

THANKSGIVING

Red sumac flames across the hill, And in each wood-fringed hollow, The autumn breeze among the trees Calls, "Follow, follow, follow!"

Red sumac flames across the hill, Where fading sunlight lingers, And points the way for me to stray, With soft, enchanted fingers—

OBJECTED TO CUSTOM

Observance of Thanksgiving Was for a Period Not Popular in Southern States.

Two years later Governor Wise, the successor of Jones, without asking advice of the legislature, issued a proclamation, and the people, generally throwing aside their prejudice, observed the day.

In the next year, 1858, eight governors of southern states issued proclamations after the model of New England, calling upon their people to observe the last Thursday in November as a day for thanksgiving.

Undoubtedly our present Thanksgiving day has its prototype in the Plymouth thanksgiving festival of 1621. It has been asserted repeatedly that the Plymouth festival was suggested to the Pilgrims by the Jewish "Feast of Ingathering."

If the Plymouth festival has immediate kinship with similar events in the past, it has analogies with the harvest home of England. The Pilgrims were familiar with the English celebration, and many of them, no doubt, had participated in it.

The chief difference between the two was the want of ceremony at Plymouth that characterized the English festival. In some parts of England the merrymaking was around the "Noel, dingsheaf," or "kern baby," and in many places the last load of the harvest was drawn to the barn in a wagon called the "hoop cart."

Here's health to the barley mow; Here's health to the man Who very well can Both harrow and mow and sow.

Time for Self-Examination. The Thanksgiving season is a good time to examine self and see if there is anything in our life that hinders the progress of the neighborhood.

Value of Introspection. To do anything worth while we must be something worth while, and we can not be if we take it all out in talking. The mind must receive impressions before it can give them, the heart must feel before it can make others feel, the soul must be filled before it can overflow.

Landlady (at Thanksgiving dinner)—We should be thankful for small mercies.

Boarder (looking at small turkey)—We have to be.

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ATTRACTIVE ONLY TO TOURIST

Eastern City of Mosul Not a Place in Which Westerners Care to Make a Long Stay.

Mosul, the modern Nineveh, is a picturesque but not altogether attractive city. The houses are built of irregular blocks of stone laid in thick mortar.

The streets are narrow and attitudeless, forming a maze of tangled lanes. As there is no system of sewerage whatever, they serve as repositories for all the filth of the houses that border on them.

As a result of the fine dust, the filth and the glare of the sun on the white walls, ophthalmia and lung diseases abound. The flies, which breed in the open refuse heaps in astonishing numbers, swarm over everything.

Opposite Mosul, across the river, are the last vestiges of Nineveh, capital of the second of the world's great empires. In places, great walls of the ancient city, built of tremendous masses of sun-dried brick laid on a high broad wall of cut stone, are still to be seen.

There is an amusing story told about Sir Frederick Bridge, the famous organist of Westminster abbey and of how he was once guilty of making a "row" within the edifice. It was at the time of the coronation of King George V.

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Varying Length of Life in Fishes. The length of life of fishes is variable in the extreme. When we think of the great number of enemies to which many fish are exposed, such as other predatory fishes, parasitic worms and crustacea and other parasites (which are usually harmful to man but destructive to the fish),

Such projections to fishes are speed of swimming, defensive spines and fins, the ability to defend themselves like the puffer to prevent being swallowed, teeth, electric organs, heavy corsets of scales which easily slip from the skin and a high state of resistance against disease.

There are records of very large fishes of most known varieties.

Hail Turkey!

The eagle is the nation's bird, it sails across the sky. On lofty heights, serene and proud and free, But when November skies are blue, and when Thanksgiving's night, The turkey is the only bird for me!

Monster Flocks of Turkeys. Writers assure us that wild turkeys were once so abundant in the wild country back of Virginia and in the South generally that flocks of more than 5,000 were not uncommon.

Thanksgiving Thought

If I had known, in Grandma's day, Of present means of living, And laid one of those feasts away, She served us on Thanksgiving; Imagine now how proud I'd feel, And cheerfully elated, To sit before that old-time meal Which I had de-hydrated!

PROVED TRUTH OF OLD ADAGE

That "a Little Learning is a Dangerous Thing" Seems Shown by This Anecdote. A certain lawyer of a bygone generation, Mass Jones by name, had a case before a justice of the peace out in the country, says Case and Comment.

WORTHY OF GREAT DAY

Thanksgiving Feasts in Arizona and Kentucky Described by Prominent Sons. MARCUS AURELIUS SMITH, the enterprising Arizona statesman, was once questioned concerning Thanksgiving festivals in that far-off territory.

When Asher Caruth of Kentucky heard the talk about Thanksgiving a roseate flush overspread his face. There was the joy of anticipation in his eye and his tongue began to drip with eloquence.

Gulls as Human Food. "The flesh of gulls," says one of the best-known cyclopedias, "is rank and coarse." So it is. You have only to shoot a gull and cook it to find this is the case, and that as a dinner dish it is a complete failure.

KING ARTHUR'S ROUND TABLE

Legend of Sir Galahad and the "Holy Grail" as Recorded by English Writers. Sir Galahad of Cennyson's "The Holy Grail" was the noblest and purest knight of the Round Table.

Over Seas for Freedom

Let us be glad together that the passionate love of freedom that made the Pilgrim Fathers set sail in fragile ships to brave the unknown terrors of the inhospitable New England coast is driving us back to the seas in dreadnaughts to face the known horrors of modern warfare.

WHERE HINDUS ARE SUPREME

I have seen many balancing, rope dancing and tumbling performances in circuses and theaters, but they are not equal to those of the Hindus in India, says a traveler. "It is not unusual in India to see girls in their teens balancing themselves on their heads with their heels in the air, or walking on their hands and their feet with their bodies bent in curious postures."

CUSTOM AN OLD ONE

Pages of History Filled With Record of Days Set Aside for Giving Thanks. THE idea is prevalent throughout the United States that our Thanksgiving day is peculiarly an American custom of New England origin. This is true in part only.

Real Day of Thanksgiving

There is a difference between being thankful and having a good time. One can enjoy an elaborate dinner and the meeting of friends without any uplift of the heart to the giver of all good.

Parental Advice

"My boy, now that you are going out into the world to make your mark, you will probably have some love affairs."

Just Signifying Happiness

Seward is a favorite in the neighborhood. One afternoon he was wending his way homeward and dinnervard, accompanying himself with the most heartrending howls and mournful intones.

SHALLOW HEROES

This is no time for hunting up the made-for-the-occasion hero. That seducing, keep-your-eyes-on-me individual is extremely busy calling attention to personal merit. In the swirl of common-places you would never see them if they were not thrust before your eyes. But he keeps you posted. With half a chance he'll talk you into oblivion with hero tales of his own exploits.

NO LONELINESS AT NIGHT

All Sorts of Animal Life Shared Room of Guests Sojourning in Japanese Hotel.

I could never forget the thoroughly humanized character of this late of the East nor admire it as I did Ceylon with its wealth of wilderness and wild life, writes William Beebe, in Asia Magazine. Yet I am forced to admit that never have I been on more intimate terms with so many forms of animal life in any building as in a Japanese hotel.

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When that split dies there can be no more thanksgiving in America. As long as this spirit lives it is always Thanksgiving day, whatever happens, or whatever we may have or may not have for dinner.

Let us give thanks that years of prosperity and fatness, years of peace and security, have not served to make us entirely forget that unless we love freedom more than life, we are already as one dead; unless we know the difference between real peace and selfish security, we are already a conquered people.

Let us give thanks for our strength, our wealth and our opportunities garnered under the protection of even a dawning democracy, and for the chance to pour them out without stint for the spread of democracy to every corner of our world.

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