

Tree Outfits

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d commercial city of South is situated inland from 95 miles by water and 112 Il, and is located in the ferdelta country, in which e West, North and East rivreign trade Canton ranks g Chinese ports, being exvolume by Shanghai and

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us Ameridan Patriot e Declaration of Independat the age of ninety-six. even, where he soon bea strong advocate of libnty-two years before his fred to private life.

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we recommend the placing of

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MIRACLE OF THE THORN STAFF

That is Often Repeated in England at Christmas Time.

It is one of the prettiest legends of ancient Britain—the old Christmas story of the thorn of Glastonbury. William of Malmesbury, the chronicler, told it hundreds of years ago in his "Antiques of Glastonbury." It is repeated often at Christmas time England.

The legend tells how Joseph of Arlmathea, was so persecuted by Pontius Pilate, because he had laid away the body of Christ in his sepulcher, that he fled to Gaul, carrying with him under a cloth of mystical white samite, the Holy Grail. In Gaul he found the Apostle Philip, preaching to the heathen, and he rested with him a few days.

One night a radiant light awakened him, and an angel bade him go to Britain and preach the giad tidings to King Arvigatrus; and, where a Christnias miracle should come to pass

there to build a church. He and a band of followers followed the instructions of the angel, and Arvigatrus gave them the Isle of Avalon, and bade them erect an altar there to the new God. It was a beautiful gift. The tiny isle lay warm in a verdant valley. Sparkling waves softly lapped its shore. Soft breezes played in its trees, and nowhere was the sky so blue as over Avalon.

When they reached the top of the hill called Weary All, Joseph planted his thorn staff he had carried with blossomed a bush of beautiful white

"This is where we will build our church," the good man said, and so, at Glastonbury Abbey-for so Avalon is known today—the thorn bushes bloom white at each Christmas time, lend their fragrance to the frosty air, and remind all who see them of the Christmas miracle.

MISTLETOE

Something Like 300 Varieties in th World-Pink Berries Found Only Cedar Trees,

There are about 300 kinds of mistle oe in the world, and each variety grows on the branches of trees and has little white or pink berries, says St. Nicholas. But the pink berrie are found on only the cedar trees. The mistletoe, unlike other plants, gets no food directly from the ground. In stead, it gets its nourishment from the trees on which it grows.

Another curious thing about the mis tletoe is that though it blossoms earlier in the year than the tree on which it grows, yet the little berries do not ripen before December. Maybe that is because it has to steal its food from the trees, and therefore cannot riper early. The very name "mistletoe" gives some idea of its insignificance. In the Anglo Saxon language "mist" means gloom, and it comes in mid-win-

ter, the gloomiest time of the year, The gathering of mistletoe was very important ceremony among the ancient Druids. About five days after the new moon they marched in stately procession to the forest and raised an altar of straw beneath the finest mistletoe-bearing oak they could find. The arch-Druid would ascend the oak, and, with a jeweled knife, remove the sacred mistletoe. The others stood beneath the tree and caught the plan upon a white cloth, for, if a portion of it touched the earth, it was an ome of misfortune to the land.

And this is doubtless the reason why it is still the custom to hang it from the ceiling and why it is supposed to ose its charm if it touches the floor.

MY CHRISTMAS TREE.

mas music, soft and clear.

merry Christmas, it seems to say,

A merry, happy, holy day!

Last Christmas a young man way invited to dinner at the house of one of the leading men in the town. At the dinner table he was placed op-

The lady of the house was seated on the young man's left. Seeing the goose, he remarked: "Shall I sit so close to the goose?"

he turned round to the lady and said in a most inoffensive tone: "Excuse me, Mrs. Blank, I meant the roast one."

Finding his words a bit equivocal

Christmas Thanks. For little children everywhere A joyous season still we make, And bring our precious gifts to them Even for the dear child Jesus' sake. -Cary.

THE CHRIST CHILD

And through the street with noisele

The Christ-child walks tonight.

At silent gates, outside He walts

To find a fitting spot. Be thine the shame, if through The Christ-child enters not.

Where joyous notes from The old glad song begin, Where love impels and kindness dwells, The Christ-child enters in,

Though green the walls and bright th

To earth's enraptured ears Good will to men and peace, again The Christ-child, listening, hears.

He cannot be a guest

Enters, and there abides. ingels know best how such are blest Through all the Christmastides.



CHRISTMAS FACTS IN BRIEF

Day Celebrated as Christian Festival for Centuries-Holly Once a Sacred Plant.

Christmas day is the anniversary of him on his long journeys over land the birth of Christ, and has been celeand sea, deep into the ground, and lo brated as a Christian festival for sevit took root, and immediately there eral centuries. The Christmastide lasts from the 25th of December to the 6th of January, the twelfth day after Christ's nativity.

The origin of the Christmas tree is obscure; the thought of Christ as the Light of the World and the Tree of Life may have given rise to the lightbearing tree, or the popular old belief that every Christmas eve, trees blossemed and bore fruit, may have been the foundation of the custom.

Gift-giving is, of course, the ech of the Wise Men's gifts; and mince pie, turkey and plum puddings are modern relics of the pagan feasts. Santa Claus, known to every child in every land in this old world is the personification of the spirit of loving and

The holly, synonymous of Christmas, was a sacred plant, and the mistletee a mysterious plant, supposed by the ancient Druids to have some mystic power of healing and preventing misfortune. It was never allowed to touch the ground, hence the modern superstition that it is unlucky for a mistletoe bough to fall from its place. It was dedicated to the Goddess Love, which explains the custom of kissing under the mistletoe.

A SEASONABLE SERMONETTE

C Cheerfulness is a personal posse s'on, but you can

H Hand some of it on to those whose

weary, drab lives R Represent naught but a grim strug-

gle to exist, whose Inheritance is labour and sorrow

-stranger to joy. So, in kindly spirit, go forth, seek,

These joyless ones. Bring some

cheer into their lives. Make if a Christmas resolve that

yeu will, out of your

Abundance or sufficiency, with kindly heart, the

8 Sun to shine at Christmas in o poor home at least.

D Do this, and the deed shall bring you such sweet joy A And satisfaction that the remem

brance of it will make Y Your own Christmas a "happy" one in deed and in truth.

YULETIDE.



Daughter-Say, pa, what go you vant me to get you for Christmas? De Close-Well, if it's all the sam to you, I'll just keep the money.

Christmas is not just a day of tree-trimming and toy-giving for the kiddles-not just a holfday for youngsters to outgrow. Its spirit is of the heart, the soul -communal between us and all those whom we hold dearly as our friends. It changes not however we may. May its glow be reflected for you through all the coming year.

Christmas All the Year! Every time that Christmas comes around again we wonder why we haven't cultivated the Christmas spirit all the year.

Interviewing the Minister. My brother was married young and felt embarrassed. He went to interview the minister relative to the cer mony, and after much stammering and many blushes, managed this surprising request: "Will you come up to the house and marry me and an-

other girl?"-Chicago Tribune.

Life of the Wasp. With the coming of winter the life of the wasp ceases, but until that time they are most exemplary creatures There are no lazy folk in waspland Labor and effort are evenly divided in a nest of wasps. Some assume the duty of plundering, going out in search of food, while others act as policeme

Norway Must Import Sweetstuffs. Norway produces no sugar within its own borders and the sweet sirups produced from vegetable sources are o slight importance, so that country is in a position of almost absolute de pendence on imports for its sweetening materials.

Drunk With Love. "'Oh, Amorous Dove' by this imposing queen, was one of the best sots of the evening."-New York Times.



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