

BILLY GRAY'S THANKSGIVING

By Miss Jessie L. Britton



BESSIE ALLEN read at the upper end of Elm street, and Mrs. Harris lived at the lower end. When Bessie went down town she often stopped to pat and admire Mrs. Harris' cats if they were out in the yard, and Mrs. Harris often watched her from the window. This lady was very fond of cats; she had four large ones and one kitten. One day she came out in the yard when Bessie was there and asked her if she had a kitten.

"No, I haven't; but I want one very much, and mamma says I may have one if I can find a pretty one," Bessie replied.

"Do you think you would take good care of one all the time?" Mrs. Harris asked earnestly.

"Oh, yes, indeed; I should love to take care of a kitten."

"Well, you seem to be good to cats, and I have Joseph and Jane, and Toby and Peter, and I ought not to keep any more. I'll tell you what I'll do; you may take the kitten home with you—I haven't named him yet—and keep him two weeks, then bring him back to me, and if he looks well you may keep him; but I shall want to see him occasionally, for he is an unusually smart kitten and deserves a good home."

So a much delighted little girl carried home Mrs. Harris' gray kitten curled up close in her arms, and before she reached home she had named the kitten Billy Gray. After a few days Billy Gray was perfectly contented in his new home, for Bessie gave him the best of care.

When two weeks had passed Billy Gray was carried to Mrs. Harris for

stood on the steps. He saw Billy Gray at once.

"Don't that dog look surprised?" Bessie exclaimed. "But what if he should jump right in here?" she added, as the white dog edged nearer and finally stood up and rested his front feet on the wagon wheel.

Billy Gray evidently thought the



BILLY LOOKED FIERCE.

white dog too familiar, for he hissed in an alarming manner, and his fur stood up on an angry line on his back. He looked so fierce that the white dog thought it was best to withdraw, and went back to the steps; but he kept an eye on Billy Gray as long as the stage stood there. Indeed, many of the people who saw Billy Gray looked surprised. One little boy said to another little boy who stood near him, "Did you ever see a cat ride in the stage before?" and the other boy answered emphatically, "No, I never did."

When they went through the covered bridge, Billy Gray wiggled about unsteadily, and seemed somewhat frightened, but the bridge was a short one, and his fright was soon over. After a little he curled down and went to sleep.

Grandma was much surprised that day to find she had four guests instead of three to entertain, but she gave the unexpected one a hearty welcome. At night she made a nice bed for Billy

WOMAN'S REALM.

BRIGHT WOMEN AS INVENTORS.

Some of Their Clever Devices Are Other Than Domestic.

Just before Lord Roberts left for South Africa it will be remembered that he received a curious present in the shape of a bullet proof shield of aluminum.

This was sent to him by his inventor, a woman. She who patented this very much the reverse of domestic implements is Miss Helen S. Murphy, one of our few women inventors. Her invention is so far a success that it attracted the attention of a foreign government, who has lately been making inquiries as to the supply of a large quantity of these soldiers' chest protectors for their entire army.

As might be expected, the larger number of patents taken out by women are for domestic inventions of one kind or another. Some, however, like Miss Murphy, have turned their attention to very different subjects.

A Mrs. Westman has recently patented a new kind of solder for use by metal workers. A woman from Blackpool has devised a novel tent, which is said to be very light and easily folded and carried.

Metal working is not the sort of occupation one would imagine congenial to women. Mrs. Florence Harrison has shown that the fair sex can excel in such a branch of industry by patenting a process for desulphurizing certain ores.

Mrs. Ames Lynde is another well-known instance of a woman from Worcester. At her extensive works at Northham, in Norfolk, were made the beautiful drive gates of Sandringham, and the King has for years taken the keenest interest in her work. Mrs. Ames Lynde not only superintends the work which she has started, but prescribes all the designs herself. She has invented many new and unique designs as well as several methods for welding together the separate portions which go to form the elaborate pieces of work turned out at her works. So far has the fame of this novel village industry extended that its head received an order for the royal pavilion at the Paris Exhibition of 1900.

Lady Colebrook is another woman inventor. She is well known as a sculptor, and has turned her attention to a branch of work hitherto almost exclusively confined to men—that of carpentering. She holds every week a large class of women and girls from the district around her home at Abington, and teaches them needlework and carpentering. The latest achievement is a pillar box on a new plan, which is in use in the hall at Abington.

Doctors nowadays are all agreed that the ordinary cradle with rockers is very bad for children. The rocking and jolting quiet a crying baby merely by stupefying it, and the result is injury to the child's health.

A woman living at Twickenham has set herself to work to remedy this, and at the patent office may be found a description of her new baby car hammock. This is a combination between a cradle and a perambulator, which takes up very little room, obviates all jarring and jolting, and at the same time is so made that a child lying on it is completely protected from cold air and draughts.

Another domestic device which certainly fills a long-felt want, and for which we are indebted to a woman, is called the baby-jumper. Judging by the drawings of this device, the Mrs. Wilson, who patented it, has conferred an enormous boon on mothers who cannot afford nurses. The invention is a sort of frame in which the child can be comfortably placed, either sitting or standing, and fixed beyond reach of harm with straps. It is suspended to the ceiling by a rope and spiral wire spring, which when weight is thrown upon it dances the baby automatically.

It was a woman who invented the tack-puller, which is now so widely used in this country. The tack-puller is simply a letter-like arrangement by means of which the tacks holding a carpet to the floor can be easily and speedily pulled out.—London Answers.

New Notions in Coloring.

We borrow our ideas from all sources as far as dress is concerned, but the latest notion is to try and adapt to women's clothes the hue of the butterflies' wings. It is quite true we cannot improve on Dame Nature, but it is a mighty difficult to interpret her, and when you compare the colors we produce with those you see in nature the process is very certainly disheartening.

A bluish black which figures in some of the butterflies' wings we may utilize, but we can hardly hope to vie with nature in some of the hues which paint seventy tints in one, viz., brown shot with gold and blue, with color in the butterfly's wing and the blue greens we have never touched upon. When you come to examine the beautiful butterflies in the tropics which appear to change in every light you test the impossibility of it. There is a green and gold butterfly in Jamaica, interspersed with plum color, which would make a fortune to anybody who could reproduce it, or the olive green and deep yellow of a Chinese moth. There is no lace so lovely as some of the butterflies' patterns, and a light salmon-colored butterfly in West Africa would, indeed, give a delightful scheme of color to many dress subjects, only it would be a degradation to the butterfly. Linen gowns of light green are among the prettiest, especially when trimmed with guipure and made with a bolero and full sleeves.—New York American.

Prudent Trimmings.

There is a brisk demand for dress garnitures which have drooping or pendant applications of passementerie, worsted, silk or even jet. No flat nor stationary trimming has the chic of these soft, surging confections. You may have spent laborious hours pinning on little tassels to be stitched down to your jacket front, and now, lo and behold! you find you can buy narrow or broad silk and braided trimmings with the delectable tassels properly spaced at intervals upon it in

groups of two, which is the height of the style.

Another choice garniture is a mohair braid enhanced by groups of crocheted tails which swing from twisted stems and dangle for a couple of inches like black cherries. These again, belong to the fashion trimmings.

A third variety is made of two or perhaps three braids arranged in parallel rows, and studded here and there with round bullet buttons. A crocheted line, fine but strong, is now laced about over and under the buttons, which occur irregularly on the different lengths of braid. Small drooping balls are also introduced on these varied braids, which produce an openwork cubweb effect very pleasing to the eye.

Foreigners Who Wear Peers.

The recent marriage of the Earl of Arran to the daughter of Baron de Kattendijke, a Belgian, is not the first instance of an English peer wedding a foreign lady. Americans are not included in this list. The Duchess of Devonshire is a Hanoverian, the daughter of Count von Alten. Lady Garvagh is a Dane, daughter of Baron Joseph de Bretton. The Countess of Newburgh is an Italian, daughter of the Chevalier Joseph Massani. Lady Escher is a Belgian, daughter of M. Sylvain van de Weyer.

Lady Rothschild is a German, daughter of Baron Charles de Rothschild of Frankfurt. The late Countess of Stair was French, a daughter of the Duc de Coligny. Lady Stanley of Alderley is Spanish, daughter of Don Santiago San Roman of Seville. The Marchioness of Tweeddale is Italian, daughter of Signor Bartolucchi. Lady Acont is a Bavarian, daughter of Count Arco-Valley. Lady Berwick is a Swede, the daughter of Herr Bruckspatrum Nystrom of Malmo. We can add to this the fact that the Countess of Darley is an Australian, the Countess of Seafield a New Zealander, and Lady Aylmer and Lady de Blaquiere Canadians.

Gunnmetal Novelties.

Very smart and clever for inexpensive gifts are the new gunmetal purses and stamp boxes. The purses are the size of a woman's watch and have a spring inside which holds the change firmly. Getting you can fare out as simply as pressing an electric button. A chain to hang these fetching novelties is now in order. It is here, too, along with the Paris jewelry. In addition to being set with an occasional pearl, this delicate gunmetal chain is made double at the fronts of the shoulders of the wearers, the chains being held apart by crosspieces done in tiny rhinestones.

Pretty little gunmetal barettes come, too, for the back of the hair. They have pendants set with tiny rhinestones. In some cases there are button shaped ends, nothing else showing after they are thrust through the hair.

Black Afternoon Dress.

A very pretty afternoon dress consists of a black velvet skirt with tiny white polka dots. It is cut with a very wide flare at the bottom and is one of the extremely long skirts of the season. The waist is of silver gray plaid silk and blouses over a vest composed of crepe net and narrow lace. This vest has a pointed yoke effect in lace and velvet. Double revers almost entirely covered with ribbon velvet of different widths taper into a narrow turnover collar. The stock is of lace with a long jabot effect trimmed with tiny velvet bows. The sleeves are of silk to the elbow, from there on down they are of lace trimmed with bands of velvet.

A Dainty Trouseau Frock.

Such a dainty gown as it was, forming part of the wedding trousseau of a recent bride. The material was a sheer muslin, the trimming Valenciennes lace. From the low round neck fell a sort of bertha of the goods cut in Vandykes, inset with insertion and edged with deep frills of the lace. At the head of this was a wide heading run through with pink satin ribbon, which tied in a large bow at the side. The sleeves were very full, falling to the elbow and finished with insertion and Vandykes similar to the neck. A wide shaped blouse about the bottom was finished with several rows of hemstitching.

A Queen's Fan.

It was a woman member of the Worshipful Company of Fanmakers who executed the Irish point lace work in the fan carried by Queen Alexandra at the coronation. The fan was given to the Queen by the society. The device of the royal crown, the rose, shamrock and thistle wrought in the lace was repeated in the mother of pearl sticks and mounts, which were exquisitely inlaid with gold.

Newest Fashions.

Fruits are much favored in the millinery world, especially grapes. The blouse jackets so popular give ample scope for the display of many ornate and handsome buckles.

For winter wear a dark blue, a new shade of green and the ever-fashionable black will be come in fad. A flat effect over the shoulders and long stock ends in front are very prominent features of the latest furs. Lace of the same color as the gown, set in, forms one of the most exclusive trimming ideas of the season. Soft cloches or bodies of beaver are used in creating very stylish hats, as they can be bent into any shape desired.

Gowns of blue cloth braided with brown or green are immensely popular; the gown of rough material and the braid of soutache. At last the vogue of the Eton jacket as an outer garment has waned, and now we have coats with basques or the three-quarter length model. The vogue of the berth has brought the old-fashioned round, low neck into favor again as the popular shape for the neck of a low-cut gown. Horizontal effects are much more preferred this season for skirt garniture than the up-and-down styles. This applies particularly to tucks. Lace collars coming well over the shoulders are favorite embellishments for fancy bodices, obtaining their touch of newness from strapped designs of cloth or velvet.



New York City.—Simple shirt waists made with the fashionable princess closing are much in vogue and suit young girls to a nicety. The very



MISSY'S SHIRT WAIST OR BLOUSE.

pretty one shown is made of novelty silk in shades of blue with collar, cuffs and shoulder straps of plain blue, the combination being smart as well as novel. The May Manton original is worn with an odd skirt but the design suits the shirt waist gown as well as the separate waist and is adopted to many materials. The foundation lining is smoothly fitted and closes at the front, but separately from the waist itself which consists of a plain black, drawn down in gathers at the waist line, and fronts that are gathered at the neck and at the waist. The front edges are tucked and brought together over the hems through which the closing is made invisible to give the princess effect. The sleeves are in bishop style with novel cuffs that match the stock. Over the shoulder seams are arranged straps, cut in points, that fall over the sleeves but these may be omitted. The quantity of material required for the medium size (fourteen years)

really seemed immeasurably comprehensive; she seemed to have everything in one garment. She had gotten herself a tailor-made of one of the finer serges, and to it had a long cape, and all these were worked in with one another in the most scientific way. The long skirt and the cape had in common a decoration of graduated military braids with a note of white cloth lightly embroidered in green and mauve where the coat turned back. This coat was of the open or closed formation, so that when closed the shoulders being concealed, the coat looked quite severely simple, which arrangement had to do with the fact that the skirt was also severely simple as far as an adorning element was concerned (having just three two-inch tucks at its base). It will be evident on thinking over the matter that this inventive girl had quite a repertoire of frocks in this ostensibly single tailor costume.

Artificial Fruit as a Trimming. Artificial fruit is taking the place of artificial flowers as a dress accessory. Clusters of cherries and bunches of grapes hold the lace at the corsage of many an imported gown. Both green and purple grapes are used, and sprays of currants are the vogue as well as cherries. The fruit is made of both chiffon and velvet. Fruit is also the mode as a corsage ornament, but it must be cleverly selected. A few cherries with a dark green velvet leaf or two make an artistic hair ornament as a substitute for the conventional rose. For debutantes a pretty trifle for the hair is a coil of pleated ribbon, which fits the head like a crown, and then ties at the back with two long ends.

Evening Weddings Out of Date. Evening weddings are "out of date," and what woman looks her best in pure white by daylight? It is trying



FASHIONABLE BLOUSE JACKET.

is three and a half yards twenty-one inches wide, three and three-eighths yards twenty-seven inches wide and two and a quarter yards thirty-two inches wide, or one and seven-eighths yards forty-four inches wide.

Woman's Blouse Jacket.

Short double-breasted blouse coats with fitted basques make a notable feature of the season and are more generally worn for walking and the affairs of life than any other sort. The stylish May Manton model, shown in the large drawing, includes the fashionable slot seams at the fronts and the plain sleeve with roll-over cuffs that is so much liked. As shown it is black albatine, stitched with sartorial silk and is worn with a skirt of different material, but the design suits the costume of cloth, cheviot, tithelne, velvet and velveteen and the odd coat of all the season's fabrics equally well. When preferred the basque portions can be omitted and the blouse finished with the belt.

The blouse consists of a smooth back, under-arm gores with slightly full fronts and side fronts, which extend to the shoulders and are stitched to an under strap to form the slot seams. The right front laps over the left in double breasted style and the neck is finished with the fashionable coat collar that meets the fronts and rolls back to form lapels. The basque portions are joined to the lower edge, the seam being concealed by the left. The coat sleeves are two-seamed and finished with roll-over cuffs. The quantity of material required for the medium size is four and a quarter yards twenty-one inches wide, two yards forty-four inches wide or one and three-quarter yards fifty-two inches wide.

Knots-Knacks.

Very pretty buttons made in china, oval, round and square, are to be bought following the designs of different kinds of china, Dresden, Sevres and Staffordshire. Crystal and paste ball buttons are effective, and these often form the tassels to narrow loops of ribbon which have been run through tiny fast buckles, and replace the small flower tassels, which have been a good deal worn one way or another. Knots tied in ribbons and in stocks require an education. A series of three or five chains fastened between bars is a fashionable form of necktie, not to wear tight round the throat, but to rest on the neck. Brooches are worn very small, and some are beautifully painted. Some of the pearl brooches have very pretty pear-shaped pearl drops. Peacocks, with diamond tails, are new, and a small feather in diamonds makes an admirable brooch.

A Useful Costume.

A young lady who set out on her travels had a combination costume that

even to the fairest skin, and disastrous in the extreme to a brunette. So that it comes about that the brides of this fall have thrown conventional ideas of costume to the four winds, and are introducing colors in their wedding gowns—just a touch here and there to relieve the monotony of the dead-white effect.—Woman's Home Companion.

Blouse or Shirt Waist.

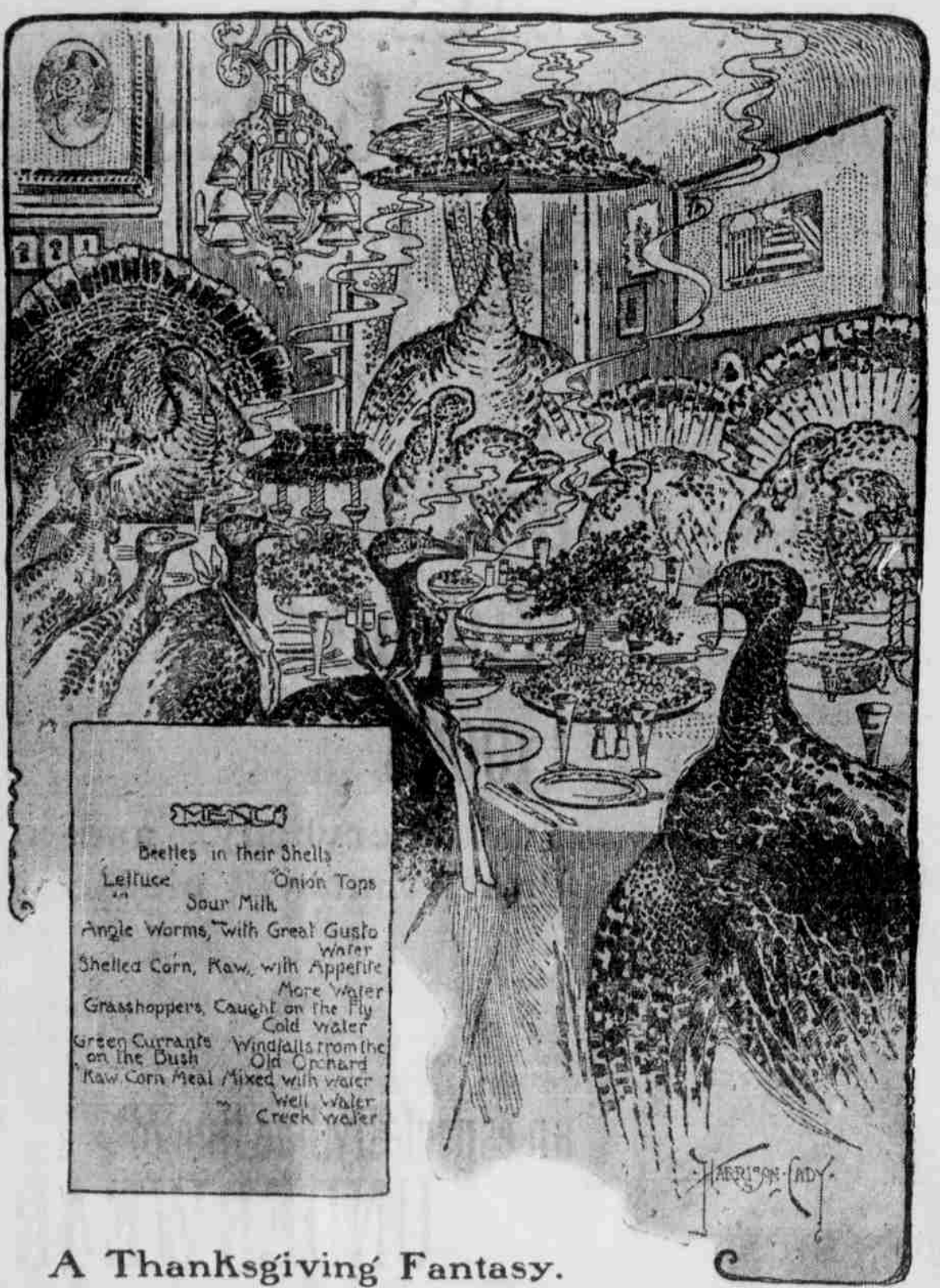
Slot seam effects are seen upon the latest waists and gowns and are exceedingly effective. The very stylish May Manton blouse illustrated shows them used to advantage and in conjunction with tucks at the shoulders and the princess closing in front. The original is made of reseda beau de cygne, piped with black and stitched with black cortecci silk, but all waist cloths and silks and many gown materials are appropriate as the design suits both the old waist and the costume.

The lining is snugly fitted and closes at the centre front quite separately from the outside, but can be omitted whenever an unlined waist is desired. The waist proper consists of fronts and back, which are laid in inverted tucks that are attached to give the slot seam effect from the shoulder to the waist line, the fronts also including additional tucks at the shoulders, that are stitched to yoke depth, and the front edges being laid in wide tucks that meet over the hems through which the closing is made. The back is finished with a novel stock and at the waist is a belt with postillion straps in centre back. The quantity of material required for the medium size is four and three-eighths yards twenty-one wide, four



BLOUSE OR SHIRT WAIST.

and one-eighth yards twenty-seven inches wide, three and seven-eighths yards thirty-two inches wide, or two and three-eighths yards forty-four inches wide.



- MENUS**
- Beetles in their Shells
 - Lettuce
 - Onion Tops
 - Sour Milk
 - Angle Worms, with Great Gusto
 - Water
 - Shelled Corn, Kaw, with Appetite
 - Grasshoppers, Caught on the Fly
 - Cold Water
 - Green Currants
 - Windfalls from the Old Orchard
 - Kaw Corn Meal, mixed with water
 - Well Water
 - Creek Water

A Thanksgiving Fantasy.

inspection, and she was much pleased with his appearance. Around his neck he wore a bright red ribbon on which were two tiny brass bells. "Red ribbon is most becoming to his complexion, I think," Bessie said. "And don't those two little bells look cunning right under his dear little chin?" Mrs. Harris thought they did.

Billy soon learned to love Bessie, and followed her about the house and out-of-doors. They both enjoyed playing in the garden. One day when Bessie was digging in the dirt with her own small shovel she found a small earthed doll. The doll had lost both arms, and was discolored with dirt, but Bessie and Billy were much interested in it. Billy poked it around with his paw, and after a little took it in his mouth and walked off with it. Bessie thought that was a very cute thing to do.

Bessie dressed the doll in a piece of soft brown cloth and tied a red ribbon around its waist, and always spoke of it as Billy Gray's doll. Indeed, Billy Gray seemed to enjoy that doll very much; he played with it in a good deal, and would carry it in his mouth as dogs carry things. Yes, Billy Gray was an unusually clever kitten, as Mrs. Harris had said.

About the 1st of November, an invitation came, just as it always had come ever since Bessie could remember, for papa and mamma and Bessie Allen to spend Thanksgiving with Grandma and Grandpa Allen. Of course they would go—they always did; usually they went the day before Thanksgiving and stayed until the day after. But what should be done

steps; she was waiting for the stage. Billy Gray sat by her side; his coat shone like silk, and he wore a bright new ribbon and two little brass bells. His fur was very thick and soft, and partly concealed the ribbon, so there seemed little danger of his being caught by the ribbon when he was playing out-of-doors. The only objection to the bells was that they made so much noise they warned the rats and mice of Billy's approach, and he had never been known to catch one.

When the stage came in sight Bessie's heart beat very fast. She thought Billy Gray would behave properly; but if he should be frightened and jump out and run off no one could tell where, what should she do? It was a very pleasant day, but there was no snow, and the stage made a good deal of noise as it rattled over the frozen ground.

"Hello, little girl! all ready for Thanksgiving with grandma?" was the stage-driver's cheery greeting. He and Bessie were very good friends, for she often rode to grandma's with him. "What a kitty to go this time? Well, I never had a cat passenger before," and the man smiled doubtfully at Billy Gray.

Bessie was too excited to speak; she only smiled.

When they were seated in the stage, which was a covered one, Billy Gray's yellow eyes were big with wonder. He looked up at the black top and then back at Bessie, as much as to say, "What does this mean? but he sat very still. When they drove up to the post-office for the mail, a big white dog

in the back chamber, where Bessie put him, but he objected to this; he did not want to be separated from his mistress when he was in a strange place, and he mewled and scratched at the door until grandma said he might sleep on Bessie's bed, where he kept quiet all night.

Billy Gray had his share of the Thanksgiving goodies. He enjoyed the turkey and the chicken pie very much, and he also ate some of the nuts and candy with Bessie.

"Billy is as well-behaved a passenger as I ever had," the stage-driver said to Bessie when he helped her out of the stage at home the day after Thanksgiving; and when Mrs. Harris heard of Billy's visit she said she should never worry about Billy's welfare again—she was sure he had a kind mistress.

Perhaps you would like to know that Billy Gray has ridden in the stage to grandma's several times since that Thanksgiving.—The Household.

The Thanksgiving Secret.

"Once counted I my little store,
Why was toasters given more?
Why were their lips with honey fed,
While I had labor's hard-earned bread?
I see them with heaven's own manna fed,
A weary, hopeless task seemed living;
I could not bring to God Thanksgiving."

"There came a poor man to my door;
I shared with him my scanty store,
When lo! my sense of want had flown,
And rarest riches were my own!
I see them with heaven's own manna fed,
What blessed joy there is in living!
I brought to God my glad Thanksgiving."

If it isn't only the absent-minded man who allows his confidence to be misplaced.