

'Twas the Week Before Christmas

MY folks act funny nowadays—
I can't tell what is going on.
When ma comes in she always says,
"What bundles come when I was gone?"
An' if I touch a closet door
Or hunt for playthings anywhere
Somebody runs across the floor
And says I "mustn't go in there!"

My sister talks a heap with ma,
But whispers when I come aroun'.
An' they hide things away so pa
Won't see 'em when he comes from town.
I told pa all about it too;
He only laughed, an' said to me,
"This time o' year it's best for you
Not to observe the things you see."



"HAVE YOU BEEN LOOKING?"

There's packages behind the bed
In ma's room. When I found them there
I ast her what they was. She said,
"Have you been looking? I declare!"
An' now they're gone; but there's a lot
Of bundles in the cellar, though.
An' ma says she won't tell me what
They are, for I don't need to know.

Ma hides things from my sister—yes,
An' sister she hides things from ma.
They're sewin' somepin not a dress,
An' both of them hide that from pa!
There's somepin poked behind the book,
But pa he's gone an' turned the lock;
An' near as I can see, it looks
Like somepin's hid behind the clock.

My folks acts funny—I can't see
Why they should all drop ever'thing

An' pick some errand out for me
Whenever they hear our bell ring;
An' I ain't treated right, nohow,
It don't seem just exactly fair
Wherever I am stated now
One of 'em says, "Don't go in there!"
—W. D. Nesbit in Chicago Tribune.

Christmas With Lewis and Clark.

Some rain at different times last night and showers of hail, with intervals of fair starlight. This morning at day we were saluted by our party under our winders, a Shout and a Song. After breakfast we divided our tobacco, which amounted 2 Carrots, one half we gave to the party who used Tobacco, those who did not we gave a Handkerchief as a present. The day proved showery all day, the lads, left us this evening, all our party moved into their huts, we dried some of our wet goods. I received a present of a Fleese Hosiery (leece hosiery), vest, draws & Socks of Capt. Lewis, pr Mockersons of Whitehouse, a small Indian basket of Guterlich (Goodrich) & 2 Doz weasels tales of the Squar of Shabono & some black roots of the Indians. Our Dinner to day consisted of pore Elk boiled, split fish & some roots, a bad Christmas dinner, warm day.—From "Newly Discovered Personal Records of Lewis and Clark."

A Curious Custom of Oxfordshire.

In some places in Oxfordshire, England, it was the right of every maid-servant to ask the hired man for a bit of ivy to trim the house. If he turned a deaf ear to her importunities or forgot her request she would steal a pair of his breeches and nail them to the gate in the yard or on the highway. This was supposed to debar him from all privileges of the mistletoe.

For St. Nicholas' White Horse.

In Belgium the children expect the good St. Nicholas to visit them. They think he rides on a white horse, so they polish their shoes with great care, fill them with hay, oats or carrots for the saint's horse and put them in the fireplace or on a table, and in the morning, instead of the forage, they find sticks for the bad children and candies for the good ones.

Laurel For Christmas Decoration.

The laurel being an evergreen makes a striking feature in a winter landscape. Enormous quantities are used in the Christmas dressing of churches for wreaths and other decorations. Mountain laurel can be grown for decorative purposes, and it is easily cultivated. What comes to market is gathered from the wild laurel growth.

The Spirit of Giving.

Don't give only where you expect a return or wonder whether you will be supposed to buy something for A., B. or C. The spirit of Christmas lies in the loving and the giving—never in the receiving.

Ether and Matter.

The densest matter is more or less porous. Gold will absorb mercury as a lump of sugar will absorb water, showing there must be interstices or interatomic spaces in it, but the ether shows no such property. If a drop of water could be magnified sufficiently one would ultimately see the different atoms of hydrogen and oxygen that constitute the molecules of water. If a small volume of ether could be thus magnified the indications are that the ultimate part would look like the first, which is the same as saying that it is not made up of discrete particles, but fills space completely. This is expressed by saying that the ether is a continuous medium and is hence incomparable with matter.

An Odd Bird's Nest.

The oddest of all birds' nests is the one built by the toubane, a South African songster. It is built of cotton and always upon the tree producing the material. In constructing the domicile the female works inside and the male outside, where he builds a sentinel box for his own special use. He sits in the box and keeps watch or sings nearly all the time, and when danger comes in the form of a hawk or a snake he warns the family, but never enters the main nest.

A FAMOUS REMEDY



"I cured MY cough with German Syrup!"
He wrote to Dr. G. G. Green:
"An' as true as I tell you, doctor dear,
I'm feelin' finer than ever I've been!"

The poor consumptive should not be the victim of experiment, as he often is, but the moment the dread disease manifests its presence he should be given Boschee's German Syrup—a pure, non-alcoholic medicine that is made specially for the cure of consumption, and has a worldwide fame as a certain remedy for catarrh, colds, coughs, croup, sore throat and all bronchial affections in old and young. It is sold in all civilized countries, and has been famous as a consumption cure for almost half a century.

Trial bottle, 25c. Big bottle, 75c. At all druggists throughout the world.

R. C. DODSON.



December Sale of Millinery

WE are closing out our stock of Winter Millinery at greatly reduced prices. ONE-THIRD off on all Trimmed Goods. All Street Hats at ONE-HALF PRICE. All Wings and Ostrich Feathers at ONE-THIRD and ONE-HALF off former price. - - - We are showing for the Christmas trade, a fine line of HANDKERCHIEFS, STOCK and TURN OVER COLLARS, HOSIERY and JAPANESE DRAWN WORK.

LUDLAM'S

Two Doors East of Post office,

EMPORIUM, PA.

Begin Buying Now for Christmas

A Look in the Windows.



Will bring you in close connection with the beauties of this store and of the great variety of novelties we are showing for Christmas.

Don't forget our Merchant Tailoring Department, which is always well supplied with all the latest styles. Don't pay fancy prices for "city made" clothing when we can give you the best fit of stylish made clothing. Get our prices and compare goods.

Nothing has been forgotten—the good substantial sorts of things that men and boys wear, are here in abundance.

We want to impress this fact upon you, that whatever you do—whatever you buy, wherever you go—don't pass by seeing this stock this season.

The Early Buyer

has an advantage, a great advantage, and one that must not be ignored if judicious buying is to be pursued

Right now is the very best time to shop; not only this but every store has ready the Christmas showing, complete. Styles, shades and assortments are at their very best now and now is the time to make selections.

We have prepared a little plan to put aside whatever you select for Christmas and keep it until you call. Pay when you get it. This will help those who are not prepared to make early purchases.

You should make a trip through our store now and get acquainted with the new ideas for men and boys. Such things that can't well be described, but are designed to satisfy and please the most fastidious dresser.

We can't single out one department for praise above the other. Each show-case, each division in the shelves is a miniature department complete. The showing of Christmas novelties this year, surpasses any heretofore attempt and will, we know, be enjoyed by all who come and see.

Cut This List Out and Put it in Your Hat:

For the Man.

Neckwear,	Suit Cases,
Muefflrs,	House Coats,
Gloves,	Bath Robes,
Umbrellas,	Night Robes,
Dress Shields,	Pajamas,
Scarf Pins,	Armlets,
Cuff Buttons,	Garters,
Suspenders,	Hats,
Hosiery,	Caps,
Underwear,	Suits,
Collars,	Overcoats,
Linen Handkerchiefs,	Rain Coats,
Silk Handkerchiefs,	Shirts,
Grips,	Sweaters,
Trunks, Valises,	Leggins,
Initial Handkerchiefs,	Toques.

R. SEGER & CO.,

NEXT TO FIRST NAT'L BANK,
FOURTH STREET.