

THE COMING OF

CHRISTMAS

BRINGS JOY TO DAISY MAY

KISS KRINGLE'S journey is almost ended. Just a day or two more, and the merry tinkle of his sleigh bells will be audible, and once again the whole world will unite in joyous celebration. It has been more difficult than usual to stem the torrent of expectancy, for, being a year of prosperity, we are hoping the "goods the gods provide" are to be surpassingly superior. Aunt Hetty is with us for the holidays, and, though she professes her philosophy, she finds it as difficult as we to possess her soul in patience. Dear old Patience, the much abused grande dame, meekly bears the burdens heaped upon her by winsome, imperious Dorothy, who is fretting and fuming because Christmas day doesn't arrive simultaneously with a mysterious looking parcel bearing a Tiffany hall-mark. Were patience a tangible being the land would be peopled by Dorothys who'd bring her forthwith into Niagara's whirlpool—at least at Christmas time. Each year we are given opportunity to renew our faith in the belief that anticipation is greater than realization, for seldom are our desires fulfilled. To while away the hours Aunt Hetty has invented a prophetic device which tells whether it will be "what you do expect," "what you don't expect" or "what is sure to come true," and we've held high carnival each night while testing the homemade wheel of fortune. Even with this ingenious amusement they hung heavily until we took up the subject of the "plain man." "Can women love plain men?" was the question put by one of us a few nights ago at our after dinner seance. Dorothy was noncommittal. Her puckered brow indicated deep thought. A man would have at once realized the momentous importance of our silence, for my brother-in-law is ugly, and a woman guessed shrewdly that love depended not on the relative size of his nose or sparsity of hair, but entirely upon the desirability of the expected Christmas gift. The lady was cogitating how best to

shall say that a very satyr of ugliness may not win her affection? "Truth is that which a manstroweth," said Bacon, and the man loving where love is hungered for need feel no qualms. The woman will see in him a combination of Hercules and Adonis and thank God for his being.

Aunt Hetty, who is a most assertive creature and ever sees things from an extraordinary viewpoint, wound up our animated talk with characteristic prosiness: "Can women love plain men? Well, I think so. A plain man, as a rule, knows he is plain and does his best to be pleasing, not as the 'beauty man' does, with little effeminate tricks of the toilet, but by cultivating some talent that nature has endowed him with. Women, as a rule, look upon beauty as their own particular property and resent a 'beauty man' as having poached on their preserves. They may be amusing to idle an hour or two away with at a dance, but for a right down sensible chat or a husband give me the plain man before the handsomest one in the world."

When doing up your Christmas parcels, tie into your cherry ribbon bow-knot a wishbone instead of a sprig of holly. This is the latest whim of the superstitious and brings with it good luck.

Speaking of whims reminds me that I must devote a paragraph to aligulettes. The most insistent of the moment is the taffeta or panne box with metal ends, otherwise known to fame and purse as aligulettes. In the days of Charles I and II, from which these quaint bows and silk ties date, they were called tags, but qu'importe can't it seem the same thing. Indeed, if we hunt up old books dealing with historical costumes we shall find that it is from the Stuart days we borrow both the tag ends and the embroidery and braiding with gold characteristic of today. Only in these days the man had his share in such frivolities and sported gold tags and embroideries in his everyday costume. Here is an extract from a book of old costumes:

"A tunic of lavender colored silk braided with gold down the front and sides trimmed with ribbon bows and tags round the waist. Sleeves slashed white. Deep collar trimmed with lace. Lace wristbands. Breeches braided and fastened at the knees with amber ribbon fastened in a rosette. Broad felt hat and feathers."

There is no new thing under the sun, at least in costume, for the instinct for the ornate beginning with Eve ripened and flourished and developed while others of the lesser arts of life had either not been born or were still in their infancy.

The most fascinating of all these taffeta and tag end fads is the staylace

idea, the taking of taffeta through embroidered holes in the material and tying the tag ends in a bow. One sees fronts and corsiet bands and neck collars with this whimsy which is also a fraud since it never really implies a legitimate fastening. Indeed, these fascinating fronts and bands invariably fasten somewhere round the corner, never at the front, as the uninformed might suppose. A straightforward fastening down the front of a bodice can't be said at the moment to be greatly in favor. The lining, of course, will fasten down the front, but not the material. It is generally down the left side that fastenings occur, and of course this leaves scope for prettier ornamentation and design.

After the disappointments which are sure to commingle with our pleasures we'll gladly turn to clothes as a solace, and I suggest it is soonest found in the bonnet shops. Look to your chapeaux, for with the new year are to be born some startling modes.

Daisy May

New York.

SHE TAMED HIM.

If ever a man wanted taming, it was Jone. He was always ready with a sneer for everything that was set before him. Scarcely a meal at his table passed without criticism from him.

"What is this meant for?" he would ask after testing an entree his wife had racked her brain to think up.

"What on earth is this?" he would say when dessert came on.

"Is this supposed to be a salad?" he would inquire sarcastically when the lettuce was served. His wife stood as long as she could. One evening he came home in a particularly capricious humor. His wife was dressed in her most becoming gown and fairly bubbled over with wit. They went in to dinner. The soup tureen was brought in. Tied to one handle was a card and on that card the information, in a big round hand, "This is soup."

Roast beef followed, with a placard announcing, "This is roast beef." The potatoes were labeled, the gravy dish was placarded, the olive bore a card marked "Olives," the salad bowl carried a tag marked "Salad," and when the ice cream came in a card announcing "This is ice cream" came with it. The wife talked of a thousand different things all through the meal, never once referring by word or look to the labeled dishes. Neither then nor thereafter did he say a word about them, and never since that evening has the capricious husband ventured to inquire what anything set before him is.

KINDERGARTENS IN JAPAN.

A new and congenial occupation has been opened to Japanese women in the establishment of kindergartens carried on according to western ideas. The Japanese, it is said, have accepted the kindergarten principles with enthusiasm, and thus a new field of work is prepared for Japanese women. Training schools have been founded in different parts of the country, and the girl graduates have opened successful kindergartens of their own. The intellects of the oriental children are just as keen as those of children elsewhere, and they take delight in the play work which involves colors and their combinations, for every Japanese child is born with artistic instincts, and everything in the kindergarten naturally appeals to it. One of the fascinating occupations of the Japanese kindergarten is the raising of silkworms, and finally winding the silk from their own cocoons, and a great feature of interest is the growing of flowers. The children are said to love flowers passionately. What a picturesque scene must be presented in a Japanese kindergarten!

COUNTRIES WHERE WOMEN VOTE.

At the last election women cast their votes for presidential electors in four states—in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming for the second time, in Idaho for the first time. These are the only states where women have full political privileges, but in two-thirds of the states they possess some form of suffrage.

In Europe every nation allows women a vote except Greece, Spain, Portugal, Holland and some German states. On the continent this suffrage is limited, but it is also limited for men. In Great Britain women vote on all questions except the election of members to parliament.

In New Zealand and some portions of Australia women enjoy full political equality with men.

family which have belonged to the grandmothers and mothers are brought out. If a girl baby has been born since the last feast, a couple of beautiful dolls are bought for her and are reserved till she is old enough to care for them.

The Princess of Wales has lately received a fine Borzoi hound, bred in the kennels of Prince Galitzin, from her sister, the dowager empress of Russia.

The princess has a great love for these magnificent Russian hounds, and there are several prize winners in the Sandringham kennels.

It is reported that since 1880 68 colleges for girls have been established in France. Previous to that time there were no municipally supported schools for the higher education of young women. Of the number mentioned 48 of the institutions are lycées and 20 are

THE MORNING AFTER CHRISTMAS.

Mamma told me, 'most a week ago,
If I'd be the bestest girl, you know,
Just as good as possible, maybe
Santa Claus would bring a doll to me.

So I tried, and now the week is done,
Santa's brought two dollies 'stead of one.
Guess I must be ('cause he brought me two)
Twice as good as possible. Don't you?

SOCIETY WOMEN

LADIES OF WEALTH AND LEISURE
WHO HAVE MADE NAMES IN THE
WORLD OF BOOKS

AND LITERATURE

NEVER have handsome holiday books been so numerous as they are this season. The volumes upon the book counters are not only beautiful in outward appearance, thanks to the skill of artists, designers and binders, but seldom have they been so interesting inwardly. It is to be observed that most of the notable books of the year are from the pens of women; there are Mrs. Humphry Ward's "Eleanor," Molly Elliott Seawell's "The House of Egremont," Gertrude Hall's "April Snowing," Mrs. Schuyler Crowninshield's "The Archbishop and the Lady," Katrina Trask's "Lessons in Love," Lillian Bell's "The Expatriates" and scores of others, each in its way attractive and interesting.

A great deal of preliminary booming has been accorded Mrs. Crowninshield's

body of Commodore Lawrence home to Boston from Halifax.

The Crowninshields have lived in Washington for some years and are thoroughly acquainted with the various phases of its social life. When Mrs. Crowninshield's book was announced, those who had read some of her previous fiction were much stirred up lest "The Archbishop and the Lady" should be a social satire.

Of the New York women of social position who write not a few have done really meritorious work. Mrs. Burton Harrison is a literary artist of taste. Her first book to attract wide attention was "The Anglomaniacs," a novel which lightly touched the tendency of American society to ape the English nobility. One of the most charming of Mrs. Harrison's stories, "Sweet Bells Out of Tune," has had a very large

body of Commodore Lawrence home to Boston from Halifax.

CHRISTMAS

THE DAY OF DAYS

By Margherita Arlina Hamm

What though the brittle boughs are bare
Which once were garbed in green,
What though the chill December air
—A requiem chants unseen,
The great returning sun shall bring—
Earth's treasures back again,
The buds and blossoms of the spring
And summer's golden grain.

II.

What though iniquity appear
To prosper and succeed,
What though the land be chained by fear,
By passion, pride or greed,
The Sun of Light returning soon
Shall strike each evil throne,
And in the splendor of His noon
The right shall rule alone.

III.

The tide of Yule brings back the sun
With life-inspiring grace
To give his golden benison
—Unto the struggling race,
While Christmas brings a greater orb,
Omnipotent in good,
Whose viewless radiance shall absorb
The world in brotherhood.

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Photo by Reutlinger, Paris.

UTILITARIAN MORNING HOUSE TOILET.

IN WOMAN'S ARENA.

When Queen Victoria is robed for a state occasion, such as a drawing room or state concert, it is no uncommon thing for her to display \$150,000 worth of jewelry. At other times her majesty scarcely wears any.

In every rank of life in Norway young men and maidens exchange rings on becoming engaged. These rings are worn

by the men as well as the women for the rest of their lives, and, consequently, one always knows at once whether a man is either married or engaged directly one sees his hand.

The feast of dolls is the great holiday in the year for little Japanese maidens. It is held on the third day of the third month (March), and the dolls of the

erary work and has made a special study of the early history of New York and its leading families.

MADGE PORTER.

PLACES THE ROYAL FOOT.

One of the duties of the lord chamberlain of England on the occasion of a state concert is as follows: The member of the royal family representing her majesty occupies the center chair on a raised dais at the end of the room facing the orchestra. Immediately she is seated the lord chamberlain, bowing very solemnly, approaches, kneels down and gently takes the right foot of the royal lady and even more gently places it on a crimson and gold footstool. Then the lord chamberlain retires.

luck in the title, for every Savoy prince who has borne it has become king. The Duchess of Aosta is a famous beauty who before her marriage was Princess Helen of Orleans.

In Polyneisa baby girls of a year old are placed in wicker cages, and in cages they remain until the time they are married. Happily, the children do not seem to mind much, and they grow fat and healthy. At the age of 12 years or

thereabout most of the little damsels leave their cages to be married. The following rather startling announcement, made by a hairdresser, has been resurrected from the Boston Gazette of Dec. 16, 1800: "S. Rogers informs those ladies who wish to be dressed by him, either on Assembly or Ball days, to give him notice the previous day. Ladies who engage to, and don't dress, must pay him half price."