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to the food. The food is thereby made more tasty and digestible



HOLLY SUPERSTITIONS

It is unlucky to bring holly or ivy into the house before Christmas eve and unlucky to take it out before Candlemas, or to put any Christmas decorations into the fire. Herrick, however, says that they should be burnt, but not until Candlemas eve, and the Christmas brand should be quenched and laid by till next year. This same brand Devonshire folk of today prefer to burn out, in spite of Herrick; but instead of an oak log it is an ashen faggot—a sheaf of ash-twigs bound round with five or ten strands of straw. As each strand burns through the guests who sit around the hearth must call for cider and drink a "Merry Christmas and many to follow."

CHRISTMAS PROVERBS

A prudent quotation on the bill of fare: "They are sick that surfeit with too much, as they that starve with nothing."
"The gadding vine" must be of the Christmas variety, for that splendid tendril is creeping through the whole earth.
"The mirror of all courtesy" should be polished on Christmas day.
"A royal train, believe me," is the reindeer equipage of good old St. Nick.
When does "Jocund day stand up-toe on the misty mountain tops" if not on merry Christmas?
It is not true that in the genial warmth of Christmastide "Crabbed age and youth Cannot live together."
"Nature teaches beasts to know their friends," and why should they not share in the Christmas good-will?

HOUSE AND TABLE DECORATIONS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

It is doubtful if St. Nick in all his travels ever beholds a dwelling in which no effort has been made to make festive the Yule-tide with the green of the leaf or the scarlet of the berry. Sometimes, when it is but a bit of faded ribbon or a tiny sprig of holly the tender-hearted old fellow must be greatly touched.

In the household where there are big eyes to peer into the mysterious darkness and small ears to listen for the old saint's coming, the Christmas tree, of course, is the universal decoration. The home carpenter may have some difficulty in making a device to support the tree properly. One way is to use a stout packing box, and turning it on its side, nail cleats to hold the tree in place. On the opposite side of the box directly over the cleat inclosures a hole is then cut which is large enough to admit the butt of the tree. The box may be covered with cotton, sprinkled with mica, or may simply be wrapped in green or red tissue paper.

To make a "foot" for the tree take two-by-four joists and make a square cross with the two pieces about four feet long. From the center of each cut out a block the width of the board and an inch deep, so that the two pieces when put together will be perfectly flat on the floor. Lay the tree across saw-horses or a couple of chairs and fasten it to the exact center with long nails. Then stand the tree up and nail braces from the ends of the cross to the trunk of the tree at a distance of about two feet from the floor. Appropriate trees, in the order of the popularity, are the fir, spruce, hemlock and pine. The end of the tree should be painted over to keep the sap from running.

Besides the tinsel decorations for the tree that may be bought in the shops, one may add to its attractiveness by many little home-made trifles. Walnuts may be gilded and hung from the tree by bright ribbons. Cranberries strung on thread may be festooned from the branches, and figures cut from crepe paper may be pasted to tiny clothespins and placed on the tree. One woman who was obliged to make her decorations from the materials at hand, gilded egg shells and, by means of a bit of ceiling wax and narrow ribbon, suspended them from the tree. She also dyed long strings of popcorn both green and red and hung them in festoons. From the butterfly crepe paper she cut the butterflies of various sizes and poised them on the branches with wire.

The Christmas Dinner Table.

The miniature Christmas tree for the center of the table is probably the most popular decoration because it lends itself so well to attractive lighting and the distribution of small gifts or favors. If one does not care for the artificial tree sold in the shops, any nurseryman, usually to be found out of town a ways, should be able to furnish at very small cost a little Norway spruce about a foot and a half high. This may be tucked to a thin board and trimmed as elaborately as one wishes, and the base covered with a mound of holly. A small log symbolizing the old Yule logs—which has been hallowed out and filled with holly or mistletoe—is also attractive and inexpensive. A gilded holly tree when lighted with many tiny candles is most effective.

The wreath idea in table decorating may be carried out in detail. About a tall candle in the center of the table place a large holly, or other Christmas wreath. Encircle this with smaller candles, not too close together, and about the candles have a larger wreath. Each plate may be encircled by a wreath and each dish that is served by be garnished in a way to carry out the same idea—parsley about the blue-points, and smilax twined about the sherbet glass, for instance.

A decoration more elaborate in appearance but simple in construction is the use of two hoops, one perhaps a foot and a half in diameter, the other two feet. These should be wound closely with Christmas greens or smilax and hung by wires from the ceiling, the smaller one about a foot above the larger. In the center suspend a huge red Christmas bell, and from the hoops hang smaller bells which may be those already made from tissue paper, or may easily be cut from red cardboard. A scarlet poinsettia would be appropriate for the center of the table, or candles with shades made from white or green, watercolor paper upon which have been pasted red bells. Place cards may be double bells, cut from red paper with the name on the outer sheet and the menu written on the inner one.

A decorative scheme suggested by the Christmas eve celebration of the Russians, called "The Festival of the Evening Star," requiring several sheets of gilded or silver paper. Cut

a large star to lie flat in the center of the table and about its edges make a border of holly or mistletoe. Tiny candles may follow the lines of the star, or a wooden manger be constructed in which are piled small gifts tied with ribbons that are carried to each place. The candle shades may be studded with little stars, and the place cards be cut in star shape.

From the small dining room with perhaps a dome swung from a single chain from the ceiling, ropes of cedar festooned from the molding to the center of the ceiling give a gala effect. The chain of the light should be wound with the cedar, and the glass covered with thin paper upon which fir trees cut from dark green paper have been pasted. Candles with shades fashioned in the same way add to the effect. For a center piece a great mound of snowballs, made from cotton sprinkled with diamond dust and containing some small gift, would be fitting.

A toy aeroplane, painted red or green, with the venerable Santa at the wheel, and the planes covered with drifted cotton snow which has formed irregular icicles depending from the edge, may seem a violation of the reindeer tradition, but it has the advantage of being quite new.

A Few Suggestions for the Children's Table.

Cover the table to within about a foot of the edge with white cotton sprinkled with mica dust, and outline the cotton with holly. Form a chimney in the center of bricks which are red candy boxes. Arrange the cotton about the top of the chimney like snow with bits of it hanging down, and place a figure of Santa Claus to look as though he were just emerging from the chimney. The children at the conclusion of the dinner, may be given the candy boxes and the small gifts that Santa's pack contains.

Gifts may also be secreted in a huge snowball made of pasteboard and covered with cotton, or each little article may be rolled in its own cotton "snowball" and the balls with white ribbons attached that lead to each place may be piled up about the figure of St. Nick in the center.

In place of "Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen" harness the beloved Teddy bears with scarlet ribbons to the sleigh that Santa drives over a mountainous snowheap in the center of the table. Or erect the North Pole—a mica sprinkled stick of rock candy—at the top of the glittering snow-heap and place Teddy in a proud attitude of victory upon it.

HOW TO CURE RHEUMATISM.

It is an Internal Disease and Requires an Internal Remedy.

The cause of Rheumatism and kindred diseases is an excess of uric acid in the blood. To cure this terrible disease this acid must be expelled and the system so regulated that no more acid will be formed in excessive quantities. Rheumatism is an internal disease and requires an internal remedy. Rubbing with Oils and Liniments will not cure, affords only temporary relief at best, causes you to delay this proper treatment, allows the malady to get a firmer hold on you. Liniments may ease the pain, but they will not more cure Rheumatism than paint will change the fibre of rotten wood. Science has at last discovered a perfect and complete cure, which is called "Rheumicide." Tested in hundreds of cases, it has effected the most marvelous cures; we believe it will cure you. Rheumicide "gets at the joints from the inside," sweeps the poisons out of the system, tones up the stomach, regulates the liver and kidneys and makes you well all over. Rheumicide "strikes the root of the disease and removes its cause." This splendid remedy is sold by druggists and dealers generally at 50c, and \$1 a bottle. In tablet form at 25 and 50c a package. Get a bottle today. Booklet free if you write to Bobbitt Chemical Co., Baltimore, Md. Trial bottle tablets 25c by mail. For sale by LAURENS DRUG CO.

NOTICE ANNUAL SETTLEMENT

The annual meeting of the County Board of Commissioners of Laurens County will be held at the Supervisor's office on Thursday the 5th day of January, 1911.

All persons holding claims against the County will file them with the clerk on or before the 1st day of January, as required by law.

Messrs. Babb, County Clerk.

20-3t

Notice. We will sell at public auction on salesday in January, the following property divided into five tracts of one hundred acres each; known as Jobl Smith place joining land of Ware Shoals Mfg. Co.

G. D. Babb, Zeb Vance, Executors.

19-4t pd.

WILLIAMS' KIDNEY PILLS

Have you overworked your nervous system and caused trouble with your kidneys and bladder? Have you pains in your joints, side, back and bladder? Have you a flabby appearance of the face, and under the eyes? A frequent desire to pass urine? If so, Williams' Kidney Pills will cure you—Druggist, Price 50c. WILLIAMS MFG. CO., Prop., Cleveland, Ohio; Laurens Drug Co., Laurens, S. C.



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Rexall

SHOULDER BRACES

Offer you the best possible assistance in correcting any inclination to round or stooping shoulders and, by compelling deep breathing, add to the general health of the wearer.

This brace may be worn without discomfort, has no metal parts to bind or chafe and does not interfere with the circulation.

We have the Rexall Brace in all sizes for men, women and children—give us your chest measurement.

Price, \$1.00
Laurens Drug Co., Laurens, S. C.

Christmas in Odd Corners

Yuletide Recollections of a Traveler

It has been my lot to spend many of my Christmases in foreign lands. I recall one dismal holiday spent in a filthy post-house on the Great Post Road at Nijni Udinsk, now, in these days of the trans-Siberian railway, a place of some importance.

I was alone, on my way from Petersburg to Irkutsk. On the previous day I had overtaken a convoy of prisoners in chains, and as on the morning of the Russian Christmas day I was sitting by the high brick stove I saw the Cossacks and their despairing charges arrive.

I remember walking and talking with several of them in that wilderness of newly fallen snow. Most of them were, or said they were, victims of the unscrupulous agents provocateurs of the government, and all seemed bitter against the czar and his advisers—as indeed they well might be.

Another Christmas of the Greek calendar I spent in Servia—in Belgrade, the capital of that gallant little state, the powder-magazine of the Balkans. It was a cold, bright, sunny day, and an air of festivity was everywhere. The service in the cathedral, attended by the king and his cabinet, was a brilliant affair, and after a stroll in the delightful Kalemegdan garden, overlooking the Danube, I lunched with my friend the minister of justice and his charming American wife. The streets were hung with flags, exchanges of presents and flowers were universal, and many were the quaint Serb customs.

The twenty-fifth of December three years ago I spent wearily in the stuffy restaurant car of the Nord express between Paris and Petersburg. Again, I was alone and I remember, as we returned out of Vilna station to the great plain towards Dunaburg, the chief of that celebrated express produced his triumph—an English pudding, with a small piece of holly stuck in the top. My fellow passengers, being all foreigners, failed to appreciate it. But I did.

Another memorable holiday was that I passed in the reindeer-skin hut of a Laplander half-way between Alexan-drovsk and Kandalaksha. I was traveling by sled, I had left Kirkenaes, on an arm of the Arctic ocean, a month before and was now working my way south toward Archangel.

I produced a bottle of much-shaken port wine, in honor of the occasion, and poured out a glass for my host. He was very suspicious of it, and compelled me to swallow mine first. Then he sipped his, and pulled a wry face. His wife tasted it, and sniffed suspiciously, and afterward the servants, but all declared it was some horrid English decoction—some medicine, it must be, they said. They had never before tasted wine. They had never seen a bunch of grapes, never a rose, and never even a tree.

One Yuletide dinner I ate at Ciro's, at Monte Carlo, where the fooling was fast and furious, and with my friends I watched "the tables" afterward, supping across at the Hotel de Paris, and receiving a present from the monster tree.—William Le Queux.

CHICHESTER'S PILLS

THE DIAMOND BRAND. Medical Aids your Druggist for Chichester's Diamond Brand Pills in Red and Gold metallic boxes, sealed with Blue Ribbon. Take no other. Buy Diamond Brand Pills, for 25 years known as Best, Safest, Always Reliable. SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.

Faultless Style Plus Perfect Wear

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The SOUTHERN GIRL

\$2.00 Shoe \$2.50



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This same shoe in our "Autograph" Brand, \$2.50 - \$3.00, is Goodyear Welt Sewed; in our College Woman's Walking Shoe it equals the best custom make.

CRADDOCK-TERRY CO., Lynchburg, Va.

A Xmas Present!

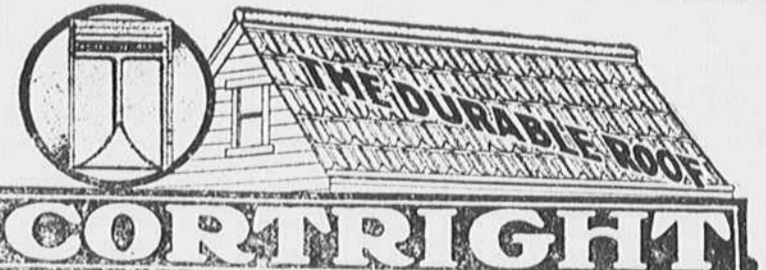
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Are you going to buy "tons" of fertilizer or pounds of plant food? Are you figuring on a so-called magic brand, or on buying what your land needs?

You must have soil of the right consistency. The elements lacking in your soil must be put in, and most important of all, they must stay in.

For Home Mixing or Direct Application Nothing Equals

Thomas Phosphate

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We are special importers of Thomas Phosphate and headquarters for materials for home mixing.

Muriate of Potash, Sulphate of Potash, Nitrate of Potash, Imp. Fish Guano, High Grade Tankage, Nitrate of Soda, High Grade Dried Blood.

Our Formula Book and "Thomas Phosphate and Its Uses" sent free upon request.

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