

TOYS FOR THE CHILDREN

Mayo Been in Existance Ever Store Santa Claus First Made His Bounny

are of comparatively recent cligin, our this statement must refer to what may be called mechanical toys- the shick it requires a mechanic or all of to construct. What may be called a memade toys must be as old a state ace. The first boy and girl who was wed invented playthings, and "to: are playthings but toys? Parental ondness early took the form of gliss of There have certainly been to a since Santa Claus commenced hisn.nds, and how long has that been?

Children who live in the country far from the toy stores, and the mouding deep in curly-headed though. crowd, and all that, may be accounted to be in the condition of the primary children, and their toys are those of the oldest time. Rag bables must date



back to the beginning of rage and of ! bables, and the periods were hearly

It has been said that childeen's toys Claus when George was a baby

"Of course he did," said paper "And he told George all about the fallowed to come back again"" reindeer and the sleigh?" asked Bob-

ote "Certainly."

"And he told little George about Santa Claus riding over the tops of the houses and through the at. " "I suppose so."

"And he told little George about some superior order of pl. ings. Santa Claus coming down the chim pley?

> "Chimney, my loy. Of course he :1d."

For a moment Bobble seemed oceans

"Isn't that funny," he said at last 'George's father wasn't at all like George, was he, papa?"

"George's father wasn't like George What do you mean?" Bobbie's pape asked in surprise

"Why, papa," said Bobble with a your Christmas dinner, liomas" wise shake of als bead, "didn . you tell | Tommy Yep, grandma, but not as much me that little George cried "Fither, 1 as Johan's Green, what lives up the street cannot tell a lie, I did it with my little hatchet?'"

SAMMY TO SANTA

Ob. Santa, dear old Santa, As this is Christmas eve Of you what rosy fancies Beside the hearth I weave

about George Washington and the mas fur ye an'ye don't know 'nuff to cherry tree inquired if Washington's take me up! Wall jest go to bluzes, father had told George about Santa the hull pack of ye, and the fust prison-* I h'ar gruniblin' to morrer will git.

when Bobble, who had also tern roll change jest to make it a merry c ris-

bused out of this fail an' never be

is hung Penance.

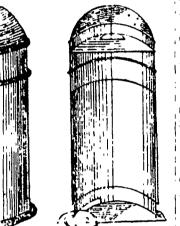
Grandma-Are you looking forward to

let a quarter slip 'hrough In the lid of the box a duplicate top is to be fasrened leaving inside a piece of tin, that will rattle when shaken. Now for the tilek. Take the lox in the left hand. ask one of the company for a quarter. and o mark it that it may be identified. With the right hand draw off the lid, and request that the money be put into

THE PEPPER-BOX TRICK.

An Interesting and Amusing Trick Easily

1 orformed.



THE PEPER-BOX THICK

A BRIGHT YOUNG MAN.

Anvone But a Fool Would Have Acted Differently.

"If I am not in error," Miss Daisy get a tinman to unsolder the bottom, Peachblow said earnestly, compressing and then fasten on to it a tube of tin her lips in an ominous manner at each that will just fit the inside of the box, pause, "if I am not wandering by the like a telescore. At the bottom side of wayside mentally, you stated a moment wayside mentally, you stated a moment ago that Reginald Sapley was a bright fellow.

> "Well-er-er-I think I did make some such good-natured remark," admitted Myrta Hopgood. "Why, isn't he a bright fellow?"

> "Well," said Miss Daisy, "he is either a fool or a knave, and I'm quite sure he isn't a knave

the box. It will of course slip through the fool left. Aren t you rather severe, "Then he must be a fool. There's only Daisy dear?"

> "Judge for yourself. He was here all Christmas eve, you know? "Yes, he remained until 12 o'clock, I

believe you said." "That's true-four long and weary

hours until midnight, and, as you can see, I have this bit of mistletoe hanging from the chandelier in the middle of the room.

"Of course. Well"

"Well, it was he last night, and during the long and . eary four hours I naturally happened to drift under it a few times and he"----

"Tried to kiss you, did he? Ha! ha!" "Tried to kiss me'" cried the indignant Daisy. "What, that bright felject of holiday gift-g ving was under dis- | into your left hand. Put on-the lid and low try to kiss me? Listen' Every sinoush up the telescope bottom quickly, gle time I happened under the chan



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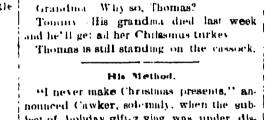
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Pro



Procure a common pepper-box, and this tube a slit must be cut that will



contemporancous. The first girls nade Ob, now I know you're skimmit. dolls because they were give. Any- Across the drifts of snow. thing which had the stained o. painted ' The whirlwinds madly kindling semblance of eyes and nose and mouth would do with watch to imitale the labors and cares and reproofs and praises But when beside the gateway of motherhood. The rag dol, is very ancient among the distinguished families of toys. The boys of the first hunter doubtless made little boxs and arrows.

As mankind has advanced to the mechanical arts and in the fleta of invention, toys have become more numerous and elaborate. The tone of every age simulate the wespense and machines of the time. In the days of the Crusades we may believe that toys took the form of lances and helmets and shield and armor, and children marched in pilgrimage from the house to the barn. In our day we have toy locomotives and toy trains and all that. If The pheriffs Kindness Was Not the Sort we had a collection of all the toy boats that have ever sailed we should have models of every rig which has been known from Noah's ark to the White Squadron. The Christmas season is at hand, and superwise people are ongaged in anot.... attempt to abolish the Santa Claus myth and lecture fathers and mothers on the character of the toys they should buy for their children, Such people remind us that this is a weary world, and that heaven is, indeed, our only rest.

Bobbie and George's Father.

Bobbie was no longer a baby except in his fond mother's imagination but his long golden curls, his shor; girlish dresses and the Santa Claus story were still in evidence in the nursery.

Many mothers dislike to love incir they do by death, and Bobbie's mother was one of the many. Other boys of his age were strutting about in knickerbockers with real pockets, but Bobbie shaking his hand with great vigor. still clung to the "seridom of skirts" pecause mamma decreed it.

In pursuance of the same general Olaus story was retold in all its fascinating details each Christmas, and



Mrs. Small never minces matters." said the star boarder to the new acquisition. "Not even when she is preparing the ies for the Christmas dinner?" asked the ALCENSION STRATEGICS

had any visitor become openly sceptical efore Bubble concerning the reindeer, e chimney gymnastics and the polar by factory, immediately he would have and tilmself a sufferer from the arcfright of the fond mother's dis-

> Bight shortly before Christman The second second

Your nose into a glow.

You tell the deer to ston And swiftly down the chimney into my room you drop.

I wish you'd stack my playthings Upon the table near. With all the shining candy,

To me so very dear Not in this swinging stocking

Are pretty playthings put 'Tis mother's and a "biker," That hasn't got a foot. --R. K. Munkittrick.

PRISONER'S PRESENT.

They Wished For.

"Boys," began the Sheriff as he went among his prisoners in the county jail on Christmas eve, and sat down with them in a friendly way-"boys. I reckon yer awar' that to-morrer's C'rismas, hain't ye?"

"Yaas," drawled a couple of them, and all looking at the officer indifferently

"Wall, I've bin a-thinkin'," he went on, "that I orter do sunthin' fur ye tomorrer, boys. I'm shore ye's appreshuate it if I did?"

"Ye bet we would!" was the hearty reply as they began to pay some attention to his remarks now.

"Wall, I believe ye would, boys. It's a blamed shame to keep ye penned up vere on C'rismas an' I'm goin' to let babies by growth almost as much as !: e all out fur the day. How does it

strike ve?" "Fust class-fust class!" they exclaimed, crowding around him and

"I'm mighty glad it pleases ye, boys." continued the Sheriff, seeming as happy over the matter as they were. "A plan of perpetual baby hood, the Santa man in my posishun, ye know, has gotter be hard-hearted an' strict, but I'm durned if I'd keep even a dawg shet up on C'ristmas."

"About what time will you let us out, Tom?" asked one of the delighted prisoners, while the others danced around excitedly.

"About 6 o'clock in the mornin', I eckon. Yaas, I'll hev the saws an' axes all ready by that time an' "-----"Saws an' axes?" he was interrupted

with. "Saws an' axes?"

"Yaas, saws and axes. I'm a-goin' to let ye fellers come up to my house on C'rismas an' cut about six cords o' wood fur me. It'll be a big change fur ye all to git out o' yere an' shift the fresh air again, but ye kin repay me fur my kindness by workin' fast an' "----

But he was interrupted again by every man trying to tell him at once that they'd be hanged if they wanted to go out for that purpose, and when the Sheriff realized that his offer had been refused he got up with a red face and thundered, as he turned to go:

"Wall, of all the durned idjets! Yere come down an' offer to gin ye a

in unison. "No, I never make Christm I buy them "

Whited Sopulchie-"Bobbie," said genial Mr. Th a..... don't you want one of my golf stock-

ings to hang up?' are bluffs! All wool, but not an ir wide inside."

A Good Lesson.

Downtrod-1 always take my wife to church on Christmas day. Quizzer-Any special reason? "Yes. The sermon's about 'peace on | legerdemain.

earth, good will to men.""

In Paraway Asia.

Among the converts to the Christian religion on the eastern coast of Asia the custom prevails of telegraphing or cabling their Christmas congratulations to each other.

Bringing Two Separate Cours Together.

Take two cents, which must be carefully placed in each hand, as thus: The right hand with the coin on the fourth and little finger, as in the illustration. Then, place at a short distance from each other, both hands open on the fable, the left pain being level with the fingers of the right. By now suddenly



BEGINNING OPERATIONS.

urning the hands over, the cent from he right hand will fly, without being perceived, into the palm of the left, and make the transit appear most unaccountable to the bewildered eyes of the spectators. By placing the audience in front, and not at the side of the exhib. itor, this illusion, if neatly performed. can never be detected.

Christmas in the Far North.

When Peary was in the Arctics his party had hurdle races for Christmas games and ice cream made from condensed milk for the dinner dessert. Their menu for that occasion included broiled salmon trout with tomato sauce, potato patties, olives, roast saddle of venison (reindeer) with cranberry sauce, cheese, candy, nuts, raisins, champagne. cigarettes and coffee.

The Old Soldier at Last Forced to Retreat.



fall into the cup. "Presto' Fly!" It is fellow? Fool-- f-o-o-l!" now again in the box, and by rattle it appears so. Remember all the while to hold the money fast in the cup, to pre-"Naw, I don't! Then golf stockings | vent detection. "Presto' Fly again'" It is now down Willy's throat is it not so? Place the cup to his ear, out it [falls' is it the same quarter? To be sure it is; there's the mark' This completes the pepper box trick, but the routine indicated for its performance can be easily varied by any adept at

Eleph vs. Sparrow. A pugnacious sparrow the other day flew into the elephant house in the

Central Park menagerie. New York, and began picking up the crumbs from the table of the elephant then inside. The mammoth and midget apparently did not see each other for some time, until the former, in shifting his position, nearly placed his ponderous foot on the latter. The fighting little speck of fuss and feathers evidently accepted his thoughtless act as a challenge to battle, and at once flew in the elephant's face. The great beast looked astonished, and, sending a small cyclone through his trunk, raised such a cloud of hay and dust that the bird was lost sight of.

When the air was cleared, the biped was seen on the quadruped's back. A shake of the elephant's loosely fitting, tough though sensitive hide, frightened the little fellow, who hopped to the on the lookout for work and masters and floor and looked into the face of his antagonist.

recover breath for a few seconds, when every pot and cooking utensil is pressed the elephant reached out his trunk towards the sparrow. The bird with in twos and threes, and, being born singers, outstretched wings and ruffled feathers. threw himself, with full force at the interesting. Theirs are typical religious end of the threatening proboscis. Then isongs, dwelling on the legend of Christ's came a gentle blast of air from the birth. elephant's lungs, and the sparrow was blown against the wall of the house. The little fellow, without even so much as a parting look at his huge antago- also a prayer and song leader in the village nist, mounted to the open window and | chapel, and the bellringer's next friend disappeared.

Philadelphin's Great Christmas.

American history is replete with Christmas events. First comes Philadelphia's "tea party." On December 25, 1773, the tea ship was intercepted before it reached Philadelphia and sent back to England. This was nearly ten days after the still more famous Boston tea party, but it is a cherished event in Philadelphia's history.

Encouragement.

Jack-I suppose that young Richman who comes to see you so often will give you such an expensive ('hristmas gift that you won't want the trifling present I can afford to give you.

Marie-No. I think you had better save your money for-er-future contingencies, lack.

Hood's Pills cure nauses, sick headche, biliousness, indigestion. Price 25 cents.

"Don't you?" replied four or five hearers; and passing the box to the right hand, 'delier he jumped up and down, waved rattle it, and ask where the money his arms in the air like a crazy man shall fly to. Have a cup at hand thear and shrieked 'Look out, Mith Daithy! he left), and as a feint, say "Here it Look out' You're right thquare under is!" at the same time letting the money | the mithletoe. Mith Daithy!' Bright





The Bohemian villager is proverbially good hearted. He is also profoundly religious, which two qualities happily blended in him produce a third estimable virtuegenerosity. On Christmas Day this virtue s taxed to the utmost. From sunrise till sunset come the koledniks, or collectors, and in prose and verse and with music or song say their koledas, the substance of all of which is, "I wish you a happy Christmas, and, please, give me something." First come the itinerant musicians, provided with every conceivable instrument. Then journeymen artisans, commonly known as vandrovniks, who are constantly never finding any. Then the Slovak tinkers and pot menders, who are particularly wel-Thus they stood as though trying to come to the housewives at this time, when into service. These tinkers usually travel their ditties make the koleda exceptionally

> Again, there is the local night watchman, who toots off the dark hours from ten P. M. to four A. M.: the bellringer, who is and colleague, the sexton. The village chimney-sweep is a prominent collector. When he comes to say his koleda he is scrupulously neat and clean, and every brass buckle and button on his leather uniform is polished. Furthermore, there is the parish school teacher or kantor, so called, because in the good old time he acted in the dual capacity of a teacher and choir singer and organist. Often there is a widow of the late kantor among the callers, and often the survivors of a kantor of two generations back. The mendicant monks of St. Francis and their mates, the capuchins, too, come in for their share of the good things of the bountiful day.

