I T was in November and only the day before Thanksgiving. On the morrow aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents and all relations would come and spend the day with Mr. and Mrs. Churchwell and little Florence. Mrs. Churchwell was the oldest daughter of Grandma Grey, and for that reason all the relatives spent the eventful day at her house.

Florence was a sweet little girl much loved by all, and now that she had only one day to wait before the reunion of the family she was in great excitement. Of course it was Florence who, on the following day, had to help Nora set the table, and it was Florence who had to taste the candy to see if it was [illegible].

At 10 o'clock the next morning the family started to arrive and kept on coming until noon. Florence all this time was much fondled and petted, and Cousin Ned declared that there would be no Florence left if the hugging did not stop.

Games were played, songs were sung, and all was fun and merriment.

"Oh, look," said Cousin Alice, "it is snowing." And, sure enough, the snow was coming down in big flakes. The children all gathered around the window to watch the storm, when Cousin May saw a poor little girl trying to walk against the wind. She was shivering with cold, and her only wrap was a thin cotton [illegible].

"Call her in and give her something warm to eat," said grandma, who had gone to the window when she heard the children's exclamations of pity.

"Yes," said Mrs. Churchwell. "Annie, call her in."

The maid addressed went to the door and pulled in a half frightened and half frozen little girl. Meanwhile Florence had gained permission not only to wait on the little girl herself, but also gave her the dollar she had saved for Christmas presents. Florence went out in the hall to meet her and led her into the breakfast room, where before her she put all kinds of goodies. Mrs. Churchwell said that she had warm clothes for her, and grandma said she would inquire into her story and see what she could do.

Aunts, uncles and cousins all determined to help in some way. After eating a warm dinner Florence took Edith, for that was her name, into the parlor, where she was plied with questions. She told [illegible] that her name was Edith [illegible] and that she lived in an alley right in the middle of the next square. She also said she had two brothers and one sister, all of whom were younger than herself. Her father was sick and her mother had to wash to earn a living. After hearing the narrative [illegible] address, Mrs. Churchwell and Grandma Grey took her upstairs, where they dressed her in warm clothes and promised to [illegible].

In the [illegible] ence sat surrounded [illegible] to whom she [illegible] would be less than [illegible] mas, and why [illegible] earn some [illegible] Christmas [illegible] unanimously [illegible] went to their [illegible] they could do [illegible] snow had stopped [illegible] and stars [illegible] moon gazed [illegible] children [illegible] good she had [illegible] thinking of [illegible] done for her [illegible] himself and [illegible] this has been a happy [illegible] —Buffalo Express.

Thanksgiving is an occasion of national [illegible], yet it possesses a significance that is entirely individual. With many of us things have gone well this year. The table is laden with plenty. There is meat in the larder and there is grain in the storehouse.

Local Thanksgiving Days.

The practice of having local Thanksgiving days has prevailed to some extent in America. On Oct. 15, 1814, the mayor of Baltimore, upon the suggestion of the city pastors, appointed the following Thursday "to be observed as a day of thanksgiving to the Adorable Disposer of all human events on account of our recent deliverance from the British fleet and army." That was for the escape of Baltimore after the attack on Washington in 1814. A few months later the newspapers stated that "both houses of the Ohio legislature on Wednesday, the 8th day of February, pursuant to a resolution previously adopted, moved in procession to the Presbyterian meeting house in Chillicothe and rendered public thanks to Almighty God for granting such brilliant success to our arms at New Orleans in the [illegible] obtained by General Jackson [illegible] compatriots." Chillicothe at that time was the capital of Ohio.

ABOUT THE BIRD OF THANKSGIVING

THE bronze turkey, that variety which today holds the place of honor in the North American group of turkeys, is outdone by none when it comes to beauty or size. Black, beautifully shaded with a rich bronze, the breast plumage being dark bronze illuminated with a lustrous finish of coppery gold, gives full warrant for the name by which this bird is known.

The full grown, healthy bird is a beautiful picture of bronze, black, copper and gold, and sometimes weighs forty or more pounds. Other varieties known in the barnyard and even recognized among dealers as having distinctive markings are in reality only highly developed fowls with preserved peculiarities. Under this classification comes the white turkey.

In the United States there are six standard varieties recognized and grown. These are the bronze, Narragansett, buff, slate, white and black. The chief differences are in size and color of plumage.

The bronze and Narragansett are the largest, the buff and slate medium, while the white and black are the smallest. Within late years, however, the white variety has reached such a point of popularity that it has increased in size, until with some dealers it occupies third place.

Whatever the turkey may have missed through failing to secure that place of honor suggested for it by Benjamin Franklin, as the national bird, it has nevertheless found a place in the regard of the American people which is held by no other fowl.

Time was when a turkey, or as many as could be carried, might be had almost for asking. [illegible] when [illegible] would [illegible] a plump young fowl. Even so short a time as [illegible] years ago turkeys could be [illegible]

Some interesting figures were at one time compiled by the department of agriculture in connection with the turkey. In 1890 the census showed the [illegible] 1,200,000. Four years later the department found there were [illegible] [illegible] and the answer [illegible] forthcoming.

In the year 1896 the breeders had in [illegible] their eggs before the [illegible] and the consequent total [illegible] eggs in the cost and [illegible] as well as the grown turkeys. With the latter figure only [illegible] three months or more were [illegible] therefore is the [illegible] at that time while [illegible] has [illegible] with the [illegible]

[illegible] with the increase that has [illegible] years the [illegible]

Origin of Thanksgiving.

[illegible]

[illegible] nual Thanksgiving day is a custom belonging to America alone.

"Harvest Home" and Thanksgiving.

The harvest home of the Saxons and Celts, the cerealia of the Romans, the Israelitish feast of tabernacles and, for all that we know to the contrary, the first harvest celebration of preadamite man were the actual precursors of our Thanksgiving. Even among the American Indians there was held an autumnal festival which might not unjustly claim precedence as the true aboriginal Thanksgiving of the western world. Modern observances of Thanksgiving with their sporting features are [illegible] in certain quarters as [illegible] from the ideas of the [illegible] colonists during their first [illegible] autumn on the coast of Cape Cod bay. Indications are not [illegible] wanting, however, that the manner of celebrating has changed to [illegible] No longer is a whole [illegible] devoted to Thanksgiving, [illegible] days of Governor Bradford [illegible] sufficed.

CELEBRATION of Thanksgiving day seems to center around the dinner table. What a glorious sight it is on this purely American holiday to see the members of the family from far and near reunite on this occasion!

As the early celebrations were necessarily simple, it is more in keeping with the event to include in the menu dishes suggestive of those partaken of in olden times. If you have any old dishes of pewter ware use them on this day.

As the family group includes both old and young plan your entertainment so as to be equally enjoyable for all ages. If cost is a consideration you can make your table appear very attractive by keeping in mind the old fashioned and hearty simplicity of by gone days.

For a table that is very appropriate for an only family reunion a flounce of decorative crepe paper showing a country scene with his majesty the turkey strutting about is attached to the table cover by means of a rope of twisted paper in autumn coloring of red and yellow. Place a fruit basket in the center of the table. Seasonable vegetables may also be combined with the fruit with [illegible]

If you do not possess an [illegible] has [illegible] you can make quaint shaped ones by covering [illegible] with twisted green or brown [illegible] pasting one row after another to the basket [illegible]

The candle shades are covered in [illegible] the [illegible] can be made similar to the big basket [illegible] with such [illegible] shapes.

[illegible] with small gob[illegible] pasted on the sides. The turkeys [illegible] the place cards can be [illegible] cardboard or cut out of a paper napkin and mounted on the card [illegible] they could find their places in that manner.

A vegetable basket for each place is easily made. Carrots, radishes, potatoes [illegible] may be used. You can make the [illegible] the [illegible] express a sentiment why you are thankful [illegible]

[illegible] with marshmallow [illegible]

[illegible] press.

A GLAD THANKSGIVING

WISELY and well in earlier times
This happy day was chosen
That, though the earth grow stiff and bare,
Our hearts might not be frozen;
That fall by fall and year by year
Kind words know no declining,
The wilder storm, the warmer cheer
Where light of love is shining.

Oh, let us hold unruffled still
The pure peace of believing;
The clear, rich anthem of our praise
Be free from notes of grieving;
In sweet, serene and thankful hearts
Lies all the joy of living.
Lift pure and strong your choral song
And make a glad Thanksgiving.

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