

THE NOVEMBER CHRISTMAS.

You can't help kind o' wishin' dat de time would hurry round. When gits in on 'de Christmas tree an' snow is on de ground...

A MEMORIAL.

The sound of the piano filled the big parlour room. A score of "Parsifal" lay open on the rack, but it was his own composition Laidlaw was playing...

"I have played too long—I have wearied you, Signor. Pardon I did forget." Laidlaw caught her hands in his. "Child," he said, "you are an artist!"

"Another one, Dawkins," he said to the man who appeared with the tea tray. "You will honor me, Signorina? Or will your mother miss you perhaps and be alarmed?"

"The madre knows," the child answered quietly, "she permits that I listen daily if I am very still, if I do not annoy. I am often here till quite late—till the Signor has finished his practice. Then I run quickly home. It is not far and I have no fear."

Laidlaw watched her keenly as she ate and drank, eagerly, yet with a certain daintiness that comported well with the grave courtesy of her manner and the formal precision of her speech.

It had seemed to him always more a part of herself, more closely inwrought with her being than any other of her possessions, and somehow the sight of it brought him a memory of her more real, more vivid than might be.

"The Signor permits," he said. Instantly the child was on her knees beside the case. In truth he need not have feared. Tenderly, lovingly, reverently almost she drew the violin from its place, a look of such rapture on her wizen little face as quite transfixed it.

The child's cantabile was matchless: her bowing perfect. Under her touch the violin wailed and sang; whispered and sobbed and sighed, till the rapture of hearing became almost as poignant as pain.

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among them the building of a chapel here in the village—but it has seemed to me that a truer memorial than that of senseless stone and mortar would lie in helping others to perfect themselves in the art she loved.

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From the Funny Side.

"Did Edith marry a title?" "Well, she married Kouders, who is known about town as a prince of good fellows."

Merchant (to hawkler)—"Call those safety matches. Why, they won't light at all!" Hawkler—"Well, wot could yer 'ave safer?"

"He declares his wife made him all that he is." "Quite likely; and I should judge that she didn't waste more than half an hour on the job."

"He says he has more money than he knows what to do with." "Ah! then he isn't married. A man may have more money than he knows what to do with, but if he has a wife she'll know a thing or two."

Tramp—"It is needless to ask the question, madam. You know what I want." Lady—"Yes, I know what you want badly, but I've only one bar of soap in the house and the servant is using it. Come again some other time."

"How much did you say?" queried the man who had finally decided to dispose of his horse and buy an auto. "The price of that machine is \$2,800," replied the dealer. "And—er—do you warrant it gentle and sound and not afraid of the cars?"

"Do you have much trouble in keeping your boy off the street?" asked Mrs. Gadsby. "Yes, I know what you want, but I've only one bar of soap in the house and the servant is using it. Come again some other time."

Rising Politician (whose friends have given him a brass band serenade): My fellow citizens, this spontaneous tribute touches me deeply. I am at a loss to find words to express my thanks. You have laid me under obligations I shall never be able to repay.

Leader of Brass Band (in alarm): But dis vas to pe a cash transaction, mein friend!

The brawny Irishman had been hanging around the dock for two hours, seeming to be especially interested in a huge anchor which was lying on the wharf.

Yis, said Mrs. Clancy, Pat and I have parted forever. I went to the hospital to ax after him. I want to see my husband sez I—the man that got blowed up. Yez can't see him, sez the doothor; he's under the influence of Ann Esthetics. I don't know the lady, sez I, mighty dignified looking, but if my lawful wedded husband can't let me see him, he's at the doo; I'll have a divorce from him.

Some years ago an English traveler visiting the Transal asked a man whom he met to direct him to the President's house.

You, came the answer, abut ko on dill you comes to a road wot koes around der schoolhouse; but you don't dake dot road. No, you ko on till you see der pig barn, road down der field and ko on dill you comes to a pig road house; dot ees my Broder Hans' hose. Don't ko in dere; ko strate on dill you comes to der haystick mine a farm. Veli, he don't live dere.

During one of my visits through the country districts, said the professor, I happened to reach a small village where they were to have a flag raising at the school house. After the banner had been "flung to the breeze" there was an exhibition of drawings which the pupils had made and one of the work they had done during one year.

The teacher recited to them the landing of the Pilgrims, and after she had finished she requested each pupil to try and draw from his or her imagination a picture of Plymouth Rock.

Well, Willie, what is it? asked the teacher. Please, ma'am, do you want us to draw a hen or a rooster?

In the days of Barnum, an old "auntie" lived in East Tennessee who was reputed to be of great age. Like all her kind she was extremely proud of her distinction, and never underestimated her age in the least.

Barnum heard of her, and concluding that if she was as old as rumor made her she would be a valuable acquisition to his show, he sent an agent down to make an investigation. She sought the direction of the wind very promptly, and was prepared for any test that might be asked.

"Does I recollect George Washington?" "Why laws-a-massy, Mistah, I reckon I does. I cenes, ardent I? Fer Edoues pussed him. We played together ev'ry day when he was a li' chile."

Pound Big Cave of Extinct Animals.

American Museum Expeditions Happen Upon Specimens of Mammals that Lived 2,000,000 Years Ago—Two Carloads of Fossils.

Three expeditions under Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn returned to the American Museum of Natural History yesterday from the Rocky Mountains. They brought back two carloads of skeletons of many animals heretofore undiscovered, besides complete skeletons of monsters of which there were in the world's museums previously only fragments.

Most remarkable was the discovery of a cave in New Mexico containing thousands of complete and fragmentary skeletons of a whole menagerie of extinct animals. Prof. Osborn gave the following account of the expeditions and their results:

"The mammal expedition into the Fort Bridger region, Wyoming, was in charge of Dr. W. D. Matthew and Mr. Walter Grainger. This is a classic locality. Special search was made for complete remains of the great horned quadruped which inhabited this region in the ocene period. As a result portions of two skeletons of Uintatherium were obtained, also a fine lower jaw.

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Foot Gear of the Japanese.

The Japanese shoes, or "geta," as they are called, says the London Chronicle, are one of the singularly distinctive features of Japanese life which will strike the observer with wonderment as soon as he sees them looming along the roadway or hears them scraping the gravel with an irritable squeak that makes his nerves shudder.

The shoes are divided into two varieties: The low shoe is called the "komageta" and is only used when the roads are in good condition. The high shoes, named "ashida," are worn when the weather is rainy and the roads are muddy.

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