# CHRISTMAS AT HOME AND ABROAD

## Quaint Yuletide Customs of the hatte representations called Moro Moro plays. These strange performance are Filipinos — Glimpses of Modernity and Barbarism.

BY MARGHERITA ARLINA HAMM.

and general character as shown in the these adjuncts it impresses one with a sively with Moslems. Islands come from three centuries of Spanish rule, but its coloring and lotowns of Spain, Mexico or Cuba. In the native cities and towns there are glimpses of the savagery which prevailed when Legaspi first landed upon the shores, while in the sparsely settled country districts, and particularly where the Tagal and the Igorrote meet and blend, the day is as barbarous and strange as it was in the dark ages of European history. Civilization in the Philippines fluds its summit in Manila and thence slopes downward and passes into savagery among the Actas, Gad-

danes, Itavis, Negritos and other eth-

nic types.

In the cities it is very much like any one of the great saints' days. Work is set aside, the streets are filled with well dressed crowds, the churches are thronged with women and children, the chimes toll from every institution and every now and then a brightly colored and gay looking religious procession moves along a principal street. Sometimes a church follower carries a little statue of the Christ Child, sometimes he holds the figure of St. Joseph. From a wealthy church the procession is large, and over the figure carried is a beautiful canopy rich in carved woods, gold and tinsel. The deyout fall upon their knees as the processions pass, and Protestant and Catholic alike remove their hats to render courtesy to the great faith of the world. Through December it is warm, and everybody is dressed in his or her best. The men are attired in white linen suits, with white manila hats, or else in black coats and white trousers with black hats. To the American eye there is one very funny feature in that nearly every man wears his shirt on the outside of his trousers.

The better educated Tagals follow the example of European fashions, but, on the other hand, the poor Spaniards and half breeds take after the Filipinos. It is funniest of all when a young Tagal blood wears a little French derby hat, a pair of black alpaca trousers and a magnificent linen shirt which comes down almost to his knees. He struts by as proud as the proverbial peacock and looks down upon the more simply dressed representatives of foreign lands. When evening comes, every house is bright with lights, and in every doorway is a hanging lamp or a gaudy Japanese lantern. The Chinese merchants imitate the Spaniards and Malays and have lanterns and lights at every coign of vantage. Sometimes those who have been converted or who yield lip service to Christianity celebrate the day with a countless multitude of firecrackers. Amid the noise and the lights one can easily see how queer a mixture is ob tained by joining together three antagonistic civilizations and races. With nightfall music is heard everywhere The Filipino, whether Tagal, Visaya or Igorotte, loves music, and learns to play all of the simpler instruments. Every regiment has a band, and almost every club and theater its own brown orchestra. Besides these, there are numberless professionals who can be hired for a mere song and who find Christmas day one of the best in their commercial year. The piano in one house echoes the violin in the next, and the flute in your neighbor's across the street gets entangled with the cornet a few doors below and the trombone a few doors

But in the country I found a freet and broader life at Christmas. Nature is less trammeled and the savage shows through the veneer of civilization. Here are men in white shirts and with bare feet, women with boleros and sarongs which give a generous view of their many physical charms. In every town are religious processions and on every thoroughfare peddlers unknown to the United States. They carry sus-pended from the neck a box, large or small, on which is written in large letters in both the Spanish language and the native dialects the name of the relic, curio or attraction contained within. A square window covered with glass allows the devout to look through and gaze upon the treasure inside. This is sometimes a bone or tooth of a saint, a nail or fragment of wood from the true cross, an ancient idol rechristened after a saint, a handkerchief blessed by some dead bishop or archbishop, or fetich that has come down from dead Tagal ancestors.

The patron pays a small price, never more than a cent and as little as the eme-twentieth part of our cent. After seasting the eyes upon the object deed, which is not permitted in the then conquered. He may be killed, he cames and merriments come back year he or she kisses the little glass window commoner operations of life. Young may embrace Christianity, he may be by year, and departs in happier and wiser mood. Then take advantage of it to declare come a monk or he may be east into. In schools and colleges and in social There are thousands of these peddlers, and young women to prison and leaded down in chains. The and charitable, societies there is a and the only wender is how they all accept or reject their admirers' offers. here always marries the hereine and growing taste for tableaux during the get a living.

At nightfall there are social gatherings called catapusan. They are sur- two on the floor and sometimes 20. As and at times outrageously indecorous, befit the Christmas season. In Salem, vivals of barbarism and still disclose much of their primitive nature. They repair to the tables and cat or drink the thing, denounces the villain, ap- ago in which the young people appeared begin with eating and drinking, and keep this up until the last participant has gone home. It is not the simple fare of everyday life, but a rich diet of meats, fruits and vegetables cooked grains. They do not seem to grow in- is the great day for buying lottery in many ways. Some of the dishes use parts of the animal which are discarded and too long to be overcome by the one can indulge in fantan, bak-a-behby civilized society, but which are ap- spirit of wine. The morning breaks, ho, che-fah, panguin-gul, dice and the leaf Bellew showed how it may be an preciated by savages in other lands. the feast is over, and the guests, hollow wheels of fortune. The cockpits are art. "How Dot Heard the Messlah" has They bear a strange resemblance to the eyed and wornout, depart to their ad crowded and everywhere the goddess of been often read to music in church funnel in the shape of a "hopper," with the poem which is to be guessed. haggis which is served at the dinners of the St. Andrew's society. Then there by, jealousy protrudes its green visage woman it is a Christmas colored with and "The Blind Girl of Castel Guille" so much savagery as to be a different have been so rendered. ish, suited to the fandango and ca. story; but incidents of this sort are rare fessival altogether from the simple hol- "A very beautiful entertainment in chuca, and the other half is Malay, sen- | indeed. suous, sweet, but queerly monotonous. In the older towns where the popula- United States.

as interesting as they are picturesque.

Moro is really the Spanish and Tagol word for Mohammedan-Malay, and it is taken from our old word Moor, the early Spanish navigators believing that the Mohammedan-Malays were the same people as those on the other side of Gibfaltar. In the Malay languages words are duplicated to increase or intensify meaning. A Moro play might HRISTMAS is as popular a holiday. When accentuated by the triangle and be a play by a Mohammedan or conwith the Tagals as with the west- the cymbals, it becomes lively and even cerning a Mohammedan, but a Moro inspiring in character, but without Moro means a play that deals exclu-

The Moro Moro players travel from feeling of mournfulness and even rerious. It is like the huld hula of Ha- own costumes, scenery and manuscript. cal ceremonies are Malay in varying de- wait and the characteristic dances of Each company has its own play or set under the dinner plate in memory of the gree. In Manila, Boilo, Cebu and the Egypt. It is sensual, graceful, rythmic of plays, which it guards with zealous Year of the famine in old Plymouth, to Then Evangeline slept, but the boatmen rowed other cities the observance of the feast and at times animal. The arms are care. As may be imagined, no two-is very much the same as in the small used as well as the feet, and the head plays are exactly alike, but in as well as the body. The dancers writhe each one there is a wicked sultan, corn pooms, legends and decorations and wriggle, sob and scream, embrace rich and powerful; a Christian hero, and by some new music, of which is and defy and go through a perform- who is always a Tagal with a Chadwick's "Pfigrim Fathers." Christ-ance which the first time it is seen is a big Spanish name; a beautiful her- mas, however, has brought the social

### Entertainments For Home and Hall—New and Attractive Games For the Day.

BY HEZEKIAH BUTTERWORTH.

THE 'Old Home Week' in New | Section 2 of part 2, where Evantom of placing "five kernels of corn" recall the harvests of the centuries Thanksgiving day has been enriched by

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

When the simpler faith and the sturdier hope welled up where the red blood ran.

In the good old days when the wencles fair for the Christmas woods would start,

When the back-log glowed on the open hearth and love in the open heart,

By the mazer-bowl of the vassals stout to the twenty-hooped pot of kings.

Ti was boar-head, mistletoe, holly and ale, and songs though the notes were gruff;

And a toast to Her, with your hand on your heart!-The last, to the Eastern Start!

So the great hall rang with their carol and hymn, the dawn in the East grew gold;

Then vassal and monarch humbled their hearts and knowled to their Christ of old.

It was "Stand all, now, and a life to the King!-A health to the lads afar!-

'Twas a flagon of mead and a joint from the spit, a toast, though the board was rough;

All the world was given not over to greed and the passion for trilling things!

When the world seemed young and the wonder of life swung strong in the hearts of man,

But the dusk has crept through the aging years, and the heart of the world has changed,

It is good-by now to Romance as it was, farewell to the Life estranged

In the rush for gold, in the battle for bread, 'tis Chivalry trampled out

No matter how mad is the struggle and fevered the marts of the new-born age.

Though we feed not now on the husk of the past, we have. O my soul, man's hope

That the darkest years have their end and each cloud God hangs at the last shall ope;

Through the years still whisper that Hatred and War and Strife in the end shall cease!

series of surprises to an American wo- oine who is pursued by a villain, and board but few new forms of historic beauty of the art that responds directly ment such odd characters as these were

Ah. the loom shall stop and the anvil be still and the cities forget their rage!

So a wraith, this day, of that old Romance, a ghost of that earlier Peace

man. Some ancient custom permits generally a dozen assorted villains who interpretations and of merciment. Christ- to the fouch of the finger is a returning developed:

Where we hive in houses that darken sad streets, and swarm in the citied rout

And heavy of heart we stop for a day, we pause at the Christmas chimesil

Where our ashen faces and sorrowing eyes still glow for the good old times.

England has brought a new form geline is borne down the bayous of of recreation into rural life, the Louisiana, is admirably adapted for farm dinner in the barn at the summons such effects. A boat wreathed with of the horn. Forefathers' day in the east | flowers bearing the sleeping Evangeline gret. The dancing runs fast and fur village, each carrying his and in the west has introduced the cus- may be slowly drawn across the stage, the rowers singing the Canadian boat

through the midnight, Silent at times, then singing familiar Canadian boat songs

Such as they sung of old on their own Canadian

Harp music is growing in favor. The I dramatic character. In the old amuse-

'ground over young." The miller's should be familiar with old some un "ground over young." The intitle daughter turns the crank and fans and sings. Each old person goes up the ter, with old fashloned turniure and fire on the hearth. The hearth of the control of the contr sings. Each old person goes fround fire on the hearth. The host should stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should be stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should be stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should be stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should be stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should be stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth. The host should be stepladder on the outside to be "ground fire on the hearth." stepladder on the outside to be "elixir of a farmer who lives "according to ser over," takes a draft from the ladder, and descends the unseen ladder on the inside who roasts apples and pops core.

The mill must be so built against an heard without, and the village the The mill must be so built against the mill must be so built against the enters in winter wraps, and many, clamations in regard to the

Young damsels stand waiting for the

ground over gallants. In this odd amusement the miller's daughter becomes a very interesting character. While turning the crank which turns the fan she may sing "Auld Lang Syne.'

the miller. The miller questions each lehem," "Strike the Cymbal," "Be El as to why he desires to be ground over, to the Loved Ones at Home." as to why he desires to be ground over, which leads to amusing confessions. Roved the Indian Girl," "Old Cal which leads to amusing confessions. Bucket," "Come to the Sunset In-The maidens in waiting for the "grist" may make themselves very entertaining by their contentions.

THE BOOK PARTY.

The old book party which was popular as a parlor entertainment in which the guests acted the title of a book may have a higher and more literary and

of the funnel or hopper very slowly and Farmer Holley, we will tall him. by his fire popping corn. Sleighbells ;

his exit unseen. As he does so a young clamations in regard to the cold "The coldest day in 19 years!" "The coldest day in 20 years!" "The coldest day in 40 years!"

Farmer Holley piles on the wood a sets the apples to roasting. The mer party, among which should be love "property people," people very care "deportment," jokers, and an The people who are to be "ground bachelor and two or more old make over" hold their own conversations with may sing such songs as "Star of Bee lehem." "Strike the Combain of Bee The Breaking Waves Dashed Hg (solo), "Over There, O Potatoes Th Grow Small, Over There," "Valor Avoca," 'Long, Long Ago," Bolt," "Soldier's Farewell."

A very amusing and rather tender song may be introduced into the lage choir by making a dialogue of camp meeting greeting:

My brother, I wish you well.
When my Lord calls, I hope we shall be mentioned in the promised and.

The music is known to every one. Let each one be greeted by the song by being sung out by name by his right hand neighbor, after the manner of plantation meetings.

"Sister Anna, I wish you well," etc. "Brother Joseph, I wish you well"

All may join in the quaint refrain, "Be mentioned in the promised land." The greeting should be acted by shaking of hands and much solemn ceremony. It may be made to make out laugh and cry.

Each visitor should bring a conun. drum and should "say it" while sating popcorn and roast apples before the fir. Some of these conundrums should very foolish, as: "What kind of bar had Aaron's dog? Dog's hair.' The host may end the entertainment

with bass viol or violin splos and the patriotic song, "The Sword of Bunker The old maids may speak "pieces of poetry," and the old bachelor may whittle and whistle and offer to go home" with many refusing girls.

Few modern devises that will yield so much fun and laughter, with touches of good sentiment, can be so easily prepared as this. It may be varied by a "Favorite Song

Party" at which amid like surroundings each one may sing his favorite old song. "The Village Choir" is more at-tractive and amusing than "The Dis-trict School," an entertainment pop-ular in New England and in the west.

#### WASHINGTON'S DEATH.

It was on the 14th of December, just 100 years ago, that George Washington passed away at Mount Vernon It is now generally conceded that Washing-ton's fatal ailment was what is known as laryngitis, though it was really the very doctors who were struggling to save his life that brought about the death of the president. According to the medical traditions of their times



WASHINGTON AS A MASON.

when called in to attend the distin guished patient these doctors bled him profusely. His system was already weakened by the fever from which he had been suffering for several days, and the natural result was collapse. Had Washington been living one century later and subjected to the treatment of modern medical science there is every reason to believe his life could have been saved with very little trop-

Although a man of 67 years at the time of his death, Washington possess ed a remarkably rugged constitution His final sickness was really a seven cold brought about by riding over his estate through a driving storm of rais and sleet. He returned home wet an chilled and two days later he was del In this connection it is notable t the Masons of the state of Virginia to celebrate at Mount Vernon the celtenary of the death of Washington in view of the fact that "the Father of His Country" was once a worshipful master in that society. It was on Dec. 23, 153, that George Washington was made a Mason in the Fredericksburg lodge at Fredericksburg. When the president nocents Abroad" (in no sense A broad); presided at the cornerstone laying cert monies during the building of the capitol in 1793, he wore the master's sash and apron presented to him by Lafayette and wrought with Masonic e blems in gold and silver by the hands of the Marquise de Lafayette herself. The Mount Vernon ceremony of the present year will be made to resemble as far as possible the funeral ceremonies which took place one long century ago.

HISTORIC MILITARY BODIES.

Among the military organizations are some independent companies of notable history. One of these is the Governor Foot guards of Hartford, Conn. two companies, an independent body, which was organized in 1770 under a charter. like the Ancient and Honorable Artillery company formed in 1741; the Vereran Corps of Artillery of Philadelphia organized in 1790, and constituting the Military Society of the War of 1812, and easily prepared for an entertainment the Philadelphia City troop, which was organized just before the war of the must be singers or musicians, and | Revolution.

#### SOME WELL KNOWN PEOPLE.

Robert Burns, Highland Mary and the were luncheons, 21,986 dinners, 347 sup-discovered that out of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from that "My father," he once said to be the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from the control of the entire group the benefit of the sufferers from the control of the entire group the con "In Old Kentucky" has been success-

jacent homes. Sometimes, though rare- chance has full sway. To an American Christmas festivals, "Robert of Sicily"

both men and women to express their are killed with neatness and dispatch. man is children's week, and what de-

As fast as one couple tires another keeps all the sultan's wealth. The dia - Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

takes its place; sometimes there are logue is somewhat stilled, but vigorous Parties representing colonial society

they retire from the dancing circle they The audience enters into the spirit of Mass., a party was given some years

the harsh red Spanish wines. Some- each succers which virtue makes. The centers. The old, stately habits were

by fermenting their own fruits and comes out in universal gambling. This fiddle, the old songs sung.

thought in this dance, both by word and The sultan is at first victorious and is lights children delights all; so the old the harp song.

great drafts of black Manlin coffee or, plauds and advises the here and cheers in the costumes of their colonial an- My Country."

ings from Longfellow's "Evangeline."

times they have other stimulants made uncivilized spirit at the Christmas fetes observed, the old tunes played on the fers a like opportunity for romantic Trotwood, Dr. Primrose, Jack Horner

READINGS WITH MUSIC.

This form of entertainment has been

growing in the country since the mag-

charm. Color and feeling come with

harp and harpist cannot be secured.

In tableaux the harp music may be

The harp songs of Tom Moore offer

character, as "The Origin of the Harp,"

"Wake the Harp," "Farewell to the

La Mancha's Shades," "Dear Harp of

GRINDING OVER YOUNG.

This is a merriment suggested by an

England and Normandy. It may be

a stepladder on outside and another

concealed on the inside. Have a crank

with fans or arms like an old Holland

A procession of apparently old men

and women come to the miller to be

tableaux and music

windmill.

Scott's "Lay of the Last Minstrel" of-

Eleanora Duse is reported to be fil

Trill B for "Trilby;" Loose Heel for

and mirthful. The party may be

guests dress to represent these and

act them and quote from them.

Bagstock, Fagin the Jew, the Three

Wise Men of Gotham, who talk foolish;

Mrs. Malaprop, Sarah Gamp, Betsy

The representative characters in mod-

ern poetry may be so acted. The actor,

ter, enters the room, personlfies the

THE VILLAGE CHOIR.

This, which is suggested by an amus-

for home or hall. The persons acting

of nursery rhymes.

wagon maker, and, I am giad to be The crown prince of Germany durable to say it, a good one. Wedel, the emperor's chief equery, He

fully acted in London.

toxicated; probably they dance too hard tickets and also for the houses where

pers. 32,363 tens and 5,671 meals at the of 21 figures, the leading actors in the disease in that part of the world.

ARTHUR J. STRINGER.

played on the plane, low pedal, if a real "Lucille," and many equally curious

The harp songs of Tom Moore offer made to represent for guessing the material for a beautiful concert of this strange characters of fiction. The

Harp," "The Harp That Once Through Such characters might be Sir An-

Tara's Halls," "Remember the Days In thony Absolute, Meg Merrilles, Joe

old tavern picture in county towns of dressed to represent the chosen charac-

produced in any hall. Make a mill character and makes a quotation from

Mayor Price of Macon, Ga,, who has | who were unable to pay for such a nebar. The bar receipts were \$60,000. civil war, General Howard is the only Father Osborne of the Church of St. lungs. Her physician is said to have ing his vacation learned to drive a lungs. held his place for 14 years, is a great | cessity of up to date life. Mr. Price is General O. O. Howard, while recently one now living. Mass., was taken by his host to see the public library of that place, where is spent seven years among the lepters of believer in the newspaper as an edu-cator. For years he has out of his been productive of much good. From the report of the kitchen committee of the British house of commons cator. For years he has our of his been productive of his post session, up of that place, where is spent seven years among the lepers of the subscriptions for a Dr. John Redman of Waxahachie, it appears that during last session, up public library of that place, where is spent seven years among the lepers of some time.

Tex. is in possession of a rare old to July 79, a total of 72,208 meals was painting. It is a genuine picture of served in the house. Of these 11,941 "Lincoln at Gettysburg." It was then tablish an American medical station for

day she has always known in the this form may be produced by read-