

When with his tory little fells the hose of

A CHRISTMAS GIFT BY C. A. PARKER.

OBERT GOOD-



pleasing one. The was not a very walls were adorned with paper sadly -d -colored and falling away in places; The bare, smoky celling was traversed "y nime; ous cracks; the paint on the oodwork, of dismal hue to start with, showed the ravages of time, the carpet was wietchedly shabby.

Mr. Goddman gazed at all this and carighed, as he had often done before. "I could write better sermons in a " himself. "This room certainly is de-"I ressing. It does seem that the church might paint and paper it. The exrense would be small. Then there is the carret; but if that remained I scathould have to 'look up and not down.' Well, that is what I must do anyway," and with a faint smile he turned again to the work before him.

Just then there was a little tap at the >door, and he rose and opened it.

the study door, looking fresh and occupant.



The Sunday before Christmas, Mrs. Bardwell, a good, motherly woman who lived four miles from the town and who was a member of Mr. Goodman's church, said to the pastor and his wife as they shook hands after service, "I want you folks all out to my house for one good holiday visit. Can you come the day before Christmis? It seems a kind o' queer time, muy be but if you can possibly come, that's the day I want you."

man, pastor of a cer-Mrs. Goodman reflected a few motain church in a cerments, then replied, "Why, thank you, tain town, seated Mrs. Bardwell, I think we could come hinself at his study that day. I could arrange to go, 1 am table one morning, sure. Couldn't you, Mr. Goodman?' and drew toward

"Yes, I think so," he responded, very him his writing macheerfully. "Of course, there will be terial; then he took preparations going on for the evening a deliberate survey exercises, but I don't know that I shail of the room in which be particularly needed. Thank you he sat. The view very much for your kind invitation, Mrs. Bardwell. We shall enjoy the visit, I assure you."

Mrs. Goodman securely locked the front door on the day appointed, and dropped the key in her pocket, but scarcely had the sleigh containing Mr. Goodman and herself and the four h.l. arious little Goodmans vanished down the road, than a man with rolls of paper appeared at the parsonage, and was admitted by Hope Arnold, who -decent study, I am positive," he said to had secured a duplicate key from her uncle

The man with paper and paste was speedily followed by another bearing a pot of paint, and the transformation of the study was soon under full headway.

Late in the afternoon three of the male members of the C. E. Society took possession with a roll of matting, and when in a short space of time, their work with that was finished, they were "Good morning, Mr. Goodman," said re-enforced by several of the girls, and Miss Hope Arnold, who stood outside the study was soon in readiness for its

• bright as the morning itself. "Shall I Great was the satisfaction of the con---disturb you? Mrs. Goodman said she spirators as they surveyed the rea"thought you wouldn't be fairly at work juvenated room. The paper on the yet, and told me to come right up." walls and ceiling was restful to the Meanwhile the young girl had enter- eye, with its soft tints and unobstrus-ed the room at the minister's invita- ive pattern. The coloring of the woodsion and seated herself with a compre- work harmonized with that of the paper. In spite of fresh paint, neat muslin curtains had been put up in place of the shabby lace ones; and the well worn table cover had given way to auother just from the store. Over the nest matting, before study table and easy chair, rugs were placed for warmth and cosiness. And as a crowning touch a beautiful etching that was of itself an inspiration hung on the wall opposite the pastor's seat at his study table. This was a personal gift from Hope Arnold. Care had been taken to have everything done before it should be time for the pastor and his fam ly to arrive at the church, that they might not be so soon surprised at seeing a light in their house. But toward the close of the evening's exercises Fred Johnson slipped over to the parsonage, and when Mr. and Mrs. Goodman stepped out into the wintry air they were startled by





# BEATATH " MISTLETSE

THESE MARCENS WHE THREWKENT THE YEAR REPUSED US MEN A NUL MUST JEW SKLOWS, AND GRAAT THE LITER

IT THIS COSTATIC BLISS, THEY MAT MAY BELD US ALLALTEP

THE ULEUT THE YEAR WITH 'N! "

I LIT I THE OLD LLTT



ORIGIN OF YULE TIDE.

The Fostive Seasonh ( e'ebrated Long Before Christmas (sme,

Once upon a time, when Caristmas wreathed with greens the temples of more or less definiteness. our children (pon Christmas Eve Christ, in the reign of the Roman Emperor Commodus, that Yule became century, at the time of Constantine the Great and of Diocletian, that there lived Saint Nicholas, whom boys and girls know everywhere as Santa Claus. The legend of the jolly old fellow traveling with his reindeer to fill the stockings, or, in some countries, the shoes, grew from the fact that Saint Nicholas was regarded as the patron saint of very long ago would shiver with hunyoung people the world over. We gry apprehension at the sight of the English-apeaking nations have the stylish banquet board of to-day. story from the Dutch.

ligion of Christ should touch and vivify the table, fianked right and left by salone of the oldest of the heathen fes- ted almonds and French candy. ing one particular day, the 25th of De- is not so easily answered. cember, as the birthday of the child

PLEASANT FOR THOMAS.

Jesus?

But again, the best way is the short The oyster fork, a spoon for the soup, and two knives at the right, and two forks-one for the fish-at the left, are all that are required at the beginning of the banquet. A butter chip and individual salts and peppers are bunched before each plate. But butter plays a minor role in the very pretentious dinner casts. For the centre piece a large piece of holly gives a Christmas-like air, and the red and green form a pretty bit of color contrast The olives and radishes carry out the same color scheme, and add to the attractiveness of the board For a soft, pretty light candleabra with colored paper shades, prettily tinted, are the thing and they are very decorative All table decorations and fixtures tend toward simplicity. The high centre pieces of fruits or flowers once so prevalent—are rarely used now. When friends or intimates meet going to shoot you with them to see if Santa around the social board there is no (laus is really alive. But you won't mind, sense in making the conversation of opposites so largely a matter of peeka-boo.



# THE CHRISTMAS TABLE.

How to Arrange It in an Artistic and Upto-Date Fashion.

There are no hard and fast rules for was yet unknown, the northern na. setting the Christmas table-or any tions of the world held a yearly festi- other table, for that matter-but cus val which they called Yule They tom prescribes certain forms with

their heathen gods, as we wreathe our | In many private families, for inchurches to-day, they burned great stance, a cocked-up napkin is placed yule logs in honor of the sun, that he at the left of each plate, and in the might make the earth blossom into snowy linen jaws is stuffed a dainty Spring, and they gave their children roll. In many others this style has yule gifts from fir trees loaded down been abandoned and the napkin plainwith pretty things, just as we give to by folded so as to show the monogram is laid on the plate. The latter meth-It was not until 180 years after Jesus od is perhaps the most "up-to-date" So of the glisses 'lime was and to a certain degree, still is-when a Christmas, and it was in the fourth little forest of crystal was ranged at the right of every plate. "A glass for every wine and a wine for every glass "But here agi'n the later day method is toward moderation. Three glasses champigue claret and apollinaris are called in letter form for which children placed ready for him, social gaues her same esters of not so which children placed ready for him, drinkers and same esters of not so

Good taste, as we see it now, requires But what shall we tell our boys and that no estables whatever, except the girls of Santa Claus. Do they not merest nibbles the hors doeuvres of know him? Are they not looking the high-toned menus shall be on the eagerly for his visit of this year. Let table before the guests are seated us remember, however, the history of Daintily heaped on mounds of the Christmas holidays; for what is cracked ice are the olives at one end more beautiful than that the living re- and the radishes at the other end of

tivals, not only taking away nothing | How shall we be knived, and wherethat it was good to retain, but hallow- withal shall we be spooned and forked Any hostess may have notions of her

own on these matters within rather wide limits, and be in no wise an offender.

is a complete little factory, which turns out just as many goods as the Lumerical strength of the family permits. Everybody works, from the venetable gigendparents, if they are alive, to the smallest child able to toddle. As a rule the older members of the family-the father, mother and grown sons- perform the most difficult and hardest work, that of blowing and shaping the glass ornaments. The blowers generally sit three to five

(ome From.

How many of the hundreds

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Constituas tree know

... these dainty nothings

COLORING THE GLASS BALLS. ticular pattern as suits his fancy. The three chief points of all absorbing importance observed are speed, cheapness and quality. The people might be said to be a race of artists in their particular line, and there is little waste from faulty designs. The glass used a great deal is known in the trade as flashed glass. The workman has two pots, one with colored and one without any mixture. As the work requires



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hensive glance at her surroundings.

"I wished to consult you, Mr. Goodvitän. "ane continued, "about some of -our Christian Endeavor work, but first of all, I want to tell you how much good your sermon last Sunday morning did me. I thank you for it. It was just what I needed." "I am very happy to hear you say

== 0, Miss Hope," replied the minister with a flush of pleasure, "and I thank you for telling me;" but the visitor little guessed how much good in turn sche had done her pastor.

When they had finished their talk on Christian Endeavor work, and Hope had risen to go, she exclaimed impulsively: "So this is our minister's study! I have never been in it before. Really I should think the church could a afford to paper it, at least."

"It would be a great improvement -certainly," responded Mr. Goodman, • smiling.

"It ought to be done," she declared in decided tones, "and it shall be," she mentally added.

When his caller had gone, Mr. Goodman, greatly cheered and encouraged. turned once more to his study table. and the next Sunday morning's discourse was generally pronounced one of his best.

Mr. Goodman was all that his name implied, but, though an earnest preacher, he was not brilliant nor eloquent. and the large churches with corresponding salaries were not for him. And as there were several small people at the parsonage to be fed, clothed and otherwise cared for, there was no said not a word. money for superfluities, or for many other things not generally reckoned as such.

Mrs. Goodman, fortunately, was a cheery, efficient little woman, with a wonderful knack for compelling a dol-Inr to do more than full duty, and in every way she was a true helpmeet to ber husband.

On leaving the parsonage Hope hastshed to the office of her uncle, one of the trustees of the church, and inmuired whether the pastor's study could not be repapered and painted, but he shook his head.

She did not give up, however, by any means, and at the next meeting of the Christian Epdeavor Society she presented the case.

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"Now," she said, "I propose that we reluvenate that study as a Christmas present to our pastor. I have made done at small expense.

"Mr. Ball, who is a member of our church, would furnish and put on good maper for four dollars. A neat maiting for the floor would not cost over four dollars more. Fred Johnson (a young painter, and a member of the C. E. Society) will kindly attend to the woodwork without charge. So you see that the actual expense of the under-Taking need not exceed eight dollars. though some other changes and additions might be made to good advant-

Huch to her delight, Hope's plan met with general approval, and then arose a discussion as to the best method of raising the money to carry it out.

Finally Ellen Berry, one of the most active members, said: "There are so many oyster supports, sociables and things of that sort, let us try some-Alainy different. Suppose such memomes personally rasponsible for in a five floorston tals plan was 

a gleam from the study windows. 'What can it mean!" cried Mr. Goodman in alarm. "Can it be fire?"

Home was soon reached and they hurried upstairs. A lighted lamp was on the stand before the study door, and against it leaned a placard bearing the words "Beware of paint" in large letters. Mr. Goodman carefully opened

the door and entered the room, followed by Mrs. Goodman ushering in her brood with due deference to the warning without and the odor within. The little folks chattered and exclaimed, and pointed out to one another the various changes, but for a

few moments the pastor and his wife Then Mr. Goodman took an envelope

from the table. It contained a \$10 bill and a card, from which he read aloud in a rather unsteady voice:

"Please accept the alterations in your study as a testimonial of affection and esteem from the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, and use the inclosed for such further improvements in the way of books as it will

make, and you may desire." Mrs. Goodman sat down and cried. "Oh!" she exclaimed, "this study has worried me so! I've tried and tried to plan for having it fixed up, but there didn't seem to be any way to do it. Finally I gave up and just left it with the Lord, and since then I've been sure

it would be done some day. And it is! Those blessed young folks! And \$10 for books, too!"

"Yes," replied Mr. Goodman, wiping his own eyes, "I am very thankful for it all. It was Hope Arnold's idea, I am positive. She looked very determined when she left the study that morning she was here."

"Well, it is cortainly a welcome Christmas gift, and a great surprise." Then small Johnny Goodman, who had been regarding his parents in great perplexity, exclaimed: "I don't see what makes papa and mamma cry about it! I think it looks nicer than it did before!"

### A Lakeside Christmas,

"Ouch !" The beautiful maiden withdrew her foot hastily.

Plunging her arm into the silken depths she took from the toe of her stocking a five-pound box of candles she had overlooked. Need it be added that this happened

in Chicago?

Well, old man, what did you ret in your stocking this morning? Warns-My foot.

BLALATE THE MISTLETEL.

MYRTILLA, TANTALIZING MINX, WHESE METTY POUTING UPS, WERE PLADE BY LEVE MIDST RUSWING WILLING TE MARE US YEAR POR SIPS, THENON SHE REDEL THE SUT COULTTE

ALD DUUST IN PRETTY WEE, WE'LL MISS HER TY FUR HEARTS CENTENT. BENEATH THE MISTLETTE.

AND MIRABLL AND BETTY TEE MUST FER THE NOWLE GIVE IN 1 -THE THESE WHE DARE TO LOME AND WEE, A KISS FROM EACH SHALL WIN THAT CHRIST MAS DOTH IT'S BEESSINGS BRING THESE MAIDE AS SHALL WELL KARW, WHENEER WE LATCH THEM CHRISTMAS DAY BENEATH THE MISTLETE.

"" TARBURGH

CHRISTMAS DINNER.

#### Raw Oysters. Bouillon.

Boiled Salmon, Hollandaise Sauce. Pickles. Boiled Potato Balls. Salted Almonds. Roast Turkey, Cranberry Sauce.

Celery. Mashed Potatoes. Scalloped Asparagus. Chicken Pie. Kirsch Punch. Roast Duck. Currant Jelly.

Sweet Potato Croquettes. Sweetbreads. Lettuce Salad. Plum Pudding, Brandy Sauce.

Mince Pie. Apple Pie. Cheese. Cake. lce Cream.

Nuts. Raisins. Fruit. Coff ee.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.



May you live in enjoyment, and live till you die.

May you share in the good things the world can afford And never look sad at the gay, social

board.

A happy New Year-let me drink to you

To the men, to the ladies, to the great, to the small; The ladies I'll toast in a glass of good

wine----May your phires, when old, look as smiling as mine!



MRS ENPFORE-Thomas, you must not make any noise when you dress up as Santa Claus and fill the children's stockings tonight. Jimmy and Freddy have each got an air gun and a bow and arrow, and are will you?

### UNDER THE MISTLETOE.

Some Girls Won't Go Near It, But There Are Others.

Let me see. Isn't it somewhere about this time that the mistletoe hangs out? Ob, where are the girls of long ago, I kissed beneath the mistletoe? asks a writer in Illustrated Bits. I don't know, I'm sure. Mislaid 'em somewhere.

In olden days I have been told by a dear friend whose veracity I respect unless I'm dead sure he's lying-in olden days the Druids used to go out and cut the mistletoe down as it hung on trees; but nowadays mistletoe generally hangs in a doorway or at the bottom end of the chandelier, and any young man taking it down is earnestly requested to replace it after he has been round the room and kissed all the pretty girls he wants to. It is not good form at all for one fellow to stick to the only piece of mistletoe in the room all the evening. We've all got

to have a chance, you know. There are some girls who won't go near the mistletoe anyhow. And there are others. The others generally freeze on to a chair or lounge immedlately under the biggest piece of mistletoe in the room and hope for good luck. Some of them will hang around a piece of mistletoe for an entire evening on the off chance of a fellow coming up behind and mistaking them for a pretty girl, and kissing them before he finds out the bitter, releptless

- The frost gleams white on the housetops high,
- And the plumber man goes briskly by-

truth.

And I say to my soul: "Go slow!" But the children come, and I can't look

grum-

So, I'm quite resigned to the rocket's

And the Roman candle show: It's hands all around with the girls and

boys-Blow, little tin horns-blow!

CHRISTMAS. (Rhymed Acrostics.)

'hristmas, come and bring again Holly-berries all aglow, Roving mistrel's merry strain. lvy-wreath and mistletoe. Sweet reunions, friendly faces. Fender thoughts; bring, too, for me My lady's kiss and fond embraces, And thy poet I will be,

Singing oft in measures soft of love and thee!

Christmas, monarch of the year, Haste and spread thy wonted cheet. Rock the steeples, bid each bell Iron-tongued thy tidings tell. Sorrow strangle, nurse content Tune all hearts to merriment! Mirth is brier, and care will wait At the threshold soon or late, So scare him out with song and shout beyond the gate!

A New Turkey Dressing.

A lady from the South says that peanuts make a far finer dressing for the Christmas turkey than chestnuts do. The peanuts must be parched, as usual, pulverized in a mortar and mixed with chopped celery, a little butter and the usual herbs, held well together with a paste of commeal. The peanuts are said to impart a singularly fine flavor to the turkey.

A CHRISTMAS CASUALTY.



with your hand?

BANTA CLAUS-Some fresh little boy put -Frank L. Stanton in Atlanta Con- a steel trap in his stocking to see if there stitution.

he dips his blowpipe in one or the other, sometimes mixing the two substances.

To produce the film of color he quickly immerses his bulb in the coloring fluid, which gives the object a marvelous lustre. The most delicate shading is obtained by eating away the color by means of fluoric acid, which is frequently employed, and most beautiful effects are thus produced. No one has seen these variegated Christmas tree decorations but has marveled at the intense brilliancy of their color. These superb effects are obtained by the use of metallic oxides, and are generally applied by some of the children of the family.



PUTTING ON THE LUSTRE.

As soon as the object leaves the class blower's hand it is passed to some other member of the family, whose duty it is to fasten an eye or a hook, as the case may be, to the ornament. If to be dyed it goes to another who stands at the bath and dips every object with lightning rapidity. He or she then hands it to some child who puts it on a long stick for the drying oven. If an oven is not to be had the heat of the room or the sun has to perform this office. Then the silvering, which gives additional lustre to the object is attended to. This is done by dropping some quicksilver solution through a small opening left that for that purpose. The final touches are then given the ornament in the buffing or polishing with soft cotton





A CHRISTMAS CAROL. And the clouds-they look like snow;

Blow, little tin horns-blow!

And I view my cash with a secret sigh,

Blow, little tin horns-blow!

noise,

