

A Christmas Carol

By CHARLES DICKENS

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, it was the day of long days, it was the night of long nights, it was the time of peace, it was the time of trouble, it was the season of love, it was the season of hate, it was the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty, it was the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty, it was the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty, it was the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty.

FINDING THE SPOT.

There must be a special carpet on wall paper in the room where this mystifying Christmas game is played. For this game one must have a confederate with whom to agree about the sign that shall be used in the game. One takes a cane to point out the spot, and then the confederate goes out of the room. As soon as a spot is agreed upon, the confederate is called back. Then the one with the cane points to a spot and says, "Was this the spot?" "No." "This?" "No." "That?" "No." "While you are asking these questions you keep your hand around the head of the cane. When you point at the spot chosen you intend one finger down the cane. The confederate sees this and at once says, "Yes; that is it."

BEST WAY TO PUT UP A CHRISTMAS TREE

THE best and easiest way to put up a Christmas tree has never been patented or published in a book. It is as simple as it could be patented. Having failed our Christmas eve in providing a suitable tree for the family tree, recently we pulled up the "heaven tree" because the two youngest members of the family would not bear of Christmas without a tree.

CHRISTMAS SNOWBALLS.

Snowballs are prepared by winding little toys or favors in strips of cotton batting so that the balls may be perfectly round. They are then wrapped in white tissue paper, which is glued on.

CHRISTMAS ANIMAL.

LARGE yellow squash, four large carrots of sufficient size to uphold the bulk of this animal, and a long, slender carrot will serve as the neck, a long white turp with red base for the head and two slices of carrots for the ears; the eyes are cranberries, stuck in with toothpicks, and a comb of toothpicks with cranberries on the ends will make him a lordly sight.

HITTING THE CORK.

A diversion for the Christmas gambol is gained by placing a cork on a chair at the height of four or five feet from the floor. The player then approaches the cork and places his forefinger by it in careful determination of the height. He must then walk backward across the room, pause, close eyes and once more approach the cork. This time he will endeavor to knock the cork off by a blow of his forefinger.

PICKING UP SWEETS.

At no time in the whole year are suggestions for games and tricks so welcome as at Christmas, when the long dark evenings are with us and when young folks meet together at numerous gatherings.

TO ALL MEN GREETINGS.

Again the months that make the year stretch their allotted goal and bare in all his wintery penitency. Gay Christmas bids grim sorrow flee. Happy are they who hear the voice that bids this dull old world rejoice.

CHRISTMAS IN SYRIA.

THE Rev. Dr. D. G. Howis, the well-known Palestine missionary, describes a Christmas celebration at midnight in a mountain village in Syria.

INDIVIDUAL DINNER.

housewife who excels in the making of puddings or cakes could hit upon no more suitable and welcome gift for the bachelor man and wife of her acquaintance than a small pudding, fruit cake, Christmas cookies, scullery or candles. The cakes should be attractive in appearance and put up in tin Christmas tins.

ROAST TURKEY DINNER.

One of the most attractive holiday novelties on the market these days is a miniature plum pudding put up in a dainty white cardboard box. The pudding was an inch and a half of two inches in diameter and rolled in red paper tied together with red and white ribbons.

MINIATURE GOODIES.

Tiny puddings and cakes make nice Christmas offerings.

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