HOUSEHOLD.

CHRISTMAS CHEER.

There's snap in the air There is ice on the brooks, And wild with excitement Are housewives and cooks.

The seasoning is r ady To make the mince pie. The turkey is strengthened-Christmas is nigh.

The older housekeepers who have roasted a regiment of turkeys and served them equipped with sauces, vegetables, puddings and pies may not take special interest in any directions for preparing the yearly feast. Yet there are new and inexperienced cooks who, this Christmas, will undertake to prepare a dinner which "his folks" shall partake of with satisfac.ion, even the much dreaded mother-in-law, but it is more than likely that the latter will sympathize with the nervous young wife in any failure and praise her successes.

The young folks who "go home" on this day-and there is but one earthly home so long as father or mother are living-should bear in mind that the mother who thought nothing of cooking daily for a dozen when they were all children, now feels overweighted with the responsibility of preparing for their home coming with sons and daughters in-law. The lively little grandchildren, though she loves them as her own, take her mind from her plans of work and delay every step.

The grandmother needs help as much as the young wife and all should make it a point to help a little and make the day one of general enjoyment.

It is not now considered the right thing to overload a plate with more food than can be eaten and too many good things are usually set before us on this day to allow of little more than tasting of each. It noticeable that few people suffer from indigestion after their Caristmas dinner. Deliberation in eating combined with laughter and merriment give the dyspeptic for the time a good digestion. It was the old custom to place all the viands upon the table, and to begin the dinner with the turkey cup of sugar, one nutmeg, a teaspoonful of and the accompanying vegetables. It is ap propriate to follow the old way leaving the piece of butter the size of an egg, the same modern style of serving a dinner in courses to every-day occasion if we like.

In many homes the Christmas breakfast is of as much account as the dinner although the dishes are less in number. Chicken is usually served in a pie or boiled; baked sweet or white potatoes, cider apple sauce, white and brown bread, with coffee and real cream, form a good and sufficient bill of fare. The following is a good way to make the chicken pie :-

water enough to cover them, and when tender take out and carve as if for the table. Remove the skin if it is very thick. Have ready a deep baking dish lined with a thick paste, rolling it about twice as thick as for common fruit pies. Sprinkle each layer of flour. Fill the dish nearly full with the liquor in which the chickens were boiled, an upper crust closing the edges very carecut from the paste.

Do not omit to cut a piece from the upper crust as severe sickness frequently follows eating a pie which had no opening in the crust or had become closed by the rising of pounds each; middle from 25 pounds to 50 the paste in cooking. A good crust for chicken pies is made by taking the proportions of one quart of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, one of soda, two of cream-tarter, one pint of sweet milk add a cup of butter. Mix as for short cake.

Brown Bread. -Two cups of Indian meal, lery and other productions. two cups of rve meal, one cup of flour, onehalf cup of molasses, one and one half pints of sweet milk, one teaspoonful of soda, one their treasures during the Soudan war to matter that the posture for-that is, to tablespoonful of vinegar. Add the vinegar keep them out of the Mahdi's hands, and favor-sleep must be generally the same as the last thing. Pour into a mold and steam even now they are reluctant to send to mar- that voluntarily or instinctively assumed three hours. Remove the lid and set in the ket. What is sent is the result of hoarding, during sleep; but a little consideration will oven ten minntes.

list are timely: Roast turkey, cranberry sauce; glazed ham, apple jelly; baked spare-rib, apple sauce; mashed potatoes and turnips, canned tomatoes and corn, sweet potatoes, boiled onions and squash; brown bread and white rolls; boiled tongue, press- favor for nafting the higher classes of table even the fact that sleep is quieter in the new ed corned beef ; celery and cold slaw ; sweet | cutlery. and sour pickels; mince, pumpkin and apple pies with cheese; plum and boiled Indian hands at obtaining full value for their goods; while have become deeper. It is, on the pudding; fruit cake; apples, raisins and and some of the Sheffield firms find that whole, impossible to ascertain, either by nuts; tea and coffee.

berries add one pint of sugar, and one-half | Lancashire can load cottons. By pouring | tempts to lay down rules for the guidance pint of water. Cook together about fifteen | lead into the cavity of the tusk the weight | of rad sleepers are always arbitrary, generminutes then rub through a sieve and pour is greatly increased; and there is no possi- ally empirical, and rarely of any practical into small cups to mould. By adding the bility of discovering the deception until the value. sugar at first the berries retain their color | ivory has passed through various hands to | Those who think "anæmia of the cerebetter than if cooked without.

ROAST TURKEY .- After drawing and rinsing the turkey in several waters prepare dressing by using to three gills of bread crumbs from the soft portion of a loaf, one teaspoonful of salt, one of sage, a little pepper and a piece of butter half as large as an egg; then add a spoonful or two of milk to moisten it. If liked an egg may be added. Roast slowly and baste often. Be sure to give it plenty of time to cook without need of hastening the fire and burning it at the

GLAZED HAM.—Soak the ham about twelve hours then trim any uneven edges. wipe dry and cover the cut portion with a paste made of flour and hot water, lay it skin down in the dripping pan and add water enough to keep it from burning. Bake five hours or about twenty-five minutes to a Baste now and then to prevent the flour crust from peeling off. When done peel off the skin and remove the crust. Glaze by brushing well over with beaten egg then make a paste by allowing to each the surface for a few seconds. Once, when cup of powdered cracker enough milk to thicken and a teaspoonful of melted butter. rise out of the water and fly away. After-Spread this evenly over the ham a quarter ward, we succeeded in obtaining one of the of an inch thick and set to brown in a mod- curious creatures. It was about the size of

greased paper until it is about half done, was very long and thin, and ended in a long counting of profit and loss. If we have not any talent for writing splendid works The disposition of the elder once may be inoften with its own gravy. Just before tak- rows of sharp teeth. At first sight no head on political economy or social science, or ferred from the wild ambition of an aged often with its own gravy. Just before taknig it up sprinkle thickly over the surface
fine bread crumbs seasoned with powdered
sage, pepper and self and if liked a very
small onion minored fine. Let it cook five
minutes their hasts once mays. Skim the
minutes their hasts once mays. Skim the
water, thickened with browned flour and
water regidity away. Another paculiarity we noticed was that when the
bird is after a regional science, or
the genius for creating a good steey or a fine
posm, the part, best thing, and, in fact,
almost as good a thing is to possess as
the prairies like the wind.

This is after a regidity away. Another paculiarity we noticed was that when the
bird had left the water it lay down on a
Cultivate chains flavours and fruits, and help
raise his solicits with wast.

The individual who tried to clear his solicits

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almost as good a thing. It is good to prove the sudied, who wanted to trade fifty ponies for a
line genius for creating a good steey or a fine
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almost as good a thing.

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the genius for creating a good steep or a fine
the genius for creati strain. This is after a rule given by Marian bird had left the water it lay down on a Cultivate choice flowers and fruits, and help raise his spirits with years. If he fails in

Mrs. Oliver Ames' recipe for making mince meat will be just as popular this year as last. The recipe reads :

Order the choicest rump steak say a piece weighing four and one-half pounds. Two pounds of meat chopped fine, four and one. half pounds of apple chopped fine, threequarters pound of suet, also chopped fine four and one-half heaping tablespoonfuls of powdered cinnamon, one heaping tablespoonful of powdered clove, three and one-half pounds of sugar, three nutmegs grated fine, three pounds of raisins, boiled until very tender. Mix the mince well, adding a con fee cup or more of the raisin liquor and peach-pickle vinegar or any choice sweet pickle juice until the meat is sufficiently moist. Reserve a few of the boiled raisins to lay over the pies with small bits of butter before putting on the upper crust. More spice can be added to suit the taste if

STEAMED INDIAN PUDDING.—One pint of sifted Indian meal, one-half pint of unsifted rye meal, one pint of sour milk, three tablespoonfuls of molasses, one teaspoonful of salt and one large teaspoonful of soda. Mixall the ingredients together excepting the boiling water and stirred well into the al powers. mixture. Add one half cup of raisins rolled in flour. Steam in a tin mould about four hours.

SAUCE FOR THE PUDDING.—Onecup of molof cinnamon or nutmegs, one-quarter tea- great vessels. spoonful of salt, thee tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Boil altogether twenty minutes.

LEMON SAUCE.—Cream one heaping cup of sugar with a scant half cup of butter add one egg beaten light, a teaspoonful of nutmeg and the juice with half the grated peel of one lemon. Beat hard five minutes then add three tablespoons of ho water one at a time. Pour into a small un pail and set in the top of the teakettle which must be kept boiling until the sauce is neated, but it must not boil. Stir constantly.

Plum Pudding.—A pound of bread or six large crackers rolled fine, one quart of milk, six eggs, a tablespoonful of flour, a cinnamon, ons-half teaspoonful of clove, a quantity of chopped suet and a pound of raisins. Boil the milk, soak the bread over night in it, then the other ingredients wilmix with it readily. Boil four hours in a pudding mould. Serve with a rich sauce.

Ivory Tusks Filled With Lead for the English Market.

The London and Liverpool ivory sales six tons of what was termed "Stanley's diaphragm. ivory." It was the first lot of ivory sent by Mr. H. M. Stanley from the Congo. It was forwarded to the Belgian Government, from from whom it came to London. The quality and weight were very good. One parcel of chicken with a little salt and pepper and 4 cwt., knocked down to Rodgers & Sons, the Sheffield cutlery manufacturers, averaged about three teeth to the hundred adding a little butter if liked. Cover with | weight. Ivory is now so freely used for so many purposes that there is some peril of fully and ornamenting the top with leaves the elephant being exterminated. Messrs. Rodgers' consumption is 25 tons per annum, and includes Gaboon, Angola and Niger, East Indian, Cape, and Egyptian. The large tusks weigh from 50 pounds to 100 pounds each, and small from 3 pounds to 10 pounds. The firm's average weight, are 35 pounds. Twenty-five tons contain 1.600 tusks of 35 pounds each, and as each elephant provides only one pair, it follows that at least 800 elephants per annum must suffer from Rodgers & Sons alone in their cut-

Very little Egyptian ivory has recently come to hand. The Cairo merchants buried not hunting. Egyptian ivory, which is make it apparent that this is not correct. For the dinner any or all of the following | mainly sold in London, is largely used by It may be granted that, supposing a person cutlery manufacturers and in other Sheffield to be sleeping lightly and uncomfortably, industries, as well as by pianoforte makers the posture will be changed half-consciousfor keys. The paucity of Egyptian is large | ly to one of comfort. It would be more corly compnesated for by the increased weight rect to say that it is changed in the endeaof West Coast African, which is growing in vor to avoid distress or discomfort; but

they are not novices in fraudulent trading. experience or observation, which is the CRANBERRY SAUCE.-To one quart of They can load ivory quite as cleverly as posture most conducive to sleep, and atthe cutlery or other manufacturer. Then brum " is the cause of sleep, and those who the workman finds the saw grind against think that, though not the cause, a diminuthe lead, sometimes snapping the steel teeth. | tion in the quantity of blood in the vessels One Sheffield firm recently found lead em- of the encephalon is a necessary concomibedded in several elephants' tusks, from 8 tant of sleep, prefer and recommend that pounds to 12 pounds weight in each. As the head should be higher than the feet ivory is worth 12s. per pound, there is a while those who adopt the opposite view profit in selling lead at that price.

Eastern African tusks, soft Egyptian, Cape, raised and the head lowered. The conand West Coast African were dearer; but founding of stupor with sleep may and proin the opinion of practical brokers, ivory has bably has something to do with these differnot much altered for fifteen years, for while ences of opinion. Meanwhile a commonsome qualities are now of greater value sense view of the subject would conclude others have got cheaper.

Half Bird, Half Fish.

Count Joachim Pfell, the German African explorer, gives the tollowing account of mysterious creature seen on the coast of the Ulanga district: "We often saw an ani mal in the water we first believed to be a serpent, from its movements, and from the fact that only now and then it appeared on we shot at it, we were surprised to see it erate oven. Garnish with sliced pickled a large tame duck, with black plumage and

HEALTH.

Indications of Disease in Infants.

The following are some of the more marked symptoms by which the intelligent and watchful parent or nurse may obtain a fair ides of the condition of a sick infant, as to diseases that are common with children.

1. Deep redness or congestion of the cheeks, except in cases of morbid weakness and chronic disease, indicate a febrile con-

2. Congestion of the face, ears and forehead, of short duration, crossed eyes with febrile reaction, oscillation of the iris, irregularity of the pupil, with falling of the upper lip, indicate cerebral disturbance.

3. A marked degree of emaciation which ed progresses gradually, indicates a sub-acute or chronic affection of a grave character. 4. Bulbar enlargement of the fingers and

curving of the nails, are signs of cyanosis, or a defective heart. 5. Hypertrophy of the spongy portion of

the bones, indicates rickets. 6. The presence between the eyelids of thick and purulent secretion from the gland soda which is to be dissolved in a little may indicate great prostration of the gener-

7. Passive congestion of the vessels the conjunctiva indicates approaching death. 8. Long-continued lividity as well as lividity produced by emotion and excitement, lasses, one-half cup of water, one table- the respiration continuing normal are indices spoonful of butter, a scant half teaspoonful of a fault in the formation of the heart or the

9. A temporary lividity indicates the existence of grave acute disease, especially of the respiratory organs.

10. The absence of tears in children four months old or more suggests a form of disease which is usually fatal.

11. Piercing and acute cries indicate severe cerebro-spinal troubles

12. Irregular muscular movements which are partly under the control of the will during the hours when the child is awake, indicate the existence of chorea or St. Vitus'

13. The contraction of the eyebrows, together with turning of the head and eyes to avoid the light, is a sign of inflammation of the brain.

14. When the child holds his hand upon his head, or strives to rest the head upon the bosom of his mother or nurse, he may be suffering from an ear disease. 15 When the fingers are carried to the

mouth, and there is also much agitation, there is, projebly, some abnormal condition

it Scrattering or pinching of the nose in children, usually in vicates the presence of worms or some intestinal trouble.

17. When a child turns his head constanthave just been concluded. An interesting ly from one side to another, there is a sug-CHICKEN PIE. - Boil the chickens in just | feature of the London sales was the offer of | gestion of some obstruction in the larynx or 18. A hoarse and indistinct voice is sugges-

tive of laryngitis.

19. A feeble and plaintive voice indicates trouble in the abdominal organs. 20. A slow and intermittent respiration,

accompanied with sighs, suggests the presence of cerebral disease.

rapid, there is capillary bronchitis. 22. If it is superficial and accelerated, there is some inflammatory trouble of the and one quarter of a mile long. The cost help with a five-dollar bill. Poor mo larvnx and trachea.

23. A strong and sonorous cough suggests spasmodic croup. 24. A hoarse and rough cough is an indication of true croup.

there is bronchitis. 26. When it is suppressed and painful, having recently concluded this to be a safer there is pneumonia and pleurisy.

27. If the cough is convulsive, it indicates whooping cough.

How to Lie When Asleep.

It would seem on the first blush of the position will not suffice to prove that this is The ivory dealers of Africa are very good a better one, because the sleep may mean-

and think passive congestion causes or At London the prices of soft Indian and promotes somnolence, would have the feet that, as there is evidently some change in the blood state when the brain falls asleep, the best plan must seem to be to place the body in such rosition that the flow of blood through the vessels of the head and neck may be especially easy and free. The way to secure this is to allow the head to lie in a posture and on a level that cannot offer any obstacle to the free return of blood through the veins of the neck, and does not tend to make the blood flow specially in any particular direction, but leaves nature at liberty to act as she will.

a metallic lustre. On its wings we noticed —something to look forward to and live for, not be very successfu!, but the younger ones ROAST SPARE RIB.—Covered with a a few very light yellow feathers. The neck besides the daily round of labor or the are more disposed to submit to the inevitable or trout oulture. And study always farm into—the arms of a young lady.

and household science, and take advantage of the new and helpful things, that are every little while coming to light.

Overclothing the Body.

While there are many who neglect to supply themselves with a sufficient amount of wearily, looking up from her " list" of clothing during the cold months, there are ple to be remembered. those who overdo the matter, and on the first approach of cold weather surround themselves with woolens and furs and extra wraps to such an extent that they are kept in a state bordering upon perspiration the whole winter through. Such imprudence as regards clothing occasions a relaxed condition of the skin and of the body in general, and renders the individual exceedingly susceptible to colds; and hence should be avoid-

"Only a cold" is a common expression when one having a slight indisposition from having taken cold, is interrogated respecting the state of his health. This popular notion, that a cold is a matter of trivial importance, is often productive of most serious consequences. A cold is a disease, really a fever rather than a cold, and is a dangerous disease. From colds occur numerous chronic diseases, some of which are not easy to eradicate. Many a consumptive has gone down to the grave the viccim of a neglected cold. Neuralgias, rheumatisms, asthmas, pleurisies, pneumonias, to say nothing about catarrhs of the nose, throat, and larvnx. injuries to the eyes and ears, and other local disorders, owe their beginnings to exposures, and result in difficulties which at the beginning are commonly regarded the most trifling of ailments. Before you recklessly expose yourself to the danger of taking cold, reflect that the cold which may result may be the first of a series of steps downward, the last of which may lead you into an open grave.

Colds, with their subsequent sneezing, coughing, hemming, nose-blowing, and throat-clearing, begin to be the order of the day, with the ushering in of cold and damp days. Persons who are subject to chronic catarrh of the nose or throat are the first victims. From the beginning of cold weather until the full re-establishment of warm weather in late spring or early summer, large numbers of persons are rarely free from colds of some sort. Such persons should understand that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and should cure their colds in advance by taking such precautions as will prevent their catching cold, or rather, their being caught by a cold.

An Air Line Across Maine.

Work on the Canadian Pacific Railroad through Main is now drawing to a close, save that about the bridges and ledges. As there is much of the latter work to do, a force of men will be employed through best if that is the standard." the winter months, probably 1,200, along the entire line in cutting out. Some idea of the obstacles met with in building an air stores to find something really nix line across Maine can be gained by consid- that would not cost all she had to see ering the fact that at one place, not far for everybody, finally tried to do something from the point, 100 men and fifty horses herself, and it looked so mean and shall 21. If the respiration is intermittent, but will be employed the next four months on besides the handsome things they one cut alone. This cut is of loose slate | bought, that the poor child had a real and stone, and is to be thirty feet in depth | ing spell over it, till mother came to of this will be over \$14,000 for grading alone. I knew that she had saved it toward

All the masonry work for the bridge engraving of "Christus Consolator she acrosshe Penobscot at this point is complete. | wanted so long. And it makes me vere It is of the highest grade of work, and is think of its being crowded into Aunt & said to the most expensive and best of the money's parlor so full now of bric-a-bree 25. When the cough is clear and distinct, kind east or south of Montreal. The bridge things that you can't notice anything it itself will be of wood, the Canadian Pacific and better maserial than iron, and are now taken the money yet.' removing iron bridges which, in some cases, are only five years old. Specifications call edly, "why not skip Aunt Easymone for a bridge of the best possible character, together?" and in the construction of this one single sticks of seventy feet length and eighteen in hes square, of the best Southern pine, will be used, making the actual cost conslderably more than an iron bridge.

The whole line, so far as graded, is because you loved them and all that," in splendid condition, and is so straight John's eyes twinkled roguishly. that there will be many places where the you remember how Laura did last ! engineer can look along the track twenty continued he. "She skipped Clars" miles ahead. A single track of steel rails money entirely—Christmas card period will be laid, and contractors say that next | and put all she had to spare into that fall the Canadians will show the natives of chair we gave mother. Maine what railroading is. The Maine Central will, as soon as spring opens, put on a said something hateful about Laurs large crew, and place their line between this point and Vanceboro, fifty-six miles, in condition to meet the requirements of the Canadian people.

Advancing Civilization. A gentleman, who has recently visited

the new town of Great Falls, Montana, writes as follows:-

"This is my eleventh trip across the plains, and it is impossible for me yet to fully comprehend the magnitude, the grandeur and the incalculable wealth of the Kitty. great West. Here I am in the centre of a country as large as New York or New England, and the second stage in the advance of civilization has just begun. The first step was when the cattle kings and their herds took the place of the Indians and the buffaloes, and the second is the inevitable division of the broad stock ranges into small farms and the advent of railroads and Easymoney's it is simply one thing towns. The noble buffaloes are things of the past, and the poor Indians must follow. They are pre-eminently carnivorous, and since they have been unable to get buffalo meat to eat they have fallen victims to consumption and other wasting diseases. With bodily decay has come moral depravity, and the "noble red man" and romantic Indian maiden of Cooper's novels have given place to the weakest and most vicious of brutes. They retain some of their characteristics, however, and the sun dances and other festive occasions sometimes become weird and John," said Kitty disconsolately, animated. Nothing but hunger or gross Christmas presents are dread imposition will ever again create an uprising and I shall be glad when it is over against the whites, and the time is not far distant when those who are not dead will be stock-raisers and farmers like their pale-Have something for the mind to feed upon faced neighbors. The older generation will

Harland and is an improvement on the care-bush with outstretched wings to get dry.

Jees method by which grain cosks dry and The flesh of the creature has an unpleasant or take an interest in best, or fine poultry, his brains with a bellows and sink calmly

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS WHAT MY BROTHER JOHN THINKS

THEM. I declare. I almost wish there want to Christmas," said our sixteen-year old his "Why not?" asked brother John, lyin

down his paper in surprise. "Oh ! I am so tired and bothered haven't much money to spend, and the are so many people to be remembered to I must make things, and it takes so mad what to get for each one—" trying to think

"What do you try 'to remember' ever. body for ?" interrupted John. "Why, John," answered Kitty dishin fully, "if that isn't just like a man h cause I do-because I like them_" "All of them?" No answer. "Be how now and say because you think you men because they give you things,"

"Well, perhaps so," reluctantly. " For my part," burst out John vigoro "I am sick and tired of this kind Christmas giving. When people gave in ents because they loved somebody and wa ed to show it, or because they had a power to give lovely things to those i had less, it was beautiful; but you ha taken all the heart and spontaneity out the whole thing with your 'lists' of and aunts and rich relations, your planning and your shoppings, You are so tired cross with all the extra work and hurry to life is a burden to you and to everybe

"John, you are too severe," said lan telegraphy well, began to get wring to Kittu's resona "Kittu's resona" "Kittu's resona "Kittu's resona" "Kittu's resona "Kittu's resona" "Kittu's resona "Kittu's coming to Kitty's rescue. "Kitty has wor ed as hard for you as for any one."

"I know it and I suppose I am a sare but I don't doubt she will give me so wonderful brush-holder, or shaving case, blacking-box which is twice a much to use, as it is to do without, and I patiently fuss over it for her dear sake in month and a day, and go back to my pi tive simplicity again with a s relief after the thing hopelessly down. I don't want to hurt your feeling Kitty dear, but don't wear your nerves me, better give me a stick of lemon car for a sweet remembrance. But who you got on this troublesome list of your "Why, you and mother and Lun-

began Kitty. "Weil, Aunt Easymoney and the i are the bete noir of this family. Be they have plenty of money for luxury we have only just enough for comfort, Kitty is on the rack to keep up with the in everything, from lawn-tennis and me parties in summer to even Christman ents in the winter. Confess now, w presents to them have cost you more wa not to say money than all you have de for mother, Laura and me, and you love

" That's so John," said Laura gr " She has haunted the book and the "Why, Kitty!" began John.

"Stop, John, don't say a word, I ha "Now see here, girls," said John

"Oh, John," cried Kitty in die

"they always give us such elegant and we would feel so mean-" "Oh, if it is a system of debt and or

I haven't a word to say. I thought it

"Yes, I know, and Aunt Essym so queer and a little 'close,' Kitty rather pettishly.

"Of course you have got cousin o Strugglehard on your list?" asked changing the subject. "Oh, yes," answered Kitty briskly.

"What are you going to send her? "Well," hesitated Kitty. bought her a couple of pretty

"Two for a quarter ?" queried Jes lentlessly.

"Now, John, you are too bad, "No, I am not," answered he indig

"If ever anybody needed something? and bright she does, shut up in the country town with her flock of little dren, and not a cent for anything clothes and food. Think how one a plush banners or painted essels brighten her shabby parlor, while

"Yes, but you know, John," su eagerly, "she often says she wishes! would not send her handsome preshe can't make any in return.

"Give and take again," answered "but don't you suppose a pretty bit d own work done for love's sake, work her pride less than the two chesp chiefs given, as she knows as well just to 'give her something! "I wish you wouldn't say anything

For Papa, of Course

tens," said a blushing young lidy in clerk yesterday. " Who are they for ?" he seted For papa, of course. The God tell when he's coming."

Adding Insult to Injus Guesy, my boy. Miss Smith Gussy-" I suppose she is

Mr. Oldboy (bitterly)

bringing do thing a chiming of a passing-bell, " Tell me a story, Aunt Lettice

the story, such as you have often be a true one, please. Let me and you stroke my hair, and hat a baby I am! It's really que of me to be going to be man Do you know, Auntie, I' by glad when I think of that?

The glad when I think of that? hink that this is the last time ! an y sert year I shall be somewhe bland, perhaps, -right under course if it were a desert islan to be there with Hilary shall be thinking a mow I man the prettiest, co the world, I do think, when it by the sunshine of your st intie Lettice, I don't believe th be so beautiful as you! There-

directed to myself, Auntie." 'And very properly ! Branchin stery of your old aunt who, dellong ago, niece Rosalind. I allow that it would be hard rettier, cosier nook, in winter of me, than my little home.' "It's altogether charming!" vely girl, as she knelt on the ad took an admiring survey,—" owery paper with its birds and h he old china and the Indian c ad your arm-chair quite black nd the funny painted bookcase w o frighten me so, and the flow best of all, your portrait-gallery bres and photographs over the

In the summer, when I walk village under a blazing sun to cal and find myself at last in this co room, and smell the jessamine w in at the window so inquisitively you sitting there, busy enough, it mg your mind cool,' I think it a and yet I almost like it better no winter evening—with the firelight and dancing to the tune of your n kettle-though the outside world tiful enough to-night, and cool en Auntie Lettice, have you looked the moon became bright?" Rosalind Langdale drew her at window, and pulled back the curts the rubbed away the moisture

the church-tower and the whi moss clustering round it, the tree motionless in the moonlight, clo and there with snow, and their s most as black across the white lawn. Nature seemed asleep—d little glimmering lights about t told that there was yet warmt hidden away under the wintry sh "Ah! it is a very cold and beauty—a sort of Medusa face w

glass that they might see the fair ture beyond—the snow-covered

ice-bound river at their foot, an

to my, Come, I shall be delighte every bit of life out of you !" B tender-hearted Rosalind shiver "And yet," said Aunt Lettic voice, "I would have given ev

possessed for such a Christmas five-and-twenty years ago." Rosslind looked up surprised vent tone in which these words w She was still more astonished face, generally so peaceful, co pain. But in a moment all we and she ventured to say very ger

know why, Aunt Lettice !' "I think you may, dear ch last Christmas Eve we expect t gether," was the answer as they fireplace. "That is to say inclined for a rather sombre-co though I'll promise you it shall

Now Rosalind, with heart b with her own happiness, was think, as others in similar car thought, that she would like best So she begged for th haste to settle herself at Mi Bear with me, reader, if I

moment of the faces of aur They were not at all alike. hir and and round and rosy changing as a breezy day i dell weather. Few persons ameticed, and yet it was to tive as the older, less changi Miss Langdale's hai prenaturely white; the pink cheeks had faded, and sorrov a furrow there; but conswhat uncertain colour, cartain light from ben Bebes Every child in Reton felt the power orey one with whom Miss rected by them-enco more than any o lent to it the beau the boy, even to strang oguence of the har and repose blerde There was somethi to her friends in Mis sense of a

from year to year white lace abou cop, and a blue l Me if she were n But the answ not mourning, you all occasions