

The Pineburst Outlook

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I Only Wait the Day.

My socks are darned at toe and heel, My toes each night peep through, And like a vagabond, I feel, But wife says: "Don't buy new, Just wait for Christmas."

The dozen handkerchiefs I owned. Today are one or two, The others lost or torn or loaned, But wife says: "Don't buy new, Just wait for Christmas."

I've not a decent tie to wear In black or red or blue; But wife says: "With proper care They'll last, so don't buy new, Just wait for Christmas."

My gloves, why they're a sight to see, Much soiled and broken through; But nightly it's impressed on me, By wife: "Now don't buy new, Just wait for Christmas."

And so, if I appear to be Unkempt, as I must do, It is that wife's advising me 'Twere folly to buy new, Just wait for Christmas.

For heaps of gold I have no greed; I only wait the day When I may note the things I need And buy them right away, And not have to wait for Christmas. -Free Press.



Santa Claus.

I used to watch for Santa Claus With childish faith sublime, And listen in the snowy night To hear his sleigh bells chime. Beside the door on Christmas Eve I put a truss of hay To feed the prancing dancing steeds That speed him on his way.

I pictured him a jolly man With beard of frosty white, And cheeks so fat that when he laughed They hid his eyes from sight; A heart that overflowed with love For little girls and boys, And on his back a bulging pack, Brimful of gorgeous toys.

If children of a larger growth Could have a Christmas tree From Father Time, one gift alone Would be enough for me-Let others take the gems and gold, And trifles light and vain, But give me back my old belief In Santa Claus again!

-Life.

IN THE WORLD OF BOOKS



so, replete with the clear the holiday season. type, good paper, color covers and fine illustra-

tions of modern publishers. Fiction, of course, continues to predominate; but it is pleasing to note many charming volumes on art and travel as well as those calculated to entertain and instruct the children.

Art Books on Travel.

Among the elaborate editions on travel are those issued by the L. C. Page Company along the general lines of their former publications, which have covered so large a part of America and Europe. The idea is to present the art, architecture and history of well-known cities and towns in a way that will appeal to all lovers of culture without being too technical.

First of the series is "St. Botolph's Town," by Mary Caroline Crawford, containing forty-eight illustrations. This is not the Boston of England, but the Boston of Massachusetts in Colonial days. The average intelligent American has more or less knowledge of Colonial history, but it is largely confined to a few cities. Boston figures very largely in our history just before the Revolution, but of the earlier history not so much is known. This is a charming account of the rise and development of the Puritan town written with a sympathetic vein of appreciation. It is true that many Boston people, and especially its historians, are quite apt to think that pretty much all that was worth while in our earlier days took place in the Bay State capital, but our author is not concerned with any such propaganda and does not indulge in polemics. She gives a cheerful account of the trials and tribulations which came to the strong men and women who were concerned in the uplift of Boston. It is an engaging narration, full of information and inspiration.

"In Viking Land," by W. S. Monroe, is an account of the past and present of Norway, its people and its beautiful fjords. It is not many years since all Scandinavia was practically a sealed book to Americans, but many things have occurred to change all this. Travelers have discovered that nature offers few such available scenes of varied grandeur as are to be found in skirting the coast, and a journey to the Land of the Midnight Sun is a favorite with all who travel extensively. We have in this country a very considerable Norwegian element while Isben has become a power in the intellectual world. Our author gives us a the great novelist's stories in former pleasing view of the country and its people, its lakes and bays, its mountains and plains. He has a fine perspective of life There is an introduction explaining some and reveals this people to us with many of the history of the story and how deft touches. His account of the mem- Dickens came to write it. It will be a

BLWAYS attractive are the | ing but not less so than his accounts of Holiday books, this sea- the peasantry. The book is well illusson's output especially trated and will be a favorite gift book for

> "The Art of the Netherland Galleries' by David C. Preyer, deals with some of the most interesting paintings the world contains. Although many of the most famous works by painters of the Dutch and Flemish schools have been carried far away, there remain some notable collections of the best work of these artists. Rembrandt naturally dominates the book as he did the art of the Netherlands and some interesting accounts of his work are given with critical appreciation. The reproductions in the volume are notably fine. But there were painters besides Rembrandt, many of whom shine only second to the grand luminary. Hals, Maes, Steen, Israels, are only a few names in the long list of painters whose works remain in their native land. The galleries of the Hague and of Amsterdam are the best known, but in nearly every city is to be found a collection containing some works of high rank; its purpose to give the ordinary reader a good understanding of the general characteristics and particular values of some of the world's art treasures

Dr. Van Dyke in the Holy Land.

Another delightful book is added to the long list of which Dr. Henry Van Dyke is author, in "Out of Doors in the Holy Land" (Scribners). This is an account of a recent trip through Palestine by the well known clergyman and an interesting party of friends. They disdained modern inventions and made the trip in true Oriental fashion, dwelling in tents and depending on mules and camels for transport.

Dr. Van Dyke does not pretend to have made any important discoveries, and his book is new only in the delightful way in which he has handled an old subject With what charm he has invested it all of his admirers can easily believe. His sympathy with nature, his love of the land, his reverence for hallowed ground, and his wonderful powers for painting scenes are at their best in this book. He inserts some poems, which will be an inspiration to many. The illustrations are in full color and are an attractive feature of a most attractive book. At this season of the year a trip through the Holy Land through the pen of this author is next to making the actual journey.

The Chimes.

For the holiday trade this season the Baker & Taylor Co. have issued Charles Dickens' famous Christmas story, "The Chimes," in the same style as others of years. The book is handsomely printed in large type and beautifully bound. bers of the Royal Family are entertain- favorite for boys and girls this season. | colors.

An Oriental-American Tale.

"Barry Gordon," by William Farquhar Payson (McClure), is essentially a story of temperament. It is well written in a somewhat unusual vein. The action takes place partly in this country and partly in the African littoral, and on the whole, we have a tale that keeps up interest in a variety of ways. The play upon human emotions is constant. There are many problems coming up which seem impossible of solution, and whether the final one is such as the reader enjoys, depends entirely upon his point of view. It would not be fair to say that this author is an imitator of Robert Hichens, but it is entirely true that he has caught some of that fine atmosphere which has made the East nearer to those of us in the Western world than any former writers were able to accomplish. To tell the plot of this story would spoil its interest. It is one that is notable in the season's output.

A New Christy Portfolio,

This year's portfolio of "Drawings of Howard Chandler Christy" (Moffat, Yard & Co.), consists of a fine collection of some of his best work in recent years. Some of them are reproduced in full color and others are in black and white.

In recent years Mr. Christy has been the dean of illustrators who have to do with women or society scenes. Some of the pictures in this book have been published in books or magazines but so small as to lose much of their merit. These larger reproductions are in the highest style of the printer's art. It is said of Mr. Christy by women (who surely ought to know) that he is about the only artist who can draw a real woman in her real clothes. At least men can testify that he reproduces the most charming counterfeit presentments of womankind and the Christy has become a by word of art.

Elizabeth Robins in Italy.

It is a long cry from "The Magnetic North" to "The Mills of the Gods," which is the latest novel by Elizabeth Robins (Moffat, Yard & Co). The author shows her versatility and power in the new story, which is short, but powerful. It ought to be noted that some of the most prominent authors in the last two years have condensed their ideas into tabloid form without losing anything. This story of Italy is a revelation of passions and ideals in a peculiar manner. It deals with psychological themes entirely, but it holds the interest from beginning

Animals for Young People.

"Animals for Young People," by Chas. R. Knight (Frederick A. Stokes Co.), of the Museum of Natural History, is a brief account of the animal world by one of the best known experts. The text is printed in large type, and the descriptions are brief but full of information. The book is illustrated with many colored plates, which portray the best known animals of the world in their natural