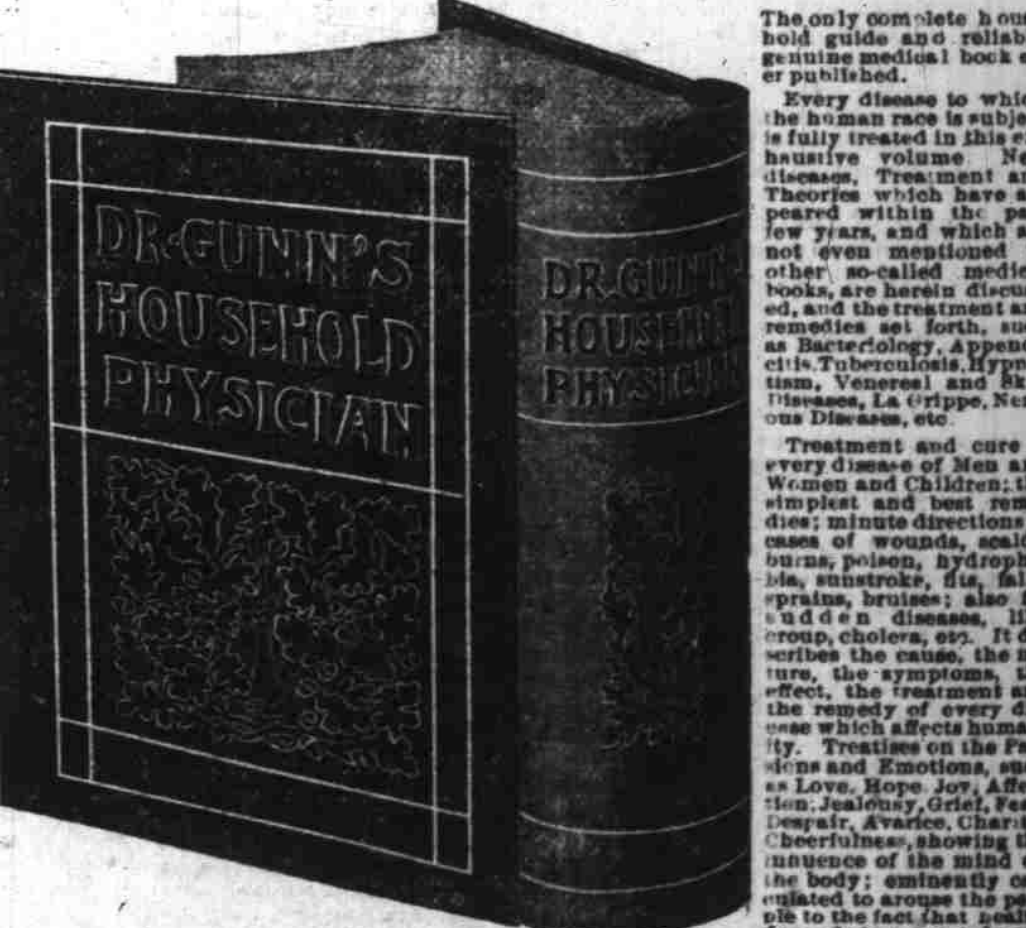
Dr. Gunn's Household Physician

OR HOME BOOK OF HEALTH

TO BE GIVEN AS A PREMIUM WITH

Twice-a-Week Statesman

THIS IS OUR OFFER: THIS BOOK WITH THE STATESMAN ONE YEAR \$3.25; OR BOOK ALONE \$2.50. HERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET A VALUABLE BOOK AT SMALL COST.



The only complete household guide and reliable genuine medical book ever published.

Every disease to which the human race is subject is fully treated in this exhaustive volume. Key diseases, treatment and theories which have appeared within the past few years, and which are not even mentioned in other so-called medical books, are herein discussed, and the treatment and remedies for such diseases, such as Bacteriology, Appendicitis, Tuberculosis, Hypertension, Venereal and Skin Diseases, La Grippe, Nervous Diseases, etc.

Treatment and cure of every disease of Men and Women and Children; the nature, symptoms, and best mode of cure; minute directions in cases of wounds, scalds, burns, hemorrhages, hydrophobia, sunstroke, flu, falls, sprains, bruises; also for other diseases. Describes the cause, the nature, the symptoms, the effect, the treatment and the prevention of every disease which affects humanity. Treatises on the Passions and Emotions, such as Love, Jealousy, Grief, Fear, Despair, Avarice, Charity, Cruelty, showing the influence of the mind on the body; minutely explained to arouse the people to the fact that health depends to a great degree on the proper direction and control of the passions and emotions.

ESSAYS ON INTEMPERANCE, USE OF TOBACCO, SLEEP EXERCISE, COLD, BATHS, ETC.

SPECIAL LECTURE TO YOUNG MEN.

A Complete Materia Medica, or list of the principal remedies, including nearly 300 medicinal plants, herbs and vegetable remedies; description of each; where found; when to be gathered; how to preserve same; their preparation for use.

Manual for Nursing the Sick. Treatises on Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene. Domestic and Sanitary Economy—Ventilation, Pure and Impure Air, Water, Purification of Water, Drainage, Disinfectants, etc., etc. Physical Culture and Development, etc.

Statesman Publishing Company,

Salem, Oregon.