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#### How to Give the Present.

Says Miss Thoughtful: "How shall I give my Christmas gifts?" writes Ruth Ashmore in the Christmas number of The Ladies Home Journal. I answer: "Do not give it, my dear, send it; or if you are in the same house with those for whom you have prepared something, put it where it may be found when you are not about. Of course, you are going to make every gift have a holiday air That is, some of the pennies will go to buy sheets of white, yellow, brown, pink and blue tissue paper, and more pennies will go to buy some pieces of Tom Thumb ribbon to tie tnem up with. Use yellow ribbon on the brown, white on the yellow, blue on the pink, pink on the blue, and if you should get a scarlet paper, though I do not think it is so very pretty, make it gorgeous with gold thread.

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#### Burdette on Christmas.

It seems to me-and it isn't my fault that the sunset is fairer and lovelier than the sunrise-that there was something more Christmasy about Christmas when I was a boy, writes Robert J. Burdette in the Christmas number of The Ladies' Home Journal, in an article on "Christmas When I Was a Boy." Its pleasures were simpler, its gifts were heartier. At least, I cannot remember to have read, save in these latter years, articles in family journals and magazines bewailing the burdens of toil and worry and expense in the planning and making, or purchasing of Christmas presents. "Krismus gifs', we called them when I was a boy. It didn't and doesn't have much refinement of culture in the spelling and the sound thereof. But the people who made them didn't rush into the papers to tell how much it cost them, and how tired to death it made them, and how glad they were that it was all over for another year. But last year and the year before I read such articles in print. So d d you. Wherefore it seems to me that we killed Kris Kringle a full century too soon. We have more currants in our Christmas cake under the reign of Santa Claus, it is true. But we have also more full sheet-music plates, handsome cover, including the following gems, unaflies in it.

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to your life believes proceeding to the con-tropy this distributing compaints but for the their gradient does not self the regard those motify them with find these little pills with not many ways that they will not be wil-down bout them. But after all rick head

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which we propose to send to you, transportation paid. The little darling rests against a pillow, and is in the act of drawing off its pink sock, the mate of which has been pulled off and flung saide with a triumphant coo. The flesh tints are perfect, and the eyes follow you, no matter where you stand. The exquisite reproductions of this greatest painting of Ida Waugh (the most celebrated of modern painters of baby life) are to be given to those who subscribe to Demorest's Family Magazine for 1893. The reproductions cannot be told from the original, which cost \$400, and are the same size 47x22 inches). The baby is life size, and absolutely lifelike. We have also in preparation, to present to our subscribers during 1823, other great pictures by suchartists as Fercy Moran, Maud Humphrey, Louis Deschamps, and others of world-wide renown. Take only two examples of what we did during the past year, "A Yard of Pansies," and "A White House Orchid" by the wife of President Harrison, and you will see what our promises mean.

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A man's idea of practising economy is to preach it three times a day to his to preach it three times a day to his many and John, 40 what is Love.

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A PHILOSOPHICAL COCKROACH.

A cockroach sat ex an editor's desk,
With a cynical smile on his face:
And watched the editor make grotesque
Black marks on a clean white place.
"Dear mel" said the cockroach, "I can't see
Why he should labor so constantly.
For he doesn't accomplish a single thing
With all his writing and selseoring.
Paste and selseors.
Scissors and paste—
Think of the energy going to waste!"

The editor listened, but didn't reply, For he had too much to do: But he said to himself, "One can't deny There's much in the point of view. One can not measure his neighbor's worth One can not measure his neighbor's worth

By the grain he makes in the face of the earth;

And I strongly suspect that he may be

Perfectly right in his judgment of me.

Paste and scis-ors,

Scissors and paste—

Think of the energy going to waste!"

Then the editor smashed the cockroach fist With his seissors, and buried him deep In the pot of paste, and remarked, "Now that I consider is getting off cheep.
The criment faculty, as we know.
Is a dangerous thing to have, and so
I've forwarded you to a better land.
For the sake of society, understand.
Then the editor took up his pen and said,
As he looked at the controach lying dead,

"Paste and scissors, Scissors and paste— Think of the energy going to waste!" -Chicago Journal.



heart)-Judge, we would like you to

The Judge-Thanks, I don't know who you are; but I never refuse to drink with a gentleman, be friend or stranger. I'll be with you in one minute. - Puck.

#### Fleecing a Magician.

Hermann, the magician, once met his match and thus pleasantly tells how an innocent-looking young man cleverly outwitted him :

We were at a private room in a hotel one evening, and there I met some friends, and was introduced to a simplelooking youth of the dude persuasion, whose face was as vacant in expression as a pound of putty. This youth had been bragging of his powers as a poker player, and had made the others so tired that they whispered me to take the conceit out of him for the fun there was in it. I was ready, and we sat down. Well, when we began the games I allowed the youngster to win, in order to get him interested, and, the better to enjoy the circus, the otherdropped out, and my victim and I had the table to ourselves. Of course I was to give him back whatever I won from him, that was understood. We made the game a quarter ante and a dollar limit, so that we could use money without making any awkwa change. Every time my callow friend won a pot, he put the silver and bills in his pocket, and would chip in the money as he needed it. After he had won a respectable pile, I began to get my work in, and, by handling and dealing the cards in my own peculiar way, I soon had his pile considerably diminished. Occasionally I would let him win, just to keep the fun up; and I don't know but what I enjoyed my opponent's innocence as much as did my friends. But all things must have an end. Finally I cleaned him out, much to his surprise; and then my friends

"I say, old man," said one, "do you know with whom you've been playin'?" "Yes," replied my victim, calmly-"Hermann, the magician; and he's a

could not keep it in any longer.

This was somewhat of a surprise all around. But I laughed and handed him back the money I had won. He wouldn't take it. No, sir. Said I had won it; had he won mine, he would have kept it, and under no consideration would be take it back. That was not his way of playing poker. It was of no use for me to protest, to tell him I had deliberately robbed him. He was sorry that he had got in with a man who didn't play a square game, but said it was his lookout. He ought to have seen that he was being fleeced, and with his eyes wide open, too, but he was not the man to sque al.

I tell you, I felt mean. I didn't think it half so funny then as I did before. But all I could do or say made no impression on my victim, and, with a dignified bow, he left us.

"All I can do," I said to one of my friends, "will be to give this money to some charitable institution." Then il gave the waiter one of the bills I had won to pay for some wine. He came back with it and the information that it was a counterfeit. Yes, sir; that guileless youth had won my good money, and rung in over a hundred dollars' worth of paper on me that wasn't worth a cent a pound. I'm pretty good at handling cards, but poker is a very uncertain game-very uncertain."

Getting it Down Fine.

Guest-What's this extra charge of \$5 for ?

Hotel Clerk-That's for fees which you neglected to give the waiter .-

An Afflicted Woman. "Isn't Mrs. Cubbage troubled with

"Not that I know of, but she is aw-

strabismus?' fully cross-eyed."-Puck.