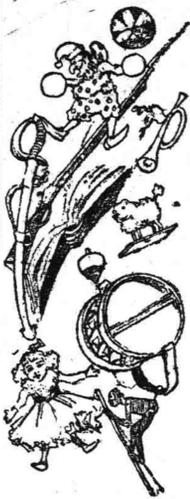


The Christmas Stocking

A Parody by FRANK J. BONNELLE



How dear to this heart is the stocking of childhood when fond recollection presents it to view! On Christmas St. Nick came from frost whitened wildwood with every loved toy which my infancy knew. The wide spreading chimney, the sled which stood by it, a horse and some books—I remember them all—a doll for my sister, and baby house nigh it, and then the full stocking which hung on the wall—the Santa Claus stocking, the bountiful stocking, the Christmas morn stocking which hung on the wall! The well stuffed envelope I hailed as a treasure as early that morn- ing I opened my eyes and found there the source of an exquisite pleasure, the purest and sweetest that nature supplies. How ardent I seized it with hands that were glowing and back to my white sheeted bed went with all, then soon, with the emblems of love overflowing, was happy in what to my lot did befall—the Santa Claus stocking, the generous stocking, the Christmas morn stocking which hung on the wall! How sweet through its round open top to explore it as poised on my knee it inclined to my view! Not a hot, tempting breakfast could make me ignore it for longer at most than a minute or two. And now, far removed from the loved situation, the tear of regret will intrusively fall as fancy reverts to my youth's habitation and sighs o'er the stocking which hung on the wall—the Santa Claus stocking, the plethoric stocking, the Christmas morn stocking which hung on the wall! But grown people and there's a later sensation as grateful as any they felt long ago. It comes when they witness the glad exultation which on Christmas morning their own offspring show. And now, dear old Santa Claus, let me petition your favor for children, both large ones and small. Bring all the bright hopes to the fullest fruition that rest in each stocking which hangs on the wall—the wealthy child's stocking, the poor urchin's stocking; yes, fill every stocking which hangs on the wall!

BEAD CHRISTMAS TREES.

Novelty Invented by German Woman Approved by Kaiser.

If nature's supply of Christmas trees gives out, as some people have feared it might, there will still be Christmas trees as long as a German woman in this city remains alive. Out of green beads, wire and tiny waxen ornaments she constructs miniature trees which have been thought pretty enough to grace the court of Ludwig of Bavaria in his time and to amuse the children of Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany. That was when the inventor was living in her native country. Since coming to America she has made them for various well known people.

One of the advantages of these trees, she says, is that they are almost indestructible. They may be bent, crushed, packed into small compass, and when they are wanted again it is only necessary to straighten the branches out into the original shape.

When the inventor was a girl, fifty-five or sixty years ago, in Munich, she went to one of those schools where German girls are taught to do, as her daughter says, "everything with the hands." It was having to make wreaths out of beads that suggested to her the notion of making bead Christmas trees. She set to work and fashioned innumerable tiny loops of green beads, each at the end of a long, slender wire. She bound the loops together in threes, making trefols, and the trefols into branches and the branches into a tapering trunk, the trunk being formed of nothing at all but the individual wires massed together. Then she trimmed the tree with candles and those tiny waxen figures which the Germans are adepts at making and fixed it in a pot of sand and melted wax. Her parents were quite proud of it. Her father, who was director of the Hofgarten in Munich, showed it to his royal master, and King Ludwig immediately ordered one for the Christmas festivities at court.

After coming to this country she sent one to President Roosevelt and was grieved and surprised to find that he could not accept it.

"I expect he thinks he gets some dynamite," said the daughter.—New York Tribune.

Christmas Caution.

"Is it customary to hang up one stockin' or de intiah pair on Christmas eve?" said Mr. Erastus Pinkley. "Only jes' one," answered Miss Miami Brown. "If you hangs on to de mate you isn' takin' so many chances on somebody hepin' hieself to foot-wear 'stid o' leavin' presents."—Washington Star.

The old fashioned way of dosing a weak stomach, or stimulating the Heart or Kidneys is all wrong. Dr. Shoop first pointed out this error. This is why his prescription—Dr. Shoop's Restorative—is directed entirely to the cause of these ailments—the weak inside or controlling nerves. It isn't so difficult, says Dr. Shoop, to strengthen a weak Stomach, Heart

MONSTER CHRISTMAS CAKE.

It Was Seven Feet High and the Largest Ever Made.

Reproduced below is a picture of a mammoth Christmas cake, said to be the largest one ever made. It was seen last Christmas in a shop in Leytonstone, England. Some idea of its size may be gauged when it is stated that it stood seven feet high and weighed no less than 1,900 pounds.

Those who may desire to turn out a rival cake may be interested to learn that the following ingredients were used in its manufacture: One hundred and fifty-two pounds of butter, 152 pounds of sugar, 825 pounds of flour, 110 pounds of raisins, 110 pounds of sultanas, 110 pounds of currants, 3,000 eggs, 35 pounds of citron peel, 35 pounds of lemon peel, 35 pounds of or-

ange peel, 40 pounds of almonds, 30 pounds of milk (15 quarts), 120 pounds of almond paste, 100 pounds of icing sugar, 5 pounds of fresh lemon juice, 21 pounds of mixed spices, 1 pound of nutmegs and 1 pound of essence of lemon.

Fortune For Toys For the Poor. The poor children of Pittsburg and Allegheny are to benefit through the expenditure of an estate valued at \$31,000, left by the late George B. Nutt. The will provides that the estate shall go to the wife during her lifetime and then is to be divided among his children equally. If the children all die before their mother, at her death the estate is to be spent for the purchase of gifts and playthings for poor children, especially those in institutions. It was the wish of the decedent that the money be expended in small sums, to distribute it over as large an area as possible and benefit as many children as possible.

Origin of the Christmas Tree. There is a legend in Germany that when Eve plucked the fatal apple immediately the leaves of the tree shriveled into needle points and its bright green turned dark. It changed its nature and became the evergreen, in all seasons preaching the story of man's fall. Only on Christmas does it bloom brightly with lights and become beautiful with love gifts. The curse is turned into a blessing at the coming of the Christ Child, and we have our Christmas tree.

or Kidneys, if one goes at it correctly. Each inside organ has its controlling or inside nerve. When these nerves fail, then those organs must surely falter. These vital truths are leading druggists everywhere to dispense and recommend Dr. Shoop's Restorative. Test it a few days, and see! Improvement will promptly and surely follow. Sold by Cornelison & Cook.

JANUARY Clean Sweep Sale PRICES

Are now in Force

At A. W. Winecoff's store, 126 South Main street, Salisbury, N. C.

This sale should prove of exceptional interest to all women, men who are thinking of outergarments either for personal use or gift purposes. We start our Clean Sweep Sale a full month earlier than usual because of the very much larger stock than we've ever had before; we've prepared for the great crowds that will undoubtedly respond to this timely announcement bigger stock and lower prices than in any previous sale await you.

Ladies' Long Coats.

\$15.00 Quality,	\$9.98
25.00 "	15.69
20.00 "	12.99
12.50 "	9.69
11.00 "	7.98
10.00 "	7.69
8.00 "	5.98
5.00 "	3.69

Children's Coats from 49c up.

Big Lot Furs from 49c up.

Ladies' Shoes, \$2.50 quality,	1.90
Ladies' Shoes, \$3.00 quality,	2.35

Men's Patent Leather Shoes, \$2.50 quality,	1.90
Men's Shoes, \$3.00 quality,	2.40
Men's Shoes, \$1.50 quality,	1.19
Men's Shoes, \$3.50 quality,	2.75

10 and 12½c Flannelettes at	7c yd
All 10c Outing at	7c yd
One Lot 6c Outing at	4½c yd
Rixudide Plaids at	5c yd
Lot A. A. Domestic at	4½c yd
1 piece White Table Linen at	19c yd
1 " Red " " "	19c yd

50c Table Linen at	39c yd
65c " " "	43c yd
1.00 " " "	89c yd
85c " " "	60c yd

Profit and Cost Unrecognized. The showing of new prices, bordering on give away.

BIG CLEAN SWEEP SALE NOW GOING ON.

A. W. WINECOFF,

126 South Main St.,

SALISBURY. - - N. C.