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The population of Europe doubles once each 600 years.

The total cost of the Chinese missions amounts to about \$1,250,000 annually.

In times of war the armies of European nations can be raised to 2,366,000 men, and the daily expenses will be nearly \$20,000,000.

Farm land in the northern tier of counties of New York brings less money now than it did fifteen years ago, avers the Mail and Express.

In Australia horses and cattle are now being branded by electricity from storage batteries.

China has only 200 miles of railway in actual operation. Japan's total length of railway lines, for which concessions are granted, is 2520 miles, of which 1912 miles are in actual operation.

A Western health officer is interesting himself in the cultivation of mushrooms. He says: "I suppose that thousands of tons of mushrooms go to waste every year in the State of Ohio alone, while hundreds of pounds of the same edible are imported into the State from France."

A new monument to Garibaldi, and the finest in Italy, is to be erected in Rome soon. It is said that there is not a town of any considerable size in Italy which has not a statue of Garibaldi and one of Victor Emmanuel.

It is said that seven suicides is the normal daily average in New York and vicinity. Facts collected prove that poverty, which is usually considered a prime cause for self-murder, does not figure as the motive in the majority of these suicides, for most of the persons are those in comfortable circumstances.

Those who have theories about the necessities of beginning a literary career in early youth will find no convenient illustration in the biography of Mr. Du Maurier, mused the New York Tribune.

One needs only to turn to the records of the Pension Office in Washington to realize how rapidly the men who fought in the Union Army thirty years ago are passing away.

The assassination of President Carnot has made the fortune of the hardware dealer in Cete, where Caserio bought the knife with which he committed his crime.

Women are certainly driving men from many fields, notes the New York Tribune. In the town of Fieberbrunn, near Innsbruck, Tyrol, a few weeks ago, there was a wrestling match for women.

The Students' Movement is now organized in more than 400 colleges. It was started in Philadelphia five years ago, and its purpose is defined as follows: "To organize the students in the universities and every great professional school, so that each college shall have suitable rooms for social and religious advantage, that young men coming as strangers to the city can be introduced into good homes, to attend upon church, and to be surrounded by healthful, social and religious influences, and that the social and spiritual side of the student's life should be looked after as carefully as the intellectual."

Experiments are being made with compressed hay soaked in a drying oil for paving blocks.

The statistics of life insurance people show that within the last twenty-five years the average of a man's life has increased five per cent., or two whole years, from 41.9 to 43.9 years.

The adoption of a universal postage stamp, which can be used in any country, will be the most important proposal at the '97 Postal Congress in Washington, announces the St. Louis Star-Sayings.

Brazil has long been having a revolution. Now the bill has been presented. It is for \$40,000,000, and, according to the San Francisco Examiner, Brazil cannot help but wonder anxiously if she got enough for the money.

Census returns of the Indian Territory show that out of its population, 178,097, only 25,055 are Indians, these belonging to the five civilized tribes—Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole.

The United States Entomological Commission has shown that our forest trees are hotels, where a multitude of insects board and lodge. The oak provides provision and a home for 309 species of insects and lodgings for 150 more.

M. Casimir-Perier, President of the French Republic, during his recent tour in the provinces, drove about in an especially constructed carriage the seat of which was so high that an ordinary person could scarcely reach it from the street.

Colonel Dulier, a Belgian officer, has discovered that steam precipitates the soot of which smoke is composed. He has invented a chimney with two steam jets, into which two steam jets are passed. By this means he purifies the smoke.

The New York Tribune remarks: Among recent "silly season" topics in the London press was that of "mummy wheat" and its alleged germination. The discussion was, unlike most such, of real interest, for it revealed the fact that many people, including some with pretensions to scientific knowledge, actually do believe that grains of wheat taken from mummy cases and thousands of years old have sprouted, grown to stalk, and borne seed.

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A SONG OF THANKSGIVING.

Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving! Of yours, In the youth of the Nation, When the harvest had yielded its store There was feast and oblation.

BRAND'S THANKSGIVING.

BY W. BERT POSTER

ELL, as long as you won't go with us, I'll pass you'll look after things," said Farmer Brand, sitting beside the woodpile where his eldest son was at work.

"I wish you would go with us, John," said his father, after hesitating a moment, gently laying his hand on his son's shoulder.

"I hate holidays," growled John, throwing off his father's hand roughly and continuing his attack on the wood.

It was a crisp November morning, the ground frozen as hard as a rock and a brittle covering of ice over all the puddles and in muddy ruts.

Ten years before his mother had died. He had loved his mother—almost worshipped her, in truth—and her death had made him feel very bitter against the fate which had taken her away.

There were two hundred acres of it, woodland and meadow, hill and plain. It would all be his some day, so there was no use in J. E.'s going off for himself, so his father said, and John was accounted a fortunate fellow indeed by the neighbors.

seemed, in fact, to have made him dumb. He only looked his scorn, anger and contempt, and from that day was a changed being.

His sociability and wit had enlivened almost every gathering of young people in the region since his arrival at manhood. Those gatherings knew him no more.

At first this new wife tried her best to gain John's favor; but the young man repelled all her advances and never spoke to her unless he was absolutely obliged. In fact, he spoke to no one unless forced to.

John turned up the collar of his rough coat and chirruped to the horses.

The young wife did all she could to win his love, but to no avail, and before a year of her married life had passed she had something else to think of.

He hoped that it would die, but little Billy grew up a strong, healthy boy, never having seen an ill day in his short life.

He worked moodily on till noon, then fed the stock, and after looking the house went down to the village tavern and sat his dinner there.

It was almost dark when he returned to the farmhouse. He did the chores and went to bed before the others arrived—little Billy wild with delight over the festivities of the day.

Winter came quickly after that Thanksgiving. The snow wrapped everything in its fleecy covering, drifted over fences and across the public roads, became crusty hard and snowed again, repeating the performance until it lay three or four feet deep all over the country side.

Not far below the house the woodland road. Half a mile through this and he came to the place he had been looking for. There were the child's footprints where he had turned aside

into the woods. He followed them rapidly. Guard sniffing excitedly at the prints of the little rubber boots.

A few yards back from the road was the log on which little Billy had seated himself to rest. When he arose from that he turned deeper into the woods instead of toward the road.

He shouted occasionally as he went on, but no answer reached him. The child had traveled an astonishing distance, and almost directly away from home.

John growled something which might have meant yes, or nothing, and drove out of the yard. Billy started bravely in the rear, although it was quite two miles to Mrs. Peckham's.

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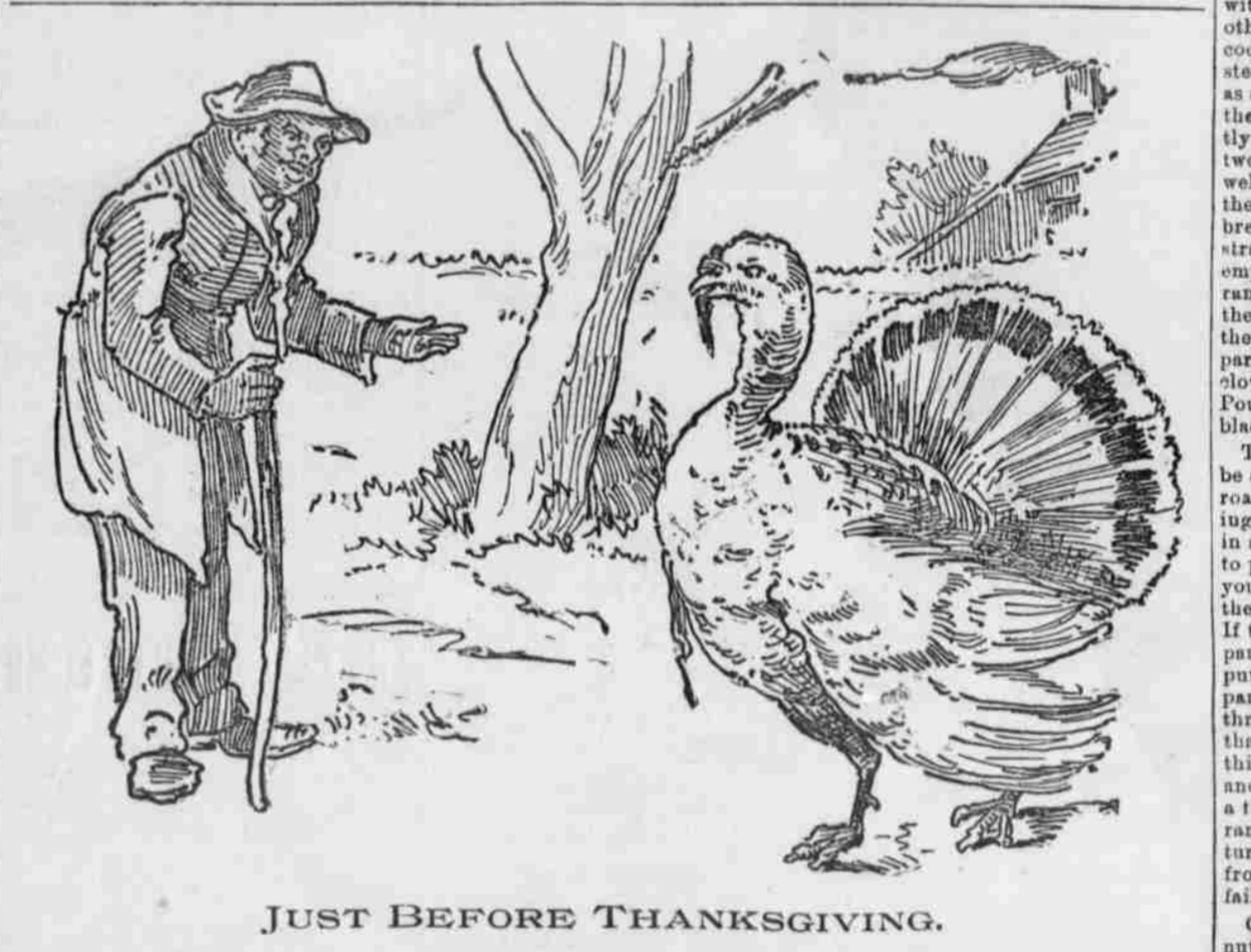
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JUST BEFORE THANKSGIVING.

DAY OF FEASTING.

SOME GOOD THINGS FOR THE THANKSGIVING DINNER.

Approved Recipes for the Great American Feast Day—Oast Turkey and Stuffing—Pumpkin Pie.

THANKSGIVING is a purely American feast day. It is a day dedicated not only to the giving of thanks, but to dining, and rightly enough, for there is nothing which will inspire one to a feeling of thorough content and good fellowship with the world more than a good dinner.

The New York Herald gives its readers some excellent suggestions for dinner, with many proved recipes for the preparation of the different dishes.

Oyster Soup—To make a delicious soup out of these excellent bivalves observe the following directions: Have two nice agate or porcelain saucepans, one for milk and the other for the juice of the oysters.

Chestnut and Oyster Stuffing—Chestnut stuffing is delicious, but is more expensive than the bread crumbs and requires a good deal of care and pains to prepare properly.

Chicken Pie—Cut a large, tender chicken in smaller pieces than for fricasseeing; put in a stew pan with half an onion, season with salt, cover with water and let it cook till tender.

How to Make the Stuffing—Put in a chopping bowl half of an onion, a spring of parsley and a good sized stalk of celery; chop these all very fine, then take a loaf of stale bread which has had the crust removed and been soaked in cold water until soft.

Pumpkin Pie—To a quart of squash, which has been boiled and mashed through a colander, add the yolks of four eggs, a tablespoonful of melted butter, a little salt; sweeten with half molasses and half sugar; season well with powdered cinnamon, ginger, mace and allspice; add the milk the last thing, making it the consistency of a thick batter; pour it in the pie pan, already lined with paste, and bake till a nice, rich brown; do not bake till watery, this spoils the pie.

Oyster Pie—Line a deep porcelain dish with a rich paste; put in two quarts of oysters well seasoned with salt and pepper; a little powdered mace, a few little parsley; stir in a cup of fine cracker crumbs put on a top crust and bake in a quick oven.