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That our American forests abound in plants which possess the most valuable medicinal virtues is abundantly attested by scores of the most emine medical writers and teachers of this and other countries. Even the untrioned Indians had discovered the usefulness of many native plants before the advent of the white race. This information, imparted freely to the whites, led the latter to continue investigations until to-day we have a rich assortment of most valuable American medicinal roots.

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To aid in healing old sores, or ulcers, To aid in healing old sores, or ulcers, apply Dr. Pierce's All-Healing Salve to them while taking the "Golden Medical Inscovery" to purify and enrich the blood. Dr. Pierce's All-Healing Salve is Dr. Pierce's All-Healing Salve is cleansing and pain relieving. It destroys the bad odors arising from support of the properties of the prope perating, or running, sores and puts mothers will find it especially valuable them in the best possible condition for in sustaining their strength and promot-

The "All-Healing Salve" is a superior child. Expectant mothers too will find dressing for all open, running, or sup-parating, Sores or Ulcers. For healing tem for baby's coming and rendering open wounds, cuts and scratches it is the ordeal comparatively painless. It nusurpassed.

If your medicine dealer does not have the "All-Healing Salve" in stock mail 50 cents in postage stamps to Dr. R. V. suffer from frequent headaches, back-Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., and you will ache, dragging-down distress low down receive it by return post.

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"Golden Medical Discovery" effectively
cures disease in the flesh by curing its
cause in the blood.

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Strange Story of Skipper Shipwrecked on the Pacific.

CHRISTMAS ON SHIP OF ICE.

Captain S. A. Hoyt, secretary of the Masters and Pilots' association of Seattle. Wash., and possibly one of the most widely known seafaring men on the Pacific coast, has a fund of experiences to draw from when he wishes to while away an hour. Up in the big. pleasant rooms of the association the captain recently told the following

"The approach of Christmas always reminds me of the December that I spent on an ice ship. Never heard of one? Well, they are unusual. I was master of the little brig Holly, and along about the 1st of November we were wrecked away down south of the Horn. The ship went on an ice floe and was battered all to pieces. We did manage to save some tools and food and part of the cargo.

"I put the crew to work to cut off a large pinnacle of the berg. Then I set them all to work with axes, and we shaped it into a graceful ship's hull. After that we hollowed it out inside, making cabins and everything like a regular ship, and with some of the timber saved from our vessel we rigged her as a bark, side lights and everything, even going so far as to paint her and name her the Holly. She was a fine craft and floated like a duck when finally launched. We spent Christmas on board of her and had a great time. I loaded part of the wrecked Holly's cargo in her, and we then started for Callao, which was our des-

"The ice ship salled fine and was as good a sea boat as any in which I sailed. This was only, however, when we were down south in cold water. The nearer we got to the equator the lighter became our vessel, and I finally discovered that our ship was melting beneath us. Another two days and we would have been in the water when a steamer picked us up and also saved the cargo. This paid for the loss of the vessel, which was also insured, so the owners came out ahead in the

OUTDID UNCLE SAM.

How an Old Lady Found a Person the National Postoffice Couldn't.

"The fates call and mortals obey." The speaker was a small, precise and elegant old lady whose diminutive stature was quite forgetten by her hearers in the realization of her force and dignity. She had gone to the dead 'letter wale under protest and was narrating an experience which grew out of the purchase she had made. "I went to that sale not because I wanted to or was interested or expected to buy anything, but because T've an impertment to be in such a crewd.

"After awalle the auctioneer offered a package as big as a sack of flour, and I bought it for 85 cents. Then when I brought it home I found it contained nothing but a lot of worn, threadbare clothing mended almost to denth. I was Just about to force it on that grandnizee of mine and make her distribute it to some poor families when I found a letter in the pocket of the cost. I've kept that letter. The writer was a young girl from down east in Massadimsetts. She was sending that clothing as the only Christmas gift she could tanke for her brother Ben, who lived in a city in Wis-

"Well, when I rend that letter I just sat down and cried to think that poer girl's sewing had all gone astray. I made up my mind that if the postal authorities could not find that girl's brother I could. So I did up the bundle again, put a letter outside asking the postman to return the package to me if he couldn't deliver it and then addressed the whole thing to 'Mary Burgess' Broth r. Ben. -- Wis.' Would you believe that that postman in that Wisconsin flown really found that poor has and give him the bundie? And now I've a letter from the gar in which she tells must offe she and her brother are in mu 's improved eir constructed that Ben I will fine protion in a furniture factory and that the are some to be further for good " Washington Star

THE ACTOR'S CHRISTMAS.

Life on the Deards Is Not All a Happy

Holiday.

"I Wie Christman" said on actor "No two are seen at the Ju na Just being I was with was four weeks behind in salaties and we were slimply. hanging on with the hope of the big away, exhiently fully satisfied with houses Christmas day pulling us out a the inchient.- New York Times. little. We were playing one night stands and left some little town in New York state for Wheeling, W. Va., right after the performance. It was a trip that called for three changes of cars, and there were no sleepers in any

"Every car on every train was loaded with heliday excursionists, and every performance, our manager had two of the cats. black eyes and a broken wrist, and our star had lost a new set of teeth.

to jall, and there would have been no act each day and to protect animals house anyway. We had to get up from cruelty. After the cats have dethree benefit performances before we molished the tree and gone to sleep could get money enough to buy tickets the boys are given refreshments and to New York, but we got there. How went bome truly filled with the spirit of ever, as I said before, Christmus days Christmas, New York Mall and Ex. THE OBSER 'ER CC. are not all dilke."- Buffalo News.

THE THREE WISE MEN.

Were They? - An Unsolved Christmas Mystery.

One Christmas mystery remains unsolved. Who were the wise men of the east-the magi who followed the star of Bethlehem from afar to do homage to the newborn Saviour?

The simple story as told in the Bible is one of the most familiar in Christmas lore. Any child could recite it in detail. Painters and sculptors have made it the theme of the most inspired products of their brushes and chisels, but to this day the identity of these wise men remains a mystery. A search of the great paintings in which the subject is treated produces a be wilderment. There are half a hundred different ideas presented. The varying versions of the books of the ages are as many.

It is fair to assume from the fact that the visitors were received at court by King Herod and that they carried gifts of value that they were in their own country men of royalty or close to it. Herod evidently deemed it well to treat them with deference, for disquieted though he was by their news of the comet that was to lead them to the birthplace of the Redeemer he dissembled and told them that when they had found the newborn he would return to worship with them.

Much of our information about the early days of the Christian era comes from the monks of the fourteenth century, who delved deeply into historical sources since lost to the world. Their story of the three wise men has received wide credence. According to these monks, the wise men were three great kings called Caspar, Melchoir and Balthasar. Caspar was the oldest and from the north. At the time of the birth of Christ he was sixty years old, and for more than two-thirds of that time he had ruled in Arabia. Balthasar was black, a native of Saba, from the east, and forty years old. The youngest was Melcholr, from the south, whose country was Tarshish. He was twenty years old.

Impelled by some mysterious power, they dropped all the cares of state and followed a single star thirteen days and nights without eating or sleeping p.m a.m. till it led them to Jerusalem.

Then the story fellows that of the Bible until they returned to their own

The story does not stop here. It tells circumstantially the after life of the three wise men. The good Apostle St. Thomas journeyed to their country and baptized them, and all three went out to preach the doctrine of the Christ.

They were slain by barbarous gentiles, and later the Empress Helena. mother of Constantine, recovered their sacred bones and took them to Constantinople. Thence they were carried to Milan and finally found an ultimate grandniece who hinted I was too old resting place in Cologne, where they now are. New York Post.

WHEN SANTA WENT ASTRAY.

Miracle of the Loaves Repeated For Washington's Poor.

The day of miracles has not passed according to the firm belief of a hundred or more poor people in Washington. Zast Christmas day Almas temple of the Shriners gave its annual dinner to the poor. It was a well planned affair, generously contributed to, and turned out a big success. But the most notable thing about it was not on the programme and made the hit of the

While the Shriners were feeding their guests there came to their hall 150 loaves of bread. The buge six foot Santa Claus was busy cracking jokes as he waddled about and took down the gifts from the Christmas tree. It the middle of one of his stories there entered another big, fat Sauta Chus, carrying a colossal basket full of bread, and behind him were three or four negroes, also carrying baskets of bread. One of the Shriner committeemen at once taterred that some one had sent a gift of bread to be distributed and sign of a receipt for the 159 beines. In a few minutes they were handed around to the heads of families, and an adorthout saile of Christa as Joy went around with them When the festivities were nearly over and the crowd to d began to alls-

"i 12 yearset 150 bases of bread?" "We old," was the reply; "What did you do with it?"

perser man come rouning in and ask-

"Gave it away "Well, that was an order from the Carroll institute. It came here by ness. Lost year, for instance the com | mistake. But it is all right. We are glad you gave it away, and if you need more let us know," and the man went

> Christmas Tree For Cat. Christmas is the great religious festival when the kind beart finds many

ways of ministering to the Joy and pleasure of others. The good women of Boston who originated and sustain EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR, \$8.00 A YEAR the Animal Rescue league have hit upon the unique idea of a Christmas tree male excursionist was loaded with rye for the cats that are waiting for homes Sunday. It handles more news matterand brimstone There were fights at that institution. A bush is provided Local, State, National and Foreign-than fresh every half bour, and constables and trimmed with meat and other suit. any other North Carolina newspaper. met us with open arms and clubs at able entables for such animals, and every station. No enting stations were just before they are turned into the honored by us, and we arrived at room the members of the Kindness Wheeling too fate to give a matinee club are admitted to enjoy the antics

This club is composed of boys whose ages range from eight to thirteen without which be refused to play at years and is the outcome of the league's work in a poor section of Bos-"The report had it that we were all ton. They are pledged to do some kind Charlotte.

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