

SOME CHRISTMAS GIFTS

By Elisa Armstrong

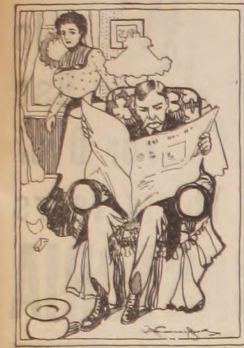
WHEN you give a Christmas present there is everything in having it suitable," remarked Mrs. Wilder. "You agree with me in that, don't you, Tom?"

"Mhm," replied Mr. Wilder, who had been married 20 years. He did not for one instant detach his mind from his paper, as he gave this positive assurance.

"Yes, indeed, when I go selecting Christmas presents I put my whole mind upon it. No haphazard, indiscriminate present buying for me! I select something which is sure to please the recipient, because it is something which she really wants. Now, there is Laura; she is near-sighted, you know, and I bought her a lovely pair of opera glasses. She will be so pleased with them that she will send me something even more expensive in return."

"Mhm," replied Mr. Wilder, without looking up from his paper.

"I thought you would agree with me. Then there is Suzanne. I have sent her a lovely set of kitchen aprons, with pockets enough to delight the heart of any housekeeper. As for Ethel, I have, after much



"DON'T BELIEVE YOU HAVE HEARD A SINGLE WORD."

thought, selected her a beautiful umbrella with a handle which will exactly suit her taste. I shall expect something very nice from both of them, if only in return for my thoughtfulness."

"Mhm," replied Mr. Wilder, as he turned a page.

"Yes, and then there is Helen. I thought a great deal over her present. As she is a settled old maid and lives alone, it was hard to find something sure to please her. Finally I thought of a cat and got her a lovely Angora; wasn't it thoughtful of me? Of course, she will never marry and a cat is almost as good as a man about the house—both of them are difficult to please about their eating and so hard to keep in the house at night."

"Mhm," replied Mr. Wilder, as he ran his eye up a column.

"Yes, and I sent them all out by a messenger boy an hour ago. Here he comes back with a lot of notes, full of gratitude. I know because each gift was so suitable. O, Tom, listen!"

"Dear Maria: Thank you so much for the lovely opera glasses you so thoughtfully sent me. They will no doubt be exceedingly useful when we no longer live in a suburb which is inaccessible after ten p. m."

"LAURA:

"Well, that is merely an accident, and the rest of my presents are so suitable—that's all, Tom."

"Dear Aunt: It was lovely of you to send me those beautiful kitchen aprons. They are the admiration of every woman in the boarding house where I live."

"SUZANNE:

"Oh, dear, I quite forgot that she is boarding; but the rest—Tom!"

"Dear Maria: It was very kind of you to send me such a lovely umbrella. I shall no doubt find it extremely useful as a rainy day companion when I have sufficiently recovered from the rheumatism to venture out when there is a cloud in the sky."

"EFFIE:

"Oh, my goodness, but there is Helen left. Surely her present—"

"Dear Maria: I appreciate your kindness in sending me such a lovely cat, but as I am about to marry a widower with seven children I fear that I shall not very well know what to do with it. Yours, lovingly,

"HELEN:

"Oh, Tom, isn't it aw—look here, Tom Wilder, I don't believe you have heard a single word of what I have been saying!"

"Mhm," replied Mr. Wilder, without looking up from his paper.

JOKES FROM LAST YEAR'S STOCKINGS

Consideration.
"Christmas is when people show how much they think of one another, isn't it?" said Mrs. Blykins.

"It is," answered her husband, with his characteristic glance of gloom. "It's when all the husbands begin to wear rag-time neckties and smoke rag-weed cigars, because they love the giver."—Washington Star.

The Worm Turned.
Mrs. Cobwigger—"While it's true that women wear men's neckties, you surely couldn't expect me to appear in public in such a monstrosity as this. Where in the world did you ever get such a tie?"

Cobwigger—"My dear, that's the one you bought for me last Christmas."—Judge.

The Every-Day Girl.
She goes to church, but not a sacred thing comes to her mind—indeed, her thoughts are shocked.

For while the choristers their carols sing, she thinks of what was in her Christmas stocking.

—Judge.

A Precaution.
"Why are you laying in such a big stock of neckties?"

"I don't want my wife to have any excuse for buying me one for a Christmas gift."—N. Y. Truth.

Appearances Against It.
Bobby—"Ma says Santa Claus will visit us to-night."

Ethel—"I don't believe it! Ma wouldn't be going round in that old dress if she expected any visitors!"—Puck.

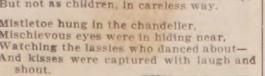
Pater Familias.
Some call old Santa Claus a myth and think his power has waned here; but, as for me, I can assure you—each year I find his reign dear.

—Puck.

MISTLETOE MAGIC

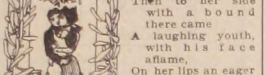
By Frank B. Welch.

UNDER the mistletoe branch at play in years long gone, on a Christmas day, I had had lassie, with stolen kiss, imbibed the sweets of ecstatic bliss.



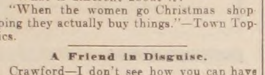
Later in life, when the years had flown, and youth and maiden had wither grown, again they met on a Christmas day, but not as children, in careless way.

Mistletoe hung in the chandelier, mischievous eyes were in hiding near, watching the lassies who danced about—and kisses were captured with laugh and about.



Into the frolic a baby strayed, toddling about, not at all afraid, and, as it happened, the tiny tot paused right upon the mistletoe spot.

Forth to the rescue a maiden came, setting the wee one, a kiss to claim, and for a moment she lingered there, holding the babe to her cheek so fair.



Then to her side with a bound there came a laughing youth, with his face aflame, on her lips an eager kiss he pressed, and maid and babe with his arms caressed.

Was laid and laced of the bygone day, who long had loved in a bashful way, and there was renewed their childhood's troth, with looks that spoke from the hearts of both.

There is a Difference.
"Christmas shopping isn't like other shopping," confided Mr. Gazzam to Mr. Ten spot.

"What is different about it?"

"When the women go Christmas shopping they actually buy things."—Town Topics.

A Friend in Disguise.
Crawford—"I don't see how you can have a good word for the Christmas crowds."

Crabshaw—"Why, old boy, I undertook to accompany my wife on her shopping tour, and if it hadn't been for the crowd I could never have lost her in the first store we entered."—N. Y. World.

A Definition.
Little Elmer—"Papa, what is a Christmas green?"

Prof. Broadhead—"A Christmas green, my son, is a young man who, having fallen out with his best girl early in December, makes up with her in time to be compelled to buy her a Christmas present."—Judge.

Just the Thing.
Mrs. Bingo—"I want to send my cousin a Christmas present as a remembrance. Something that has no value."

Bingo—"Why don't you send her that progressive euchre prize that you won the other night?"—Brooklyn Life.

WANTS ALL TO KNOW IT.



Little Boy (who has received a watch for Christmas)—"Say, mister, would you like to know what time it is?"—Flyingeet Bliet-ter.

Our Book Offer.

We will give the following books with the STAR AND HERALD for 1901 as follows:

War in South Africa, \$2.

Uncle Tom's Cabin, \$2.25.

Victorious Republicanism, \$2.25.

Victorious Democracy, \$2.25.

The Splendors of Paris and the Beauties of Her Expositions, \$2.25.

Glimpses of South Africa in 18 parts, \$2.75.

These books are all handsomely illustrated and bound in cloth.

The conditions are that your subscription must be paid in advance, and all the offers include the STAR AND HERALD for one year.

The most effective little liver pills made are DeWitt's Little Early Risers. They never gripe. A. K. Beltzhoover Druggist.

When you need a soothing and healing antiseptic application for any purpose, use the original DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, a well known cure for piles and skin diseases. It heals sores without leaving a scar. Beware of counterfeits. A. K. Beltzhoover Druggist. d

Every time a wise man fails it teaches him something.

Help is needed at once when a person's life is in danger. A neglected cough or cold may soon become serious and should be stopped at once. One Minute Cough Cure quickly cures coughs and colds and the worst cases of croup, bronchitis, grippe and other throat and lung troubles. A. K. Beltzhoover, druggist. d

More failures are due to lack of will than to lack of strength.

When the stomach is tired out it must have a rest, but we can't live without food. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure "digests what you eat" so that you can eat all the good food you want while it is restoring the digestive organs to health. It is the only preparation that digests all kinds of food. A. K. Beltzhoover, druggist. d

The best maple sirup comes from the north side of the tree, but the flow is not so large as when the tree is tapped on the south side.

Among the tens of thousands who have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for colds and the grippe during the past few years, to our knowledge, not a single case has resulted in pneumonia. Thos. Whitfield & Co., 240 Wabash avenue, Chicago, one of the most prominent retail druggists in that city, in speaking of this, says: "We recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for the grippe in many cases, as it not only gives prompt and complete recovery, but also counteracts any tendency of the grippe to result in pneumonia." For sale by A. K. Beltzhoover. d

The people of Nevada have a chance to spread themselves. It has more area for its residents than has any other state. There are two square miles for each person. Rhode Island is the most densely populated state, with 818 inhabitants for each square mile.

The Latest Song
and how it goes is always of interest to some but the condition of one's health should be first in the line of consideration. If you take Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin you can't have indigestion or stomach trouble. That is certain. A. K. Beltzhoover. d

Does Your Stomach Distress You?
Do you have pain in the side, nausea, sometimes vomiting, distress after eating, belching, constipation, loss of appetite, dizziness, flatulence, moth patches, sluggish looks, pimples and a repulsive complexion? If you have any of these symptoms, you have dyspepsia or stomach disorder. The new discovery, Bailey's Dyspepsia Tablets, brings quick relief, followed by a permanent cure; pleasant to take. W. J. Bailey, written on each package. Price 25 cents, postpaid. Made by Lakeside Medicine Co., Chicago. Sample free. Well informed doctors prescribe them. Sold by G. A. Seymour. a

A Keen Clear Brain.
Your best feelings, your social position or business success depend largely on the perfect action of your Stomach and Liver. Dr. King's New Life Pills give increased strength, a keen, clear brain, high ambition. A 25c box will make you feel like a new being. Sold by A. K. Beltzhoover, Dwight, and C. V. Green, Braceville.

Chap Rates.
There are now very low passenger rates from all points in Illinois to Minnesota, No. Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

These rates are cheaper than ever before quoted from Illinois and they are made with view of settling the country on and tributary to the Northern Pacific Ry.

Land is placed at a very low figure and wonderful opportunities await those who now purchase land if the purchase is made in a good locality, the purchaser could get rich much faster than even the farmer who bought land in Illinois a few years ago.

These cheap rates apply to both one way and round trip tickets and as they may be taken off at any time you could write at once for rates and descriptive publications.

C. A. Matthews, Nor. Pac. Ry., 208 So. Clark St. Chicago.

DeWitt's Little Early Risers are dainty little pills, but they never fail to cleanse the liver, remove obstructions and invigorate a system. A. K. Beltzhoover Druggist. d

It is easier to find fault than it is to get gain.

Don't use any of the counterfeits of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. Most of them are worthless or liable to cause injury. The original DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve is a certain cure for piles, eczema, cuts, scalds, burns, sores and skin diseases. A. K. Beltzhoover, druggist. d

Seventy-five per cent of the population of Manitowish, Wis., are invalids and exiles from their homes. Nearly every state and territory affixed civilized country in the world is represented.

Now is the time when croup and lung troubles prove rapidly fatal. The only harmless remedy that produces immediate results is One Minute Cough Cure. It is very pleasant to take and can be relied upon to quickly cure coughs, colds and all lung diseases. It will prevent consumption. A. K. Beltzhoover, druggist. d

Hartford, Conn., is building a million dollar bridge.

If you would have an appetite like a bear and a relish for your meals take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They correct disorders of the stomach and regulate the liver and bowels. Price, 25 cents. Samples free, at A. K. Beltzhoover's drug store. d

New Songs Not Catchy?
New play too dull? New opera too long? Why, what ails you? Is it indigestion? Get a bottle of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. It keeps one straight the year around. I buy it at A. K. Beltzhoover's. d

Agents Wanted.
The Mutual Indemnity Company of Chicago, Illinois, issues the best health, accident and funeral benefit policy in existence. Its protection and cost meet the wants and approval of all. A thoroughly reliable and active agent wanted. Give references and write for full particulars.

Lady Correspondent Wanted.
I want to hear from any lady who has Stomach Trouble. I will recommend Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin and guarantee it to cure.

Yours truly, A. K. Beltzhoover.

The Best Plaster.
A piece of flannel dampened with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and bound to the affected parts is superior to any plaster. When troubled with lame back or pains in the side or chest, give it a trial and you are certain to be more than pleased with the prompt relief which it affords. Pain Balm also cures rheumatism. One application gives relief. For sale by A. K. Beltzhoover. d

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Music hath charms, &c., &c., and when in need of a first class Piano or Organ, or in fact any Standard Musical Instrument if you will call on me I will sell you the same and deliver it at your home for less money than you can get the same instrument for at the factory. I will also insure the instrument and all your personal property at a more reasonable rate than you have been getting from your old liners. Remember I write my own policy; I do not take your application and keep you waiting from three to six weeks for your policy and then perhaps have it rejected by the General Agent. When you insure with me you take your policy home in your pocket or you can, if you wish, have it in my fire-proof vault and I will guarantee its safe keeping. Don't forget I have all kinds of Houses, Cottages, Shops, Hotel Buildings and Stores for sale or rent.

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