For the Children

The Wonderful Flight of the Golden Plover.

Everybody knows that most of our birds come north to their nesting grounds in the spring and go south in the fall. Some of the longest journeys are made by the smallest birds.

A few species leave the far north in August and September making enormous flights over the ocean to winter homes in the southern hemisphere. Thus the golden plover leaves Nova Scotia and flies with ... a bee straight to South America ... on the pampas of Argentina, a journey of some 3,000 miles ... over the ocean, without a stop even for food. On the Pacific side the golden plover leaves the Aleutian islands and goes 2,000 miles to Hawaii without a rest and winters in the southern hemisphere from the Society islands to Australia. With this bird the northward trip is slow and the eastern group crosses the continent of South America, Mexico, the great plains and across Canada to its arctic nesting grounds, while the western birds go up the Malay peninsula and along the Chinese and Siberian seaboard. Thus these birds make the enormous journey of 12,000 to 15,000 miles each year.—St Nicholas.

Japanese Houses.

Japanese houses are built rather to resist earthquake than to withstand fire. They are exceedingly light bamboo or frame affairs. Instead of strong foundations firmly imbedded into the earth there are flat stones, on which the frame lightly rests at the corners. Such structures will survive earthquake shocks that would crumble to heaps houses more solidly built.

Within the house is simplicity itself. The cottage may contain one or a dozen rooms, at the owner's whim, at any moment when he chooses to let the curtains down. If he wishes to retire he can make his bedroom by drawing down around him, at any spot on the floor that suits his fancy, curtains made of paper. This material is translucent enough to admit light into the impromptu room without destroying its privacy. For a bed all the Japanese needs is a heavy quilt or two.

With the house everything is immaculately clean. A Japanese will not tolerate a dust collecting carpet tacked upon his floor. He prefers grass woven mats which he can take up and clean every day. Cushions on the floor do duty as chairs, and about the only article of wood furniture in the house is the tiny table where the family drink their tea.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Game of Noted Men.

The hostess begins by saying "I know a celebrated poet. The first part of his name is black and the last is an elevation."

The player responding "Coleridge" in turn describes the name of some other noted person—for instance, Shakespeare—saying "I know a noted author and poet. The first part of his name people do when they are cold, and the last part is a weapon of warfare." Give only the profession, nothing else. The following names readily lend themselves to this simple but instructive little game:

Words-worth, Shell-ey (Shell lea), Church-ill, Wal-pole, Web-ster, Wash-ing-ton, Long-fellow, Black-stone, Izaak Walton (Eye-sack-wall-ton).

About Children.

One of the happiest holidays in the whole year in Switzerland is when the farmers bring their flocks down from the mountains where they have been all summer. School is closed, and the children go to meet them in processions, singing songs, ringing bells and waving flags. As a reward for their enthusiasm the farmers treat them to a dainty supper of sweets and cakes, which they are allowed only on holidays.

The children of Russia play marbles with the knuckle bones of sheep.

The King and the Cat.

An ancient courier owned a cat,
Handsome and sleek and tame.
The king, his master, gazed thereat
And coveted the same.

"Sir Beldon,"—'twas the king who spoke—
"Thy cat delights my eyes.
Give her to me and thou shalt have
Whatever thou dost prize."

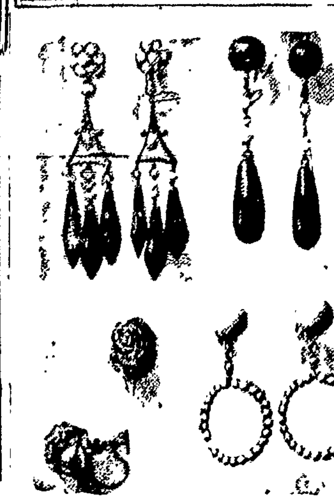
Sir Beldon then was sore of heart,
Yet he could not refuse.
He gave his cat unto the king.
"Now," said the monarch, "choose."

The knights they wondered what 'twould be.
The ladies wondered too.
Were theirs this chance they'd ask for lands
And castles not a few.

Sir Beldon knelt. "Oh, sire," said he,
"My dearest wish is that—
You've pledged your word to grant it, sire—
You give me back my cat."
—Boston Transcript.

GIFT SUGGESTION.

Suitable Present For the Modish Girl.



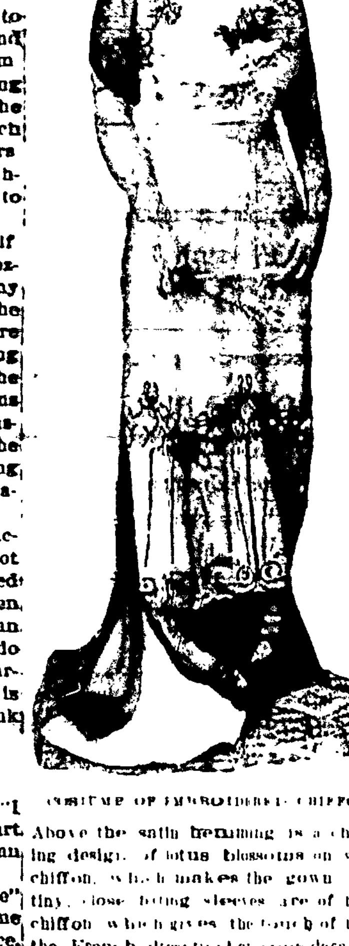
EARRINGS OF PEARL AND JET

You will be safe to please the modish girl of 1911 if you give her as a Christmas gift a pair of ... earrings. There are many ... of these dangling earrings, some ... round, others ... but the most striking effects ... the shoulders.

The ... styles ... any of these ... a safe selection for a gift.

Stunning Evening Frock

Evening gowns for holiday wear will soon be required, and the cut furnishes inspiration for a mighty ... costume. The ... which hangs from a rather high waist line in the back is of rose satin; also the skirt hem is of the same material.



COSTUME OF EMBROIDERED CHIFFON.

Above the satin hemming is a charming design of lotus blossoms on white chiffon, which makes the gown. The tiny, close fitting sleeves are of black chiffon, which gives the touch of black the French dressmaker considers necessary in an evening costume.

Last Minute Hints.

Look over the gifts you have bought as they come from the stores to see that everything purchased has been delivered and that nothing is broken.

Make sure you have plenty of stationery for the letters of thanks that are to follow Christmas.

Have a few extra Christmas cards handy for those who come to mind at the last minute.

Get packages all wrapped and tied several days before the great event. It's exhausting work.

Keep the spirit of Christmas burning bright and let it go in every letter and card you write.

Remember that snowy paper, scarlet ribbon and a sprig of holly enhance the charm of even the simplest gift.

Have plenty of excelsior ready for wrapping breakables.

Take your packages to the postoffice to be weighed for postage as far in advance of Christmas as possible. You don't have to send them then, but you avoid having to stand in line a half hour or so on the days immediately preceding Christmas.

When wrapping your packages tie your scissors fast to you; otherwise there is a constant search for them in the general melee.

Sofa Pillow Hint.

The cover of a sofa pillow can be made to fit well by the following little trick: After sewing up three sides, but before turning the cover right side out, tack the two finished corners of the case securely to two corners of the pillow. Turn the case over the pillow. Sew up the fourth side for an inch or two at each end. Tack these two corners to the corresponding corners of the cushion. Finish as usual. This keeps the pillow from pulling and sagging away from the cover.—Woman's World.

Christmas Recipes

Mock Turtle Soup

Two quarts of good stock, one carrot, one ..., one teaspoonful of whole peppers, two ounces of lean bacon, two heaping tablespoonfuls of butter, two tablespoonfuls of flour, one cod's head, four stalks of celery, one onion, a bunch of herbs, one blade of mace, one bay leaf, six cloves, strained juice of one lemon, salt and pepper to taste.

Clean and split the cod's head and put it in a saucepan with cold water to cover it. Bring it to a boil and boil for ... minutes. Remove from the fire and put aside. Put the butter in the soup pot, allow it to get hot and brown, add the flour and fry it till yellow, stirring all the time. Add the stock, bacon, sliced vegetables and spices. ... slowly for one hour, then strain ... return the soup to the pot with one and a half pints of the water the cod's head was boiled in, add the lemon juice, salt and pepper to taste. Cut the ... parts of the cod's head ... pieces, add them, also some ... forcemeat balls made as follows:

Forcemeat Balls. One ounce suet, two ounces bread crumbs, a little grated ... rind, salt, pepper, a grate of nutmeg and egg to moisten, one tablespoonful of chopped parsley, thyme and marjoram. Chop the suet very fine, mix all the ingredients with as much well beaten egg as is necessary to moisten. Roll the mixture into small balls, drop them into boiling water to poach for five minutes, add them to the soup and boil again for five minutes.

Plum Pudding.

Quarter pound sifted flour, half pound currants, half pound suet, half pound brown sugar, two teaspoonfuls mixed spices, one grated nutmeg, half wineglassful of brandy, one teaspoonful baking powder, two ounces blanched and chopped almonds, half teaspoonful salt, one cupful milk, half pound fine breadcrumbs, half pound raisins, half pound sultana raisins, quarter pound mixed peel, citron, lemon and orange, four eggs, grated rind and strained juice of one lemon and one orange. Wash and pick the currants, stone the raisins, chop the peel and suet, put them in a basin with all the other ingredients, the eggs well beaten, the brandy and milk. Pour into a well buttered mold, cover with buttered paper and steam gently for five hours. Turn out carefully and serve with hard sauce.

Hard Sauce. Quarter of a pound of sweet butter, two heaping tablespoonfuls of sugar, one tablespoonful of sherry wine or brandy, three ounces chopped almonds. Beat the butter and sugar to a cream, add the brandy or sherry and almonds, mix well.

Crystallized Cranberries

Take large fine cranberries for crystallizing, selecting those that are of good shape and color. Place a pound of them in a sieve and dip the whole into a pan of simmering water. Leave in for a minute and then take out the sieve and stand on something to drain. Weigh out a pound and a half of sugar. Place a pint of water in a clean pan and add to it a quarter of a pound of the sugar. Boil up till the sugar has dissolved. Remove all scum and after placing the cranberries in a basin pour the liquid boiling hot over them. Stand all aside till the next day, when drain off the sirup and boil up adding another quarter of a pound of the sugar. Skim well and pour over the cranberries.

Continue this process till the sugar is all used up. The last time boil the cranberries in the sirup until they look clear. Drain well and when almost dry roll in the granulated sugar and dry in a cool oven.

Or the cranberries may be placed in small jars and the sirup poured over them. These jars may be covered up like jelly. The contents will keep for years.

Delmonico Chicken Salad.

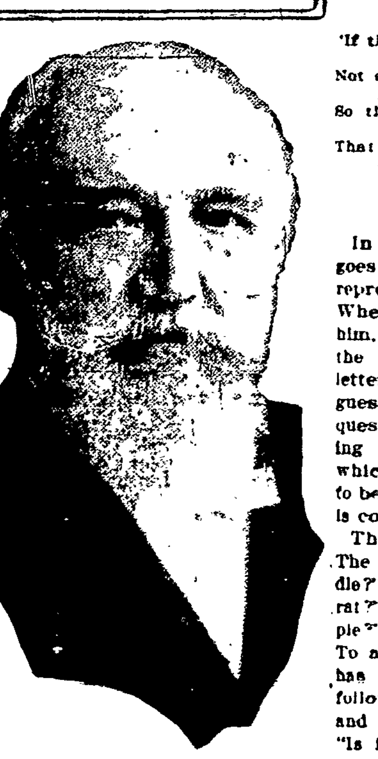
Bone a boiled chicken, cut the clear meat into small pieces and put them into a deep salad bowl. Dress it with a tablespoonful of vinegar and a few white celery leaves cut into small pieces. Season also with pepper and salt, using twice as much salt as pepper. Mix well and pour over it half a cupful of mayonnaise dressing. Decorate the top with a chopped hard boiled egg, a tablespoonful of capers, twelve stoned olives and two hard boiled eggs cut into quarters. Arrange six small white lettuce leaves around the dish and serve. It is well to boil the chicken or the fowl, whichever it is, in soup stock to give it an extra richness. If it is a fowl it should cook about an hour and a half or an hour and three-quarters. After it has been cooked let it get thoroughly cold. It is a good plan to let the bird cool in the water it was cooked in. Six leaves of chopped lettuce may be used instead of the celery and makes a change.

Salad of Oranges.

Eight oranges, two tablespoonfuls sherry wine, one tablespoonful maraschino, half a cupful of sugar. Peel and slice the oranges very thin, cutting them downward instead of across. Sprinkle with the sugar, wine and maraschino and set in the refrigerator for one hour.

SNAPSHOTS AT CELEBRITIES

Rudolph Blankenburg, Philadelphia's New Mayor.



Rudolph Blankenburg, the newly elected mayor of Philadelphia, received the nomination from both the Keystone and Democratic parties at the September primaries. His defeated opponent, George H. Earle, Jr., had the support of the regular Republican organization led by Senator Penrose. For a generation Mr. Blankenburg has been engaged in a relentless war upon municipal and state graft and corruption and is known as the "warhorse of reform."

The mayor elect is a native of Germany, sixty-eight years old and has lived in Philadelphia since 1865. He acquired wealth as a manufacturer and importer of worsteds and woolens. He was one of the incorporators of the citizens permanent relief commission and visited as its representative the famine regions of Russia in 1892, distributing a shipload of flour and large sums in cash. He was elected county commissioner in 1905 and gave three years salary, $15,000, to police, firemen's and teachers' pension funds. Mr. Blankenburg is a Republican in national politics, but independent in state and local affairs.

A Loquacious Barber.

During the recent visit of President Taft and several governors to the Hutchinson fair the officers of the Kansas national guard, including the governor's staff, appeared in full uniform. Senator Charles Huffman of Columbus, regimental surgeon, among others, was togged out in all the gold braid and brass buttons that go with a regimental uniform.

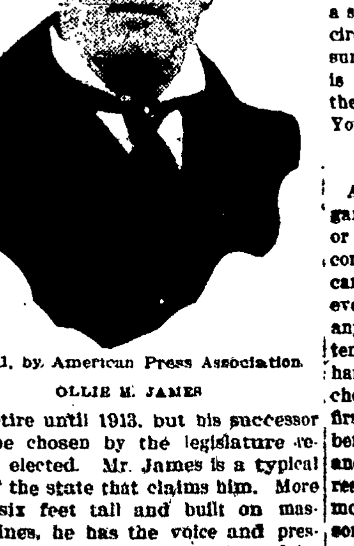
On the morning that Taft arrived Huffman went into a barber shop to get shaved. He drew a chair presided over by a rather loquacious barber. After discussing the weather and the president and the fair and other things the conversation began to lag.

Finally the barber took another spurt with his mouth and after admiring Huffman's uniform and gold braid and brass buttons asked:

"How many pieces in your band?"—Kansas City Journal.

A Kentucky Statesman.

Ollie M. James, who is slated to succeed Thomas H. Paynter as United States senator from Kentucky, is serving his fifth term in the national house of representatives. Mr. Paynter will



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OLLIE M. JAMES

not retire until 1913, but his successor will be chosen by the legislature recently elected. Mr. James is a typical son of the state that claims him. More than six feet tall and built on massive lines, he has the voice and presence for oratory. In a state famed for its eloquent men it is admitted that he has few superiors as an orator.

A native of the Blue Grass State and but forty years old, Mr. James has been prominent politically for fifteen years. A lawyer by profession, he was one of the attorneys for Governor Goebel in his celebrated contest for governor of Kentucky. He was delegate to the Democratic national convention in 1896 that nominated W. J. Bryan and again in 1904 and 1908, each time being chairman of his delegation.

FOR THE CHILDREN

The Color For Nuts.

"I am very glad that the nuts aren't red,
Or the squirrels would find them all," Tom said.
"Now, if nuts were blue," thought the squirrel, "oh, dear,
They never could hide from the children, I fear!"

"If the nuts were bright," smiled the tree, "I know
Not a nut would be left on the ground to grow."
So they all agreed in the wood and the town
That the very best color for nuts must be brown.
—Little Folks.

A Clairvoyant Trick.

In this clairvoyant trick one person goes out of the room while a word representing some object is chosen. When he returns his confederate asks him, "Is it a ...?" naming some article the first letter of which is the first letter of the word he is to guess. The guesser replies in the negative. The questioner then asks, "Is it a ...?" naming some article the initial letter of which is the second letter of the word to be guessed, and so on until the word is complete.

Thus suppose the word was curtain. The questions might be: "Is it a candle?" "Is it an umbrella?" "Is it a rat?" "Is it a table?" "Is it an apple?" "Is it ice?" "Is it a needle?" To all of these the person questioned has answered "No," but he has been following the first letters of the words, and when the next question comes, "Is it a curtain?" he answers "Yes."

If it is preferred to make the trick seem more magical when he has heard the word spelled out he may suddenly interrupt his questioner and, rubbing his forehead, say: "Wait; I know what it is. It is a curtain." However, the company will be more apt to guess the trick if it is done in this way.

In Half a Century.

All these things took place within a short space of fifty years:

The Spanish-American war and the establishment of the Cuban republic.

The discovery of the Roentgen rays.

The discovery of the sources of the Nile and Niger and the exploration of interior Africa.

Rise and fall of Napoleon III and the establishment of the present French republic.

The unification of Germany and the Franco-German war.

The civil war and the abolition of slavery in the United States.

The extension of the Russian powers over central Asia.

The establishment of ocean steam navigation.

The discovery of the electric telegraph.

The discovery of the telephone.

The laying of the huge ocean cables.

The discovery of modern photography.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Some Clever Parrots.

A Boston man has a parrot that puts its claws before its face and shyly croaks, "Polly had a letter this morning—an offer of marriage for Polly." And a Philadelphia parrot earnestly adjures the children to "Hurry up to school; last bell is ringing. You'll be late." Another poor parrot was owned by a young man who tried to teach it to welcome a rich relative with the words "Good morning, uncle." The bird was slow to learn, so he lost his temper, took the bird by the neck and shook it, exclaiming angrily, "Say 'Good morning, uncle,' you fool!" The next day the young man heard a terrible noise in the hennery. On making his way there he found three hens dead on the floor, while on a perch in the corner was the parrot, holding a hen by the throat and shrieking, "Say 'Good morning, uncle,' you fool!"

The Dot In the Circle.

Ask some one to draw a circle with a dot in the center of it or near the center without any line joining the dot and the circle and yet without taking the pencil from the paper. The trick sounds impossible, but is very simple when you know how.

Turn over a corner of the paper and mark a dot—as near the point of it as you can—on the body of the sheet. Run the pencil up the turned over corner a short distance and begin to draw the circle. When the pencil reaches the surface of the paper on which the dot is turn back the corner and complete the circumference round the dot.—Youth's Companion.

Game of Rhymes.

An instructive and entertaining game may be played in the evening or on rainy days, when children are compelled to remain indoors. Blank cards are distributed to each one, and every child writes on his two lines of any poem he has learned at kindergarten or school. The cards are then handed to some one who has been chosen to read them. As soon as the first line is read any one who remembers the rest of the poem writes it and receives the card on which the rest is written. The one who gets the most cards wins the game and receives some small prize.

Conundrums.

Who is more to be admired than a promising young man? A paying one.

What man has a thousand hands? The man who employs a thousand men.

What is white, black and red all over? A newspaper.

Why do white sheep eat more than black sheep? There are more of them.

If you call a sheep's tail a leg how many legs will he have? Four anyhow.

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