

VOL.V.

"PROVE ALL THINGS AND HOLD FAST TO "THAT WHICH IS GOOD."

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Now the Christmas time is near. And the stores are bright, but dear Little voices may we hear Lisping sweet At our feet-"Santa Claus."

And the cherubs are not dumb, With their wish: "I want a drum, Tell us, won't you, when he'll come? Dear mama-Good papa-Santa Claus."

"I want a dolly!" princess cries; "One that opens and shuts its eyes." Another cherub, still, but wise, Mutters, "Bricks, Lots of tricks

Santa Claus." Chorus still of cherub joys: "Ma, tell him to bring us boys' Knives, and skates, and lots of toys." Baby sings:

"Me want 'ings-Santa Claus."

So they chatter as they play; Curly heads both grave and gay. Bring them pleasure while you may; Youth will fly, Hope will die--Santa Claus.



And once in her cosy oak parlor, in had only been time for "Good-by" at opened again, and some one, tired of her own chair by the bright fireside, the gate, for he would not come in, waiting outside, came in! she lay back with half closed eyes and he said --- only "Good by" and a trem- There was a shout from the children, How They Were First Used in Orden Its Red Berries a Beautiful Feature

gave herself up, for a brief time at alous hand shake---and---he was gone. and a cry, a glad, startled, tender cry, any rate, to the memory of the past. And Miss Enid's love story had from Miss Enid and then everything It was not a very eventful past, a ter never really begun --- it had only been else was forgotten, and the astonished Draids there was a superstition that all, that the children's talk of Christ- a dream, perhaps, who was to know? bairnes saw their friend's slender form the houses should be decorated with mas had brought back to her.

So the long years had passed, tak- clasped closely in the arms of the evergreens in December, in order leaves and its pretty little full, round She was young then, that was all, ing one by one of her loved ones "present," who was usually called by that the sylvan spirits might enter and life was rose-tinted with health away, as the autumn takes the flowers them "Uncle Edward."

and happiness and-should she con- that are wearied with the long, long "Darling, darling," they heard him fees it, even to herself?-love! Yes, summertime, until she was left alone say, and just then Angela, with wondershe believed that love had come to -alone in the pretty old house where ful tact, discovered the pile of parcels her, as it comes once, and only once the swallows built under the eaves in addressed to each of them, and sugin a lifetime, to every one. And yet the spring, and where the garden was gested that they should carry them no voice had ever whispered to her ablaze with roses and syringa and into the kitchen to show to old Jennie, that a true heart was hers for always- elematis all through the summer. And which the children were nothing loth spray of this tree, with twelve shoots no lips had ever pressed her own in the children of the village were her to do, leaving the lovers alone to their on it, was used in Egypt at the time the glad rapture of a lover's kiss-no friends, and the vicarage babies came wonderful new-found bliss!

sweet, strong arms had enfolded her and grew up like flowers around her, "And I've forgetted to give her my the vear completed. and held her captive-ah, me, no! weaving themselves into her calm, Kis'mas card, after all, and bootiful Who does not know And yet, and yet! There were half sweet life, so she had something to money-box that I brought on pur- ning spoken words imprinted in her mem- love, and no one ever knew how some- pose," said Bobby just as he was going The mistletoe hung in the castle hall. ory; there were tender glances, and times she longed and yearned until her to bel on Christmas night, very much wonderful smiles, such as love, and heart felt almost breaking-for what? aggrieved.

love only, could awaken; there was a Ab, dear hearts, I cannot tell you. "Give her the card to-morrow,"

CHRISTMAS EVERGREENS. Times.

Among the votaries of the early them and thus be kept free from the blast of the cold North wind and the frost, until a milder season renew the foliage of their usual haunts.

The Christmas tree is really from a branch every month, and where a of the winter solstice, as a symbol of

Who does not know the poem begin-

The holly branch shone on the old oak wall. Years ago over every man's door in England hung a sprig of mistletoe at this season. There still hovers a mystic charm about the mistletoe, and many a girl now, with a thril of expectancy, places a branch of it under

the chandelier or over the door. According to a former belief, when a girl is caught and kissed under the mistletoe a berry must be picked off with each kiss, and when the berries have all been placked the privilege Ceases.

Among the ancient Britons the mistletoe that grows on the oak tree was the kind held in favor. Because of its heathen origin it is not often used in church lecorations, a fact which is referred to by Washington Irving in his "Bracebridge Hall," where he has the learned parson rebuke the unlearned clerk for this very thing.

In Germany and Scandinavia the holly or holly tree is called Christ's thorn, because it puts forth its berries at Christmas time, and therefore is especially fitted for church decorations.

HOLLY IN DECORATIONS.

LATEST NEWS in Christmas Adornment.

A picturesque shrub especially useful at this time of the year is the holly. with its tough and shining spinous berries. It is the only plant appropriate to this happy period that relieves the dead green and monotonous white of the non-flowering plants and vines supposed to belong to Christmas and the days that follow Eniphany.

Egypt, where the palm tree puts forth Like the mistletoe, most of the holly exposed for sale in American marts comes from Great Britain, although some speceies of the plant grow in the Southern States.

The commercial holly, however, is cut in Scotland and sent here in bags. | day n It is most valuable to work up in combination with laurel, ivy and mistletoe, intc wreaths, anchors, stars, crowns and dynamite at La Folette, Campbell county, Tenn., Thursday afternoon, for running decorations, that is long killed four men, and four others may festoons and great sweeps of green, a few of the bright red berries wound in at regular intervals heightens the effect and relieves the eye.

The favorite manner of arranging H. L. Hart, of Palatka, Fla., was holly for sale is to make it up into thrown backward, his head striking some one of the numerous designs ap- the pavement, producing injuries from propriate to the day and the season, which he died a few hours later. and thus most of the plant offered this year is fashioned. Holly is not so expensive as the mistletos, and is

A MISTLETOE BALLOON.

Christmas in Peru.

more hardy and lasting. It has no



IN BRIEF. GLEANINGS FROM MANY POINTS.

Important Happenings, Both Home and Foreign, Briefly Told.

Newsy Southern Notes.

Wednesday was the great day of the Charleston, S. C., festival. The parade was witnessed by fully 30,000 people.

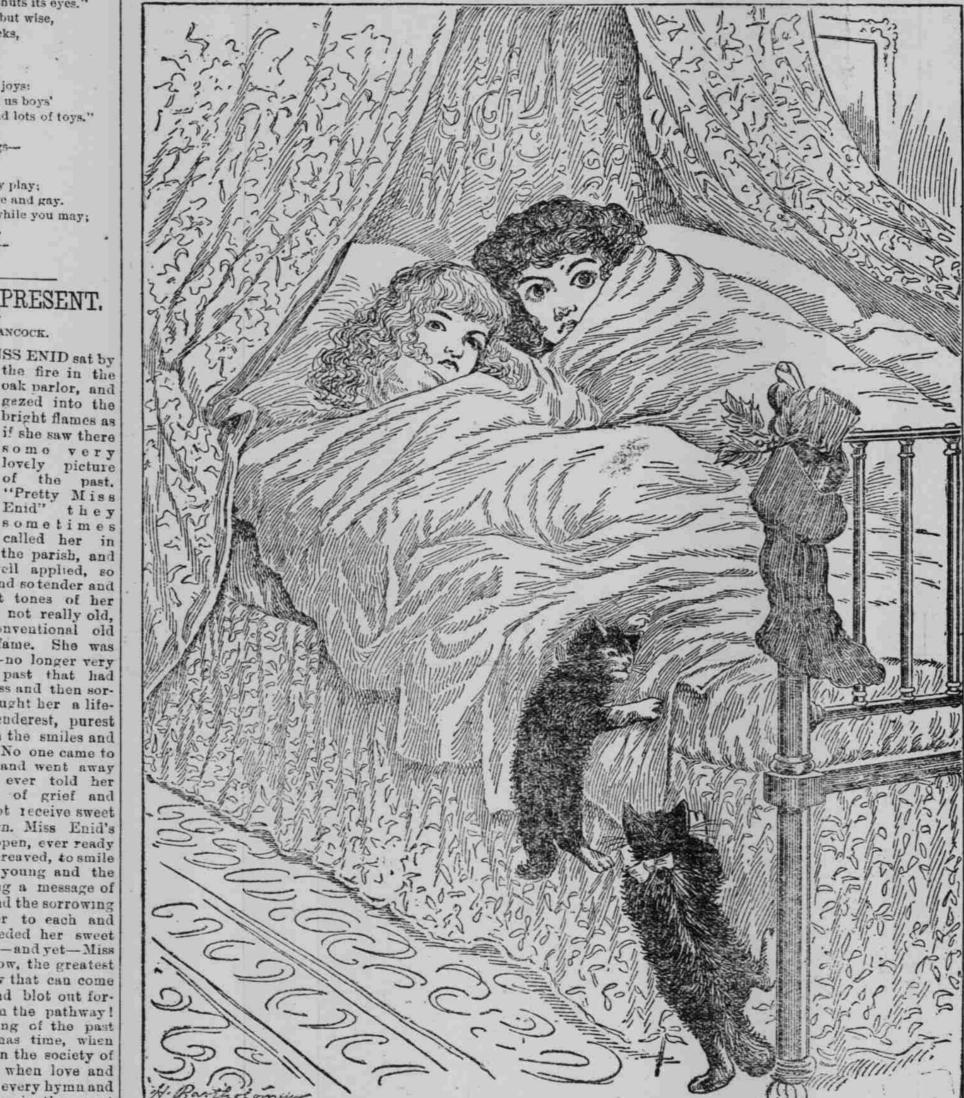
Two freight trains on the Air Line collided at Thickerty, S. C., on Thursday night, and engineer Curlee was

A premature explosion of powder and dynamite at La Folette, Campbell die by the explosion.

While attempting to step from a moving street car on Fourteenth street in front of Peachtree Inn, Atlanta, Mr.

The town of Titusville, Tex., was nearly wiped out by fire Friday morning. Mr. O'Brien was burned to death while trying to get \$18 left in his room. The loss is \$100,000. Hamberg & Garner, merchants, are suspected of incendiarism and are in jail and in danger of lynching.

A. K. Ward, the forger who was aptured and brought back to Memohis, Tenn., after a sojourn in Honduras, has been indicted fifty-five times for forging as many notes. The amount of forged notes is over \$80,-000. Ward has employed good lawers and will make a fight on of a general denial.





lovely picture of the past. "Pretty Miss Enid" they sometimes called her in the parish, and

the adjective was well applied, so sweet was her smile, and so tender and gentle were the soft tones of her voice. And she was not really old. nothing like the conventional old maid of story-book fame. She was simply "Miss Enid"-no longer very young, but with a past that had brought to her gladness and then sorrow, and that had taught her a lifelong lesson of the tenderest, purest sympathy in and with the smiles and the tears of others. No one came to Miss Enid for help and went away comfortless; no one ever told her some heartfelt story of grief and weariness, and did not receive sweet consolution in return. Miss Enid's great heart was ever open, ever ready to condole with the bereaved, to smile hopefully upon the young and the ardent toiler, to bring a message of patience to the sick and the sorrowing -in fact, to minister to each and every one as they needed her sweet helpfulness. And yet-and yet-Miss Enid had known sorrow, the greatest and the deepest sorrow that can come into a woman's life and blot out forever the sunshine from the pathway! And she was thinking of the past to night, this Christmas time, when every one was happy in the society of their dear ones, and when love and joy were the theme of every hymn and anthem that was sung in the great church yonder, the church she had so accently left. She had been twining -wreaths of holly and ivy and box, and the vicarage children had helped her, pricking their small fingers with the sharp boily leaves, and tying her string into unnumerable tangled knots. Yet she loved them so much, the darlings, that she was only too happy But I dropped asleep very quickly indeed, to have them near her, to hear their little bright voices, to see their rosy

Enid.'

faces, and to feel the soft touch of face-a beautiful, brave face that You must picture for yourselves a "We love you so much, you know," her once, in the long ago! much, but we does our best."

And Bobby had broken in with an that would have changed her life and then tell me for what it was that my account of the Christmas card that he his so greatly! She had read part of dear Miss Enid longed so much somemeant to send Miss Enid- a very gor- his story in his eyes-clear, grave times. She was very good and sweet geous production from the village eyes that were truth and honesty it- and patient, but she was very human,

WHAT KRIS KRINGLE SENT.

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beautiful wreaths for piliar and pulpit | We hung up our stockings on Christmas Eve But when the morning began to break On the knobs at the foot of the bed. I suidenly woke up quite. We shall find them crammed with beautiful And boked to see if dear Santa Claus

things When we wake in the morning," we said. When, oh! how frightenel I was! I heard We tried very hard to keep awake A neise by the foot of the bed. To see Santa Claus when he came, I whispered, "It must be Santa Claus," And Eveline did the same.

had trembled on his lips, the words them. Picture that to yourselves, and Enid."

We waited to see what his face would be, And my heart went pit-a-pat-pat (And Eveline said hers di I the same). Had thought of us in the night. Till we heard the miau of a cat. There were two little kittics. A lovely pres-

ent For Christmas, I think; don't you? And father says, "Well, it was Santa Claus," And Eveline says so too.

suggested Rousld, and Marjorie said, their soft hands as they hung about dwelt safely shrined forever in the lonely woman-one who could love "And the money-box would do for a her trying so hard to help "dear Miss depths of Miss Enid's heart-the face deeply, truly, passionately, one to wedding present, you know, Bobby. of one who had surely, surely loved whom little children turned as to a Mother says 'tis to be soon.'

mother's protecting care, to slumber gray-eyed Angela had said, "that we And she fancied sometimes that he peacefully on her tender bosom or to said that happy day when they heard want to do all we can, and it isn't very meant to tell her so, that the words smile up into the sweet face above of the wanderer's return, "Dear Miss

Christmas in Sweden.

With its glossy, dark leaves and bright, red berries, it is an attractive decoration for the house.

The Jews used to decorate at their Feast of Tabernacles with evergreens and flowers.

The laurel was used at the earliest times of the Romans as a decoration for all joyful occasions, and is significant of peace and victory.

In some places it is customary to throw branches of laurel on the Christmas fire and watch for omens while the leaves curl and crackle in the heat and flame.

The evergreen tree is a symbol used as the Revival of Nature, which astronomically signifies the return of the sun. Hung with lights and offerings, the tree has for centuries been one of the principal characteristics of Christmastide.

Assyrians Watching the Morning Star.

parative immunity.

But to the decorator, the artist, the The Assyrian Christians, who live florist and the dealer it is one of the almost isolated from the Western best, most ornate, and suggestive world and the eastern regions of plants for use at home or in public Asiatic Turkey, have a lovely custom places that can be selected at this seaon the early morning of Christmas. They all repair from their dwellings to the open air and wait for the morning star to rise, hailing its advent with deep devotion. In that land of cloudless skies the heavens present a specmore especially in Lima, there are betacle difficult to imagine in the foggy | wildering scenes of activity on Christ-North, and the scene, as these simple mas Eve. The streets and square are and faithful believers stand or kneel crowded with a gayly dressed people. outside their homes, looking toward Droves of asses are to be seen in every the blue, star spangled vault above, is direction, laden with fruits, boughs well fitted to inspire devotion. It is from the mountains, liquors and other only of late years that these poor As- merchandise. Ice stalls, provided syrians have had any freedom in their with chairs and benches, are crowded religious rites, but now they enjoy by the perspiring pleasure seekers,

comparative liberty. Christmas, among these people, is the great day for match-making. It is the only day in the year when the various families packed with a noisy people, and joke mingle in common festivity, and the and jest and merry prank become the young folks, of both sexes, have an rule. These are participated in mostly opportunity to meet each other. The daughter of marriageable age looks Music of guitars, clattering castanets forward with longing for Christmas, and pebbles rattling in gourds fill the when she may clasp the hand of the air with mingled discordant sounds. youth whose good looks and winning No door is closed. There is music ways have won her heart; and none the less ardently does the boy lover gifts in every house. All are welcome the recent popular demonstration long for the sacred morning to dawn, to enter. Strangers are sure of a against the ministers of finance, justice when he can freely avow his feelings | hearty welcome, and to be a foreigner | and public works, who supported the to the choice of his affections. Hence is to have a double claim on hospital-Christmas among the Assyrians is a ity and to receive a double welcome. day of rejoicings, apart from its holy All ceremony and restraint are absent. character. Soon after Christmas the In many houses the love of the Christengagements are announced; but wed-dings usually do not take place until resentations of the Nativity, with the after Easter. Owing to the barbarity same characters as are seen the world of the Turks, Christmas has not in- over. frequently been a day of mourning Suddenly the scene changes. The

among the Eastern Christians, com-pelled to see their daughters borne and daucing cease, and the people go into hopeless captivity ; but, except in from their homes. The midnight bell Armenia, affairs are improving, and at the cathedral has summoned all to mass. The houses and streets are the Christian population enjoys comnearly deserted, while the churches,

Northern News Notes.

Hon. Allen G. Thurman, the Old Romar," died at his home in Columbus, Ohio, on Thursday.

The physicians of Wyoming county, Pa., are greatly puzzled over the case of Miss Pearl Borton, who has been sleeping uninterruptedly since November 27th.

A San Francisco dispatch says Mics Millie Viola, annex-actress and zeronaut, says she has come from Australia to go over the Niagara Falls in a barrel. To make the feat more difficult, she says she will have the barrel dropped from a balloon.

Three corpses of women stolen from he cemeteries were discovered in the tradition connected with it, however, dissecting rooms of the Kansas Medand thus loses its sentimental value. ical College at Topeka, and the governor had to call out a military company to protect the college from mob attack.

> The Exposition. Thursday was Tennessee Day at the Atlanta Exposition.

Chattanooga Day was celebrated in A Christmas celebration in Petu hes fine style at the exposition Wednespeculiar features. In the cities, and day.

> One of the first fruits of the Atlanta Exposition, from a commercial standpoint, appears in the effort now being made to organize a direct connection between the Atlanta chamber of commerce and the commercial bodies of Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico. The idea is to establish a commercial museum in Atlanta with a permanent exhibition of the products of those countries, and also to establish in Costa Rica a simular exhibit of the United States.

Foreign.

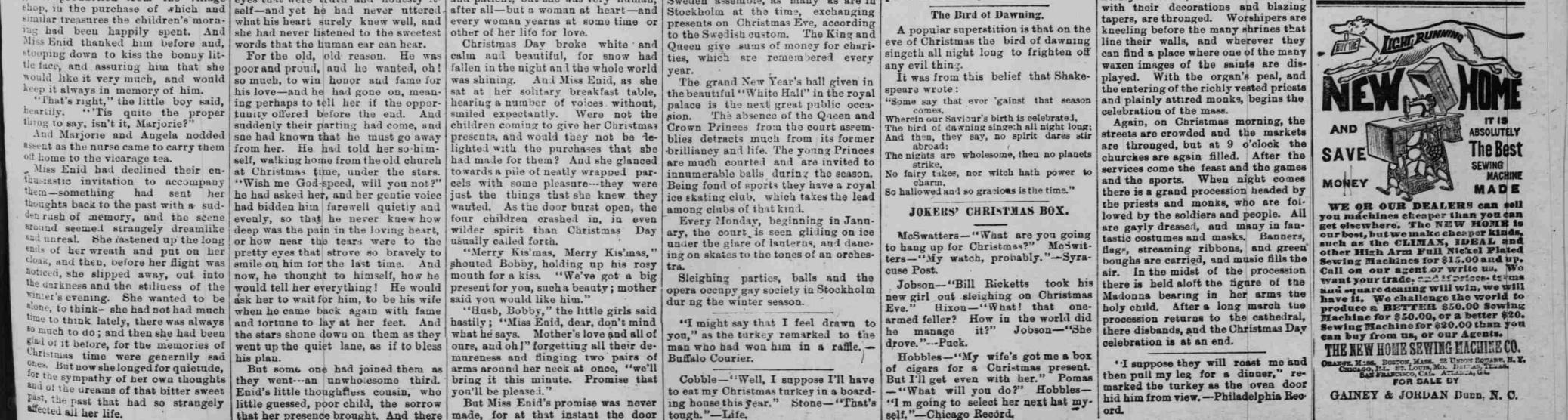
At Dublin, Ireland, water burst into a colliery at Cong, county Mayo, flooded the shaft a depth of 150 feet and drowned six men.

It is announced that the Spanish municipal authorities.

Great Britain is making issue with the United States for the wounding of Purser James H. Bane, of the British

The latest co-operative establishment reported is the big agricultural implement fac-Patrons of Husbandry of twenty-two States. It is understood that the concern will be capitalized at \$100,000, and that this capi-talization will be doable 1

sharp earthquake shocks were feit at Ath-ns, Greece, and also at Chalchis, Livadie, Thebis and Corinth.



"Yes, it must be;" Evaline said.

And then she added, what every one

At Christmas the royal family of

Sweden assemble, as many as are in