

"I'll Get You, Mr. Gobbler"

By JAMES A. EDGERTON
 (With Apologies to James Whitcomb Riley)



GEORGIE, like another George who lived in times way back,
 Took his little hatchet out to find what he could hack,
 Looked the pleasing prospect o'er and softly murmured, "Gee;
 I've no time to monkey round with any cherry tree!"
 Thought about Thanksgiving that was but two days away;
 Said, "I've got to have a turk to celebrate the day."
 Sashayed toward the turkey yard and gave a sudden shout,
 "I'll get you, Mr. Gobbler, if you Don't Watch Out!"

GOBBLER had been fattened up and given corn to gorge
 Till he was a whopper and was 'most as big as George.
 So when Georgie waved his blade with bloody, fell intent
 Turkey simply gobbled—couldn't scare him for a cent,
 Kiouked and strutted round awhile, his wattles flaming red,
 With a manner truculent that very plainly said,
 "Look sharp or I'll flog you 'fore you know what you're about,
 An' the gobbler 'll get you if you Don't Watch Out!"

I DON'T know of anything in all creation's plan
 That can scare a boy more than a turkey gobbler can.
 With his tail spread like a fan, his wings down on the ground,
 Strutting round and gobbling with a terrifying sound,
 This one made for little George, who suddenly turned tail,
 Dropped his hatchet in his flight and legged it with a wail,
 Every step imagining he heard that turkey shout,
 "The gobbler 'll get you if you Don't Watch Out!"

LATER on that Mr. Turk got his, as turkeys may,
 Specially if they are fat around Thanksgiving day.
 Father came upon the scene and set a pace so hot,
 Strutting gobbler had to execute the turkey trot.
 George, who saw his enemy with head upon the block,
 Didn't shed a single tear or feel a single shock,
 But when served his portion waved his drumstick with a shout,
 "We got you, Mr. Gobbler, 'cause you Didn't Watch Out!"

BEGGING BY RAGAMUFFINS.

Unusual Feature of Thanksgiving Celebration in New York.
 In some ways the celebration of Thanksgiving in the metropolis is similar to that in other parts of the country. For example, the New Yorkers stuffs himself with turkey and other things and feels only thankful because he is full. In one aspect, however, Gotham's observance of the day is distinctive. This is the ragamuffin parade of the children. Dressing themselves up in rags or in outlandish costumes, the little folks start out begging pennies, ringing doorbells, hitting passersby with stockings filled with flour and parading through the streets in great mobs led by bands consisting of wash boilers, tin horns and almost anything else that will make a noise.
 Nobody seems to know how the custom originated, but it is growing from year to year. Little is said about it in the newspapers, but any one on the streets on Thanksgiving day is apt to be made acquainted with it. He or she will be fortunate not to be slammed over the back with a flour filled stocking. Some of the children's parades are really quite elaborate affairs, being the limit in the grotesque and in boy antics.

THANKSGIVING.

By GRACE M'KINSTRY.
WE'RE glad to be living
 To join in Thanksgiving.
 This holiday time—who can match it?
 Cut thoughts dark and murky
 As well as the turkey

And let the cran-berry the hatchet,
 Go welcome Aunt Hannah
 And Cousin Susanna
 And all the kin coming to dinner,
 For each one's so pleasant,
 And, times like the present,
 The pump-kin is also a winner.



England's Motto.
 "Dieu et Mon Droit"—"God and My Country"—the royal motto of England, was the parole of the day given by Richard I. (he of the lion heart) to his army at the battle of Gisors, in France, on the 20th of September, 1198, when the French army was signally defeated. Dieu et mon droit appears to have been first assumed as a motto by Henry VI. (1422-1461). Semper Idem—"Always the Same"—was one of the mottoes of Queen Elizabeth; also adopted by Queens Mary and Anne.—Exchange.

A Substitute.
 "Pardon me, gentlemen," said the individual who had just moved into the little town as he entered the grocery store, "but is there a chicken raiser here?"
 "Why don't you take an ax?" asked the village Tallyrand. "A razor will lose its edge if you use it on a chicken."
 —Judge.

Knew What She Was Doing.
 Nell—Oh, Jack, I wish you could have seen Milly this afternoon. She literally threw herself at Jack Wright.
 Jack—Ah, well, she knew he was a good catch.

To know the disease is the commencement of the cure.—Don Quixote.

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BOYS WHO DID BIG THINGS.

Many of the World's Great Men Won Fame in Their Youth.

Some of the greatest achievements in the world have been made by youth, and it will always be so in human history. David, the sweet singer of Israel, was a shepherd, a poet and a general before he was twenty and a king at the age of eighteen. Raphael had practically completed his life work at the age of thirty-seven. He did no great artistic work after that age. James Watt, even as a boy, as he watched the steam coming out of the teakettle, saw in it the new world of mechanical power made possible by the old element turned and driven by a simple appliance.

Cortez was master of Mexico before he was thirty-six. Schubert died at the age of thirty-one after having composed what may perhaps be called in some ways the most entrancing melody ever written. Charlemagne was master of France and the greatest emperor of the world at the age of thirty. Shelley wrote "Queen Mab" when he was only twenty-one and was a master of poetry before he was twenty-five.

Patrick Henry was able to shape the revolutionary history of a new country before he was thirty and astonish the world by his oratory before he was twenty-six years old. At the age of twenty-four Ruskin had written "Modern Painters," and Bryant, while still a boy of high school age, had written "Thanatopsis." Robert Burns wrote some of his greatest songs while he was a plowboy.—London Answers.

MADE THE CLERKS WORK.

A Senator Wanted Information and Found a Way to Get It.

"Congress makes lots of unnecessary trouble for the government clerks," said a veteran employee, "but the worst case I know of occurred some years ago. A certain senator asked the comptroller of the currency to tell him how much stock a certain man had in a national bank. He was informed that such information was regarded as confidential and could not be given out.

"We'll see about that," said the senator, who was plainly disappointed and displeased.

Several days later he secured the passage of a resolution calling upon the secretary of the treasury to furnish the senate with the names and holdings of the stockholders in all the national banks in the country. He really wanted to know only the interest of one man in a bank, but he knew that he couldn't get a resolution of that kind through the senate, so he included the stockholders in all national banks.

"It took the entire force of the comptroller's office several weeks to prepare the information, and when it reached the senate nobody paid any attention to it except the author of the resolution, and he merely looked at the mass of papers only long enough to see about the man he was after and then tossed the papers aside. It was an immense lot of work for nothing."
 —Washington Star.

A Wonderful Toy.

Perhaps the most wonderful toy in the world is owned by a Russian prince, who lavished a fortune of \$60,000 on a mechanical theater. The stage is fitted up with every accessory in the shape of scenery and machinery that modern skill has devised, and the actors are figures as large as life, all dressed as sumptuously and appropriately as their living prototypes. The prince's repertoire covers almost all the most popular operas, and it is only necessary to press a button to set the whole marvelous machinery in motion. The actors make their entry on the stage and play their varied parts with appropriate gesture, while a number of phonographs supply the vocal parts in the voices of the leading operatic singers.

Pretty Poor Singers.
 "Why doesn't your wife sing to the baby when it cries?"
 "We've found out that the neighbors would rather listen to the baby."
 —Mother's Journal.

A Great Plant.
 "What do you think will finally be selected as our national plant?"
 "Well, it is dollars to dimes it will be the mint."
 —Baltimore American.



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