

THE GLADSTONE DELTA.

CHRISTMAS NUMBER - 1913

SANTA PLAYING WITH HIS TOYS



worried her sometimes and made her much trouble. Anyway, that Christmas eve I slept with mamma, and I remember we had hardly enough covering to keep us warm."

"Poor Aunt Madie! Did you get cold and wake up and see Santa Claus then?"

"I think some kind of noise awoke me. It was a beautiful night. The moonbeams that crept between the curtains sat close to the shadows, silently watching, just like the shepherds the first Christmas eve. You remember the story, dear? It was so still that I almost expected to hear the angels sing. Then, of course, I began to think of Santa Claus. I wanted and wanted to see him, but I was dreadfully afraid I would. My heart was going plitty-paf when—what do you suppose Donnie?—I really saw something move in the corner!"

"And it was Santa Claus?"

"It looked like a man, and I could see by the bobbing of his head that he was coming toward me. I thought of Santa Claus, and I thought of robbers, and I did not know what to think."

"What did you do, Aunt Madie?"

"Bob, bob, went his head, and he seemed to be coming closer and closer. I was so scared I never thought of mamma at all, or whether she would get hurt, supposing it wasn't Santa Claus, but slipped under the covers, way down to the foot of the bed."

"I shut my eyes, put my fingers in my ears and trembled myself to sleep, for the next thing I knew something heavy bounced upon the bed, and there it was Christmas morning and Fred was pelting me with my funny, bumpy stockings."

"And was that all you saw of Santa Claus?" asked Donald disappointedly.

"I looked over toward the corner. Would you believe it?—there was that man yet. I jumped and pretty nearly screamed and then laughed and laughed and laughed."

"Why, who was it? Oh, I know. It was your papa, and he had been filling your stockings in the night."

"No, sir-e-e! My Santa Claus wasn't either papa or mamma."

"Then it was my papa, your brother Fred, Aunt Madie?"

"Wrong again, young man. It was mamma's broom dressed in Fred's new suit of clothes and new stockings, boots, cap, scarf and mittens. The whole thing was hung up in a dark corner on the clothesline."

"But you said it walked toward you, Aunt Madie?"

"I said it seemed to be coming closer and closer. It was so cold that mamma had let the cat stay in all night, and when kittle played with the man's feet his head bobbed and bobbed just as if he were walking."

"Wouldn't I be scared, though! And, my, what a dandy present for Fred! I am going to ask papa if he remembers. Did you get just as nice, Aunt Madie?"

"I was very happy over my presents that morning. I did not have to make believe at all. You see, times were getting better for us. I never had any more heartaches at Christmas after that, and I learned that to stop some other little hearts from aching is the best gift we can make."

"That's why you send me with such big bundles to the little house around the corner. Can't I give something, too, Auntie?"

"Yes indeed, Donnie. Aunt Madie was a very little girl, but, do you know, she will never get over being ashamed that she was too big a 'fraid cat' to think of mamma's danger."

"And your Santa Claus was only a scarecrow, after all!"

Christmas Queries.

Do "plants" for making pretty gifts grow up to Christmas trees?

And are "the sea-son's greetings" sent by salt sons of the seas?

Are Yule logs cut from snowdriftwood by Yuletide washed ashore?

And could you stub a mistletoe against a parlor door?

If Eve had tried from holly twigs a party gown to weave?

Do you suppose that Adam would have called her "Christmas Eve?"

St. Nicholas in autosleigh defies police and laws?

Do regulations as to speed contain a Santa clause?

FORTUNES FOR TOYS.

The children of the United States each year consume toys that cost at retail \$45,000,000.

Of this sum the imported goods represent \$15,000,000 and the domestic product \$30,000,000.

The little ones of New York city get more than their proportionate share of this enormous expenditure, for there is spent for them annually \$3,000,000.

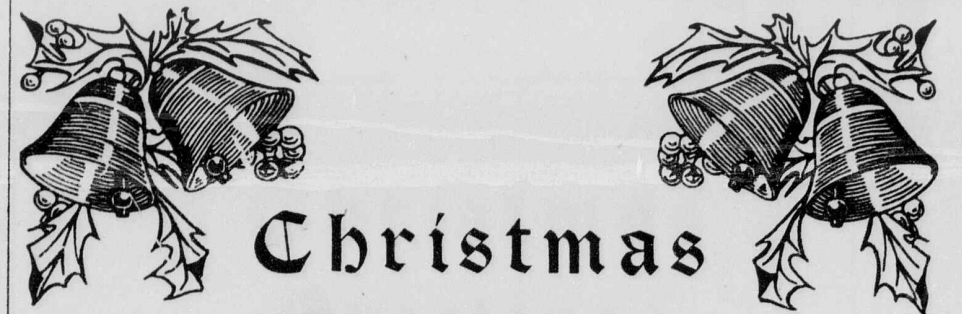
One-third of this is for imported playthings and two-thirds for the home product.

There is a marked tendency toward mechanical toys, and more that is new and interesting is found in this direction than in any other.

Within the ranks of these mechanical playthings is observable a great increase in iron toys, all of which are made in this country and fitted for hard use in the hands of destructive children.

"Poor grandma! Let's give her something nice this Christmas. She can have all my pennies."

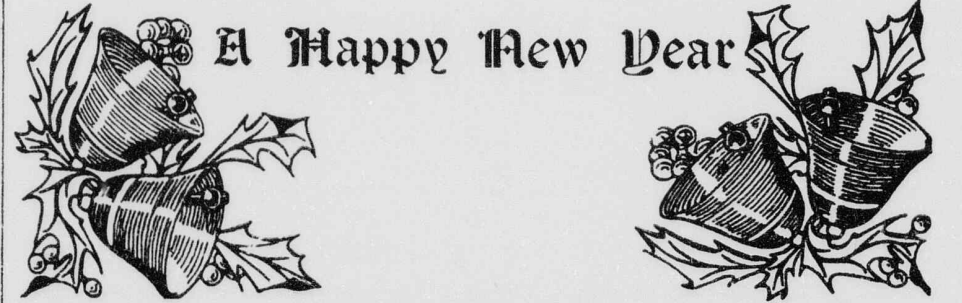
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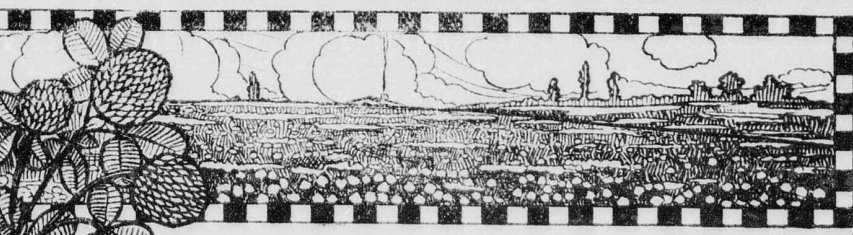
Christmas Greetings

The Delta presents its Holiday edition to the people of Gladstone and Delta County with sincere wishes for their prosperity and happiness. The live business men of Gladstone have done their best to aid The Delta in informing the people where they can find what they need for Christmas joys. Every live merchant in Gladstone is represented in these columns and the reader will make no mistake in doing his holiday shopping with these enterprising folk. The man who advertises almost always has better goods than the back number and is never afraid to say so because he knows it is the truth. Our advertisers join with us in wishing you

A Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year



MERRY CHRISTMAS



CLOVERLAND MILLING & SUPPLY CO.

Makers of the Celebrated

CLOVERLAND FLOUR

Jobbers of "Seal of Minnesota" Flour.

Corn Meal,

All kinds of

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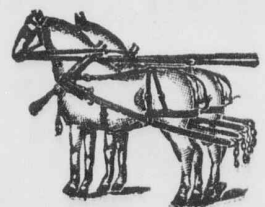
Hay,

Rye Flour

Potatoes, etc.



TEAM WORK, BAGGAGE AND EXPRESS



We have several fine teams for sale at Reasonable prices.

Jobbers and retailers of Portland Cement and Pulp Plaster.

Retailers of Coal, Wood, Brick, Lime and Hair.

Our business motto is to do unto others as you would expect them to do unto you—Give sixteen ounces to the pound and two thousand pounds to ton.

YOU WILL NEED CLOVERLAND GOODS FOR YOUR

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Seeing Santa Claus

A Christmas Story For Children

By MARY E. LUNDGREN

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IT WAS a few days before Christmas, and King Winter was preparing the roads for Santa Claus' long drive. The snowflakes were tumbling over one another to do his bidding, and Jack Frost shouted to Donald, who was flattening his nose against the windowpane, that he would better stay in the house if he did not wish to get his ears pinched.

Donald was "half past four" and Aunt Madie, sitting before the fire, "half past forty." Early in the former's career the two had formed an exclusive mutual admiration society.

The little boy climbed upon the arm of the lady's huge easy chair, and the two sat cozily in front of the heater, gazing thoughtfully into the glowing coals that showed through the encircling isinglass and made the only light in the room.

"Is Santa Claus our papas and mamma's, Aunt Madie?"

"The Santa Claus I saw certainly wasn't, Donnie."

"Did you ever see Santa Claus? Honest, did you?"

"Let's make it a story. Once upon a time, long, long ago, when I was a little girl, we were poor, so poor that Brother Fred (your papa, Donnie) and I never got much for Christmas. We couldn't understand why Santa Claus did not give the poor a lot and the rich just a little to even things up. Mother said it was to give the poor a chance to be good to the poor and the rich a chance to grow good by suffering patiently, and then both would be worthy to celebrate Christ's birthday. Fred's patched suit hardly kept out the cold, and this Christmas I am talking about I had such a queer little ache way down in my heart that some way couldn't get cured. I told Fred, but he said we must pretend to be ever so much pleased with whatever we got, even if it should be only a stick of candy, because mamma would feel so sorry, and she didn't have nice things either, but had to work all day long and late at night sewing for the railroad boys."

"Poor grandma! Let's give her something nice this Christmas. She can have all my pennies."

"Mamma's don't mind so much not having things if their boys and girls are good, but I am afraid Fred and I

Put your money to work in

ABSOLUTE SAFETY

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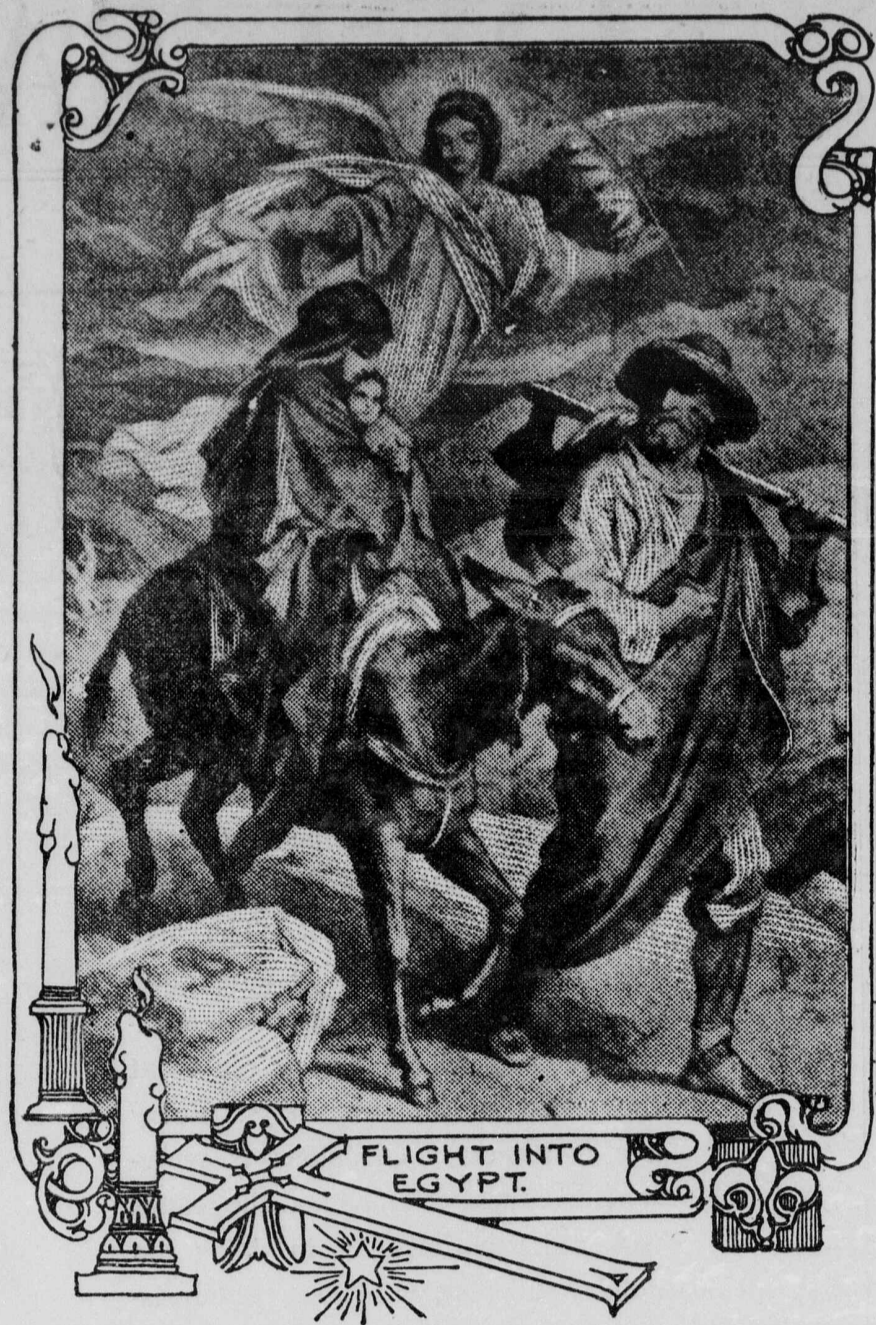
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Glass Top SERVING TRAYS

They come in assorted sizes and shapes. Round, Oval and Oblong; the outer rim or frame is finished in Mahogany mounted with crystal glass beneath which are assorted designs in imported Cretonne mounted with tasty brass handles; only a few of each size and no two exactly alike



Special for the Holidays

11 inch oval or oblong trays

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Large sizes at 1.25 and

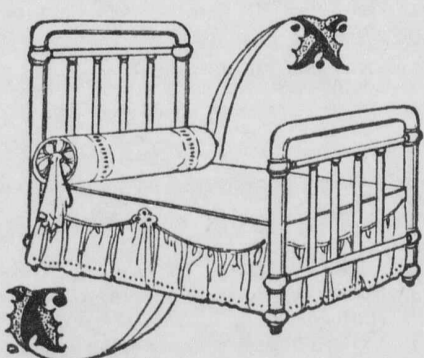
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H. W. BLACKWELL
HARDWARE

COME IN!

Come in and look over our large display of handsome furniture consisting of Large Oak Leather Rockers, Davenport, Buffets, China Closets, Writing Desks, and Sectional Book cases.

Dining Room Outfits.



Brass and Iron beds of the latest style as well as a complete line of Bedding.

SWENSON BROS.

SIMPLE GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS TIME.

A paperweight may be made of Christmas ribbon in the form of a bag filled with bird shot or lead and tied with narrow ribbon at the top.

For a small blotter cut half a dozen different colored blotters the size of a postal card, bore a hole through blotters and postal card at each end and tie together with Christmas ribbon. Choose a card with an appropriate greeting.

An attractive way to make a floral calendar is to take twelve sheets of sketching paper, cut into some neat design and paste on each leaf the floral symbols of each month. You can cut the flowers from any seed catalogue. The calendar leaf should be tastefully placed.

A gift quickly made is a decorated tablet, which is useful for recording messages. Buy any kind of a tablet and carefully remove the cover so that the cloth binding will not be spoiled. Make a new cover from bright red mounting board and decorate it with holly leaves cut from white paper colored green. Arrange the leaves in bunches or wreaths.

Coat hangers are always acceptable and are easily made attractive. One covered with holly ribbon, with a bunch of frosted artificial holly leaves attached to the wire, is pretty.

A useful shirt waist bag may be made from a yard and three-fourths of white paper cambric. Use narrow tape for drawing and cotton floss to work the initials of the owner.

A suitable present for a little girl is a tiny kirvano. One can be made in an hour from any preferred material.

Writing Christmas "Thank You" Notes

Of course Santa Claus will bring you some note paper. Perhaps he will bring you some pretty correspondence cards with your initial in the corner. The first use to make of any such present is in writing "Thank you" notes to the persons who have sent you Christmas presents. Don't let your mother or big sister take this pleasure away from you. Remember this is a part of the Christmas fun. If you make it work it will be your own fault. Commence thinking beforehand what you want to say in those neatly written "Thank you" notes. If you have something all thought out half the work is already done.

One of the first things you'd think of if you were speaking directly to the giver would be just what the present was. You wouldn't say to Cousin Kate, for instance, "Thank you for your present." You would be pretty sure to say just what the gift was. This is one of the big things to remember when you write your "Thank you" notes. Mention the present in each case.

This gives a real personal touch to your note and proves that you didn't get your presents mixed up. If you are one of the fortunate children who get ever so many presents be sure to keep track of the names of the givers. If there is a card attached don't take it off until you are sure you will remember just who gave you that particular sled or doll or music box.

If you are afraid of spoiling some sheets of your pretty new paper before you get the note nicely placed get some one to cut a couple of pieces of ordinary paper of just the same size as your Christmas note paper. With a little practice you will learn just how far up on the page to begin and about how far down on the page your name will come. No one expects a long letter just at Christmas time, but every one has a right to expect a prettily expressed, neatly written note of thanks when there is no chance for a "Thank you" in words.

A Prayer For the Children

Whenever children go to bed
And hang their stockings up with care
I pray that Santa Claus somehow
Will find the time to journey there.

I pray no little child will wake
At morn to find upon his cot
An empty stocking and to weep
Because old Santa Claus forgot.

For Santa Claus is not alone
The patron saint of rich, I'm sure,
But he is loved as dearly by
The little children of the poor.

And so I pray that he may find
The poorest urchin in the land
And that no little trusting child
May wake to weep and understand.
—Detroit Free Press.

The Shoppers.
Oh, have you seen the shopping crush
When all the bargains are?
With pallid face and solemn hush
Man views it from afar,
But woman braves the awful din
And does not lose her head,
And angels, so to speak, rush in
Where others fear to tread.

She carries bundles in each hand
And 'neath her elbows, too,
And with a smile so sweet and bland
Still looks for something new.
Our football giants would not chance
The broken limbs and necks
They risk whom in our ignorance
We style "the weaker sex."
—Washington Star.

The Chimney Climber.
Quoth Santa Claus, "I'm getting fat,
And, though I'm not a churl,
I think the person for this job
Would be the hipless girl."
—Harper's Weekly.

How to Make Christmas Sweets

The candy season is again with us. In most families home-made candies are an important feature of the Christmas festivities. The following tested recipes will be helpful to those who need instruction in the pleasurable task of candy making.

Here is a never failing fudge recipe: One-fourth cupful milk, one cupful sugar, butter the size of a walnut, two squares or two ounces of chocolate. Place on stove and melt all together and boil until they cling together in the water without being brittle. When stirring quickly, if the bottom of the pan shows and edges suggest sugarness, it is getting done. Just before taking off the fire add one-half teaspoonful of vanilla, then beat thoroughly until creamy. Pour into a well buttered platter and when almost cool cut into squares. If preferred add chopped nuts just before removing from the fire or form the fudge into balls while warm and roll in ground nuts. You may use peanut butter instead of ordinary butter, especially if you do not use chopped nuts. Preserved figs are excellent when coated with fudge or when mashed and mixed in fudge while warm.

Two cupfuls of brown sugar boiled with milk and stirred continually until it forms a wax ball when tested in cold water makes an excellent candy if mixed with chopped raisins.

This is an inexpensive and delicious candy: Grind one cupful of blanched almonds and the same amount of peanuts in the food chopper. Make a rich fondant with light brown sugar and milk. Stir the fondant constantly until it forms a ball of wax when tested in cold water. Remove it from the fire and stir until it foams. A little cream of tartar will assist in making it creamy. Pour the ground nuts into the candy and place all on a buttered pan. While warm cut the candy into squares. Do not break the pieces apart until cool. When cold dip each piece into melted chocolate, unsweetened.

A firm, ripe banana cut into rather thin slices and dipped in melted sweet chocolate is delicious. Place on oiled paper and set in cool place to harden. Dip marshmallows into melted chocolate, roll them in ground nuts and set aside to harden. Marshmallows hastily dipped into hard lemon taffy make a good confection.

Melt unsweetened chocolate in a double pan and dip loaf sugar into the melted chocolate and sprinkle the pieces with ground nuts. This is a good candy to give a child.

The Little Fellers

I.
When you see the snowflakes flyin' an' the winter's come to stay
Watch out fer the little fellers—make the Christmas come their way.

II.
Some o' them in lowly places, where the sky is always gray,
Win a smile from little faces—make the Christmas come their way.

III.
Bein' friends to little fellers makes o' winter seem like May,
Watch out fer 'em on the life road—make the Christmas come their way.
—Atlanta Constitution.

Flour Test.

A good flour should not be pure white, but rather creamy in tint. When a little is rubbed between the thumb and first finger it should have a slightly granular feeling. A good flour absorbs more moisture than one of inferior quality.

LITTLE LORD JESUS.
Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus. Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is high.
—Martin Luther.

Presents For the Boy

FINDING things for the boy at Christmas time may seem more difficult, although no doubt he has just as many wants as his pretty sister. Silver knives with good blades, substantial key rings, pencils and fountain pens always please. Certain things in the jewelry line appeal to the average boy—a case containing cuff buttons and tie pin to match or a good looking watch fob. An inspection of the leather shop displays will soon convince the shopper that there are dozens of things a boy can use and enjoy. Why not give him a leather case containing a soft felt hat or a pair of folding slippers? Another case holds what is called the vacation outfit—a flat clothes brush, two coat and trousers hangers and a folding shoe horn. Leather stickpin cases and collar boxes are also acceptable.

The fastidious boy will not scorn monogrammed handkerchiefs, silk socks and attractive ties. The boy who has arrived at the age and stage of caring about his room will want college pillows, penants, etc. If one wishes to invest more money in the boy's Christmas, there are automobile hampers and extra equipments, cameras, hunting and fishing outfits, fieldglasses, etc. Every boy wants skates, fur lined gloves and mufflers. For the book lover there is always a goodly store of books, or one may have a characteristic bookplate designed.

A Gift Suggestion.
An ideal gift for the bachelor is the "handy" box, containing tags, rubber bands, labels, thumb tacks, twine—in fact, almost any article one might need in dispatching a package or for the hundred and one other conveniences to which these needful articles may be put. One bachelor says he derived more pleasure from one of these boxes which was given to him than from almost any other gift he could mention. The boxes come in various sizes, the number of useful articles contained varying with the size of the box. A gift of this character is well worth considering where a personal gift is not desirable.

Glow Worm Beats Lamps.
Between the glow worm and the incandescent lamp there yawns a gap which will some day be bridged by the combined aid of the physicist, chemist, engineer and metallurgist. The luminous creatures of nature, considered as lighting machines, operate at an efficiency of about 95 per cent. The best incandescent lamp of the day has an efficiency of about 2 per cent. Clearly, we have still much to learn from the firefly.—Scientific American.