

ROYAL RANGER RALPH; The Waif of the Western Prairies.

BY WELDON J. COBB.

CHAPTER XXV.—Continued. The Indian princess had extinguished the light. Darrell stepped forward and called her name. She stopped slowly into view and peered suspiciously into his face. Then she seized his hand in a grasp...

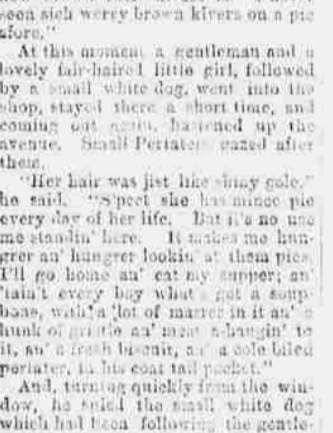
CHAPTER XXVI.—THE ESCAPE. So fantastic and unreal were the actions of the girl that Darrell had evidently abandoned his suspicions of her being a spy. Like Danton, he began to believe that this strange visitor was some one of those demoted creatures of olden times...

Darrell watched the mountain path and ravine closely. He saw Danton retreat cautiously to the valley. Here he joined Danton and his party, and a close consultation was held. They seemed to be devising some plan to surround and capture the fugitives. Darrell's observations were interrupted by the appearance of Will to Dawn.

SWEET CHRISTMAS TIME. Oh Christmas child, O Christmas time! The sweetest and the brightest! When hearts beat high and jubilee, And children's faces are aglow...

SMALL PERTATERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY.

I was about nine o'clock on Christmas Eve. Small Pertaters was standing on one leg with the other twisted around him, looking into one of the windows of Mrs. Small's large bakery. He could see the miles pie, that, fresh from the oven a short time before, had just been placed in it.



And, as though he understood his own friend perfectly, the dog trotted after him as he went a few blocks down the avenue, and turned, first at Thirteenth street, and then into a narrow street...

CHAPTER XXVII.—THE ESCAPE. There was little doubt but that the outlaws would soon discover the fugitives. Several of them were coming directly up the path...

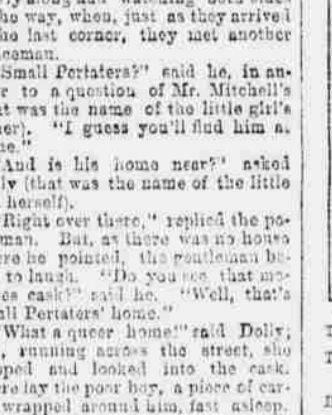


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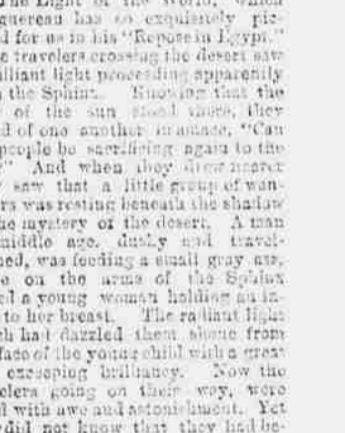


CHAPTER XXXII.—THE ESCAPE. There was little doubt but that the outlaws would soon discover the fugitives. Several of them were coming directly up the path...

The Christmas Tree.



Two Legends of the Christmas Child. The following quaint story is from the history of "The Nativity of Mary," a work that has for centuries furnished themes for poets and artists.



It has been thought that "holly" is only another name for "holly" as the tree was once considered sacred, but it is likely that the name is from the Welsh word for "holly"...

