THE FOOL'S SEARCH

EPISODE IN JOSTLING THRONG OF CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.

Order for Purchase of a Fool's Candar Brings Funny Experiences —Men, Women and Children All Are Mad.

THEY are all mad; men, women, children, spinsters and bachelors, floorwalkers and clerks, drivers and delivery boys. It would seem there could be no madder, merrier times.

The funniest things happen. If one only had time to dwell on them and laugh over them, but such enjoyment is denied in these days of strife and struggle.

In a moment of thoughtless, good nature we promised to do the faintly shopping. Among the thousand and one commissions handed over in immediate response to the thoughtless good-nature was the order for purchase of "The Fool's Calendar." We set forth, a list three-times-forty long in our grasp—big, much-abused hand-bag—and entered the first shop come upon. In our sub-consciousness feeling that we, like the rest of the jobbers, fitted in pretty well with the title of that calendar. Down the aisle came a rattled-looking, hair-disturbed, generally disturbed gentleman whose province seemed the directing of frenzied fanciers to the respective departments of their fancy, but, the Christmas spirit so possessed him he was not quite himself, not able to place his "Madames" and "Mrs." As abor-skirted, rose-wreathed belted, we steered his way, he glanced with wrinkled brow and questioning worry to what might be our demand. "Do you sell calendars here?" We asked in best of hurry, to which he replied, glibly, "Yes, Sir," and never knew he was not taking the usual form of address to a woman. He led us then with rapid step to the calendar square, where spread out and uprose floor, roof and pillars of calendars. It would seem every time—chronicler for every taste. And then feeling very like a fool ourselves, we asked in a low voice, "Have you 'The Fool's Calendar?'" "No," says he, "But," and a gleam of keen intellect lights his eye, "We have 'Saints and Sinners.'"

We wanted to shriek with laughter. We forgot all the hurry and not-money-enough or time-enough. It paid for all the crowding and jostling and back-ache and heart-ache of the day.

Funny enough was the woman encountered in mid-afternoon entering the much-advertised, much-crowded book-room of a department store in haste to get at the forty-eight centers and thirty-three; she was high and broad and muscular, an Amazon that need not have put on extra effort to make her way—but the spirit of Christmas—the modern—was strong upon her,—and as we passed her on the way out into blessed out-of-doors, even in our hurry we could not but notice her wild look, her panting breath, her elbows out on defensive and offensive the way in which she marched on, unswervingly, unrelentingly, like an avalanche, toward the bargain books.

Overheard at the book counter: "Don't you think a nice little book like this is a good present to give?" "A little book? What is the use of it? "Why I don't know, but it's a nice little book in clean white binding. I believe I'll get a dozen. A dozen, please, and see that they're all fresh."

The calendar square again. Women madly struggling; another Amazon, this one bow-bedecked, a pale-faced girl afflicted with a cold and, wearing a too-much Christmas air. "Can't you get me envelopes to put those calendars in?"—dimensions of calendars 18 by 24 inches—"It's so hard when you get home to hunt around and pack things. I wouldn't have bought the calendars if I hadn't thought you would pack 'em. Say, take that new one out of that nice box, hang it up and give me the box. Not allowed to? What's the diff, they'll never know." And the pale-faced clerk bends to the Amazon's will.

A large, canny, prosperous gentleman at a candy store, carefully selecting and considering purchase of 25 cents worth of Kindergarten mixed.

Brave, foolish, big-hearted boys: girls many spending their present, all and drawing on the future, to make a Christmas for the army at home.

We do a generous deed, one that calls for large sacrifice. We have gone down town all saddled, all bridled, for the day's work, three neat boy pencils sharpened to long points, when we become one of a mob assailing the enclosure where blank books, (tissue paper), bright ribbons and all that are confirmed from the greedy hands of thousands hungry to get their share for the urgent necessity of doing up gifts with approved artistic complexity. The clerks look all pale and grippe-y looking; one, so was and pallid, has momentarily lost her reason because of the loss of her pencil. A line of people wait with feverish impatience, scowls deepen, muttered growls are heard, the wee, pallid girl grows more pallid and grippe-y looking. With mighty effort of the will, we tame both one of those precious, neat, long-pointed pencils; the pale face glows, the tension of the crowd lessens, we feel ourselves both pri ze and conqueror.

Another pale-faced, grippe-y looking clerk, this one standing looking wistfully at cases where bright silver glasses through the glass. "Give me a spoon for a child, something cheap," And she herself needs a pair of those!

Husband and wife shopping in unwonted amicability, sympathy, always the talk of what "it" will like, The Child. And the sight of the deeply interested faces of the many husband and-wife groups, sets us to believe after all, that the method in the general madness, for who would not be a fool for The Child's sake!

KATHERINE POPE.

The wise man begs to express much more than proverbial wishes that his entire clientele may enjoy the merriest of merry Christmases.

THE PRINCE OF PEACE

By JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL

"What means this glory round our feet,"
The Magi mused, "more bright than morn?"
And voices chanted clear and sweet,
"Today the Prince of Peace is born."

"What means that star,' the shepherds said,
That brightens through the rocky glen?"
And angels, answering overhead,
Sang, "Peace on earth, good-will to men."

And they who do their souls no wrong,
But keep at ev the faith of morn,
Shall daily hear the angel's song,
"Today the Prince of Peace is born!"

For Your Christmas Dinner

WE have a large stock of Turkeys, Ducks, Geese and Chickens—poultry of the finest quality—which will be sold at prices which you cannot better at any other market. Call us up—phone No. 491—and let us reserve a turkey or other fowl for you. Don't be afraid to use the telephone or send the children when buying here. We serve you the same as when you come in person. We want to call your attention to our home-cured Bacon and Hams. They are especially fine. Try them.

CAN YOU BEAT THESE PRICES?

Sirloin Steak	17c	Pork Chops	15c
Porterhouse Steak	17c	Pork Roast	12½c
Round Steak	14c	Side Pork	15c
Shoulder	10c up	Leaf Lard, loose	13c
Plate Beef	9c	Fresh Liver Sausage and Rinderwurst	10c
Corn Beef	8c to 12c	Veal and Lamb at lowest prices	
Hamburger	10c	Beef and Pork sold in Halves and Quarters at lowest prices	
Pork Sausage	Loose 10c, Links 12c	Oysters, quart	35c

ALL KINDS OF FISH EVERY FRIDAY

Fruits and Vegetables of All Kinds

APPLES BY THE BARREL, BUSHEL OR SACK

Irish Potatoes, peck	20c
Apples, peck	40c up
Apples, barrel	$4.50 up
Cranberries, quart	10c

GEORGE J. WENNINGER

The Real Culprit

☆ ☆ ☆

A mistletoe berry
Hid caught in her hair!
She wasn't to blame,
She had not put it there,
That mistletoe berry
A-tilt in her hair.

Lips red as a cherry,
It hardly was fair,—
Yes, she wasn't to blame,
For it's clear that the same
Was the fault of the berry
That caught in her hair.

THE CALL OF CHRISTMAS

Inspiration of Time Should Bring Us Deeper Sense of Personal Responsibility.

It is Christmas time, and at this moment the call is to lift up our hearts and welcome the Light of the World, to rest for a while in the glory of that light, opt, indeed, forgetting the lessons he would have us learn, nor those great servants of his who taught us to know and love and work and have passed away, but in thankfulness and adoration seeking to learn more and more how he would have us serve him. The inspiration of this blessed time should bring us a deeper sense of personal responsibility, and of our duty to our neighbor in regard to questions touching the general welfare and, beyond all, a deeper faith, that faith by which mountains can be removed—slid a truer love, a devotion that can bear even the reproach of the cross. If pentecostian may but be granted to share in bearing a part of that burden.

The advent of Christ makes us debtors to God and man. It is therefore not for us to question whether others are kind to us, as whether there is love, gentleness, meekness, sympathy and helpfulness in our own lives, or not. With this spirit of the season reflected and perpetuated in the life Christian giving will resolve itself into Christ-like giving every day from Christmastide to Christmastide or every year of grace. Christ came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, to suffer, and to die for others, even his enemies. Rather far above the lower aim of getting and gaining solely for self, the grateful heart will ask: "What can I give to my Redeemer who gave himself for me, and what can I do for others, for souls, for the gospel?" That is the reincarnation of the Christ spirit, and realizing him who said: "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."

Our early days will not, indeed, come back; yet is Christmas an Indian summer, and it will bring us back—a reviving reminiscence of youth.

Crown the Christ Child King

At Christmas time we celebrate the birthday of our King. The wise men came from the far east, attracted by the light of the star, to find and worship the King. This blessed day is lighted by a star that ought to attract our attention and lead us in the same direction and to the same end. That time of music and glad festivities should be especial emphasis on the birthday of Jesus of Nazareth. It is our privilege to go, in the Babe of Bethlehem, the King of kings and Lord of lords. Our vision should be more clear to us than to the wise men of old. They had none of the helps that quicken our eyesight. We may remember the life he lived, the work he did, the sacrifice he made, and the influence he has exerted and is exerting to this very hour.

Never man spake like this man, concerning God, man, life, life, death, truth, immortality, and the war for ever. He has drawn the intellect of the world to himself.

His ideals have inspired civilizations and turned the currents of history into new channels. He has compelled the world to accept his ideas of greatness and the value of human life. He has drawn the art of the world to himself, for the greatest paintings of the ages reflect his glory. He has drawn the music of the world to himself, for the mighty masterpieces of this realm tell the story of his work and influence. He has drawn the thought of the world to himself, for there never was one about whom so many books have been written. His life and words have been the inspiration of the modern altruism that is doing so much to lift humanity to higher and better levels. He is rapidly drawing the heart of the world to himself by drawing the lives of men to himself.

He shall reign, King of kings and Lord of lords. Because he humbled himself and made himself of no reputation and took upon him the form of a servant, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, therefore God hath highly exalted him and given him a name that is above every name. We will not crown the Christ Lord of all in our hearts here we shall not be called upon to crown him King of eternity. Let us crown the Christ Child our King in the here and now.

Saving the Value of Manure.

Hoeing manure directly into the field as soon as made and scattering it is the safest method. Manure by this method nothing is lost by fermentation and very little by bleaching. When the manure is plowed under the fermentation takes place slowly, and no nitrogen is lost. The carbon dioxide and acids produced unite with the other elements in the soil and result in more plant food being made available. All the organic matter is saved for humus in the soil.

The Syrian New Year

THE Christians of New York do not observe Christmas as a time for Santa Claus. The Syrians, for instance, who live in the lower end of Manhattan island in Washington street, from the battery up to Albany street, have an old custom of giving their presents on New Year's day. There there is a difference in the manner of giving The Syrian children do not hang up their stockings Neither do the parents disguise themselves as Santa Claus. On the contrary The Syrian child invariably knows who is going to be his Santa Claus, and consequently is treated to no extraordinary surprise. There is one thing however of which he remains in ignorance and that is the nature of the present he will receive.

The child picks out whomever he thinks will treat him best in case he is good and he morning and greeting him at the proper time on New Year's day Then comes a long vigil for midnight, when a person is supposed to visit the one who offers the first greeting, at which point he is entitled to a reward.

Custom prescribes that the times of this New Year's greeting whatever the one greeted happens to hold in his hand becomes the property of the oth er. The one who received the greeting is supposed to be so pleased with it that acting upon the happy impulse he immediately hands over to him quite his greeter with whatever he, good or bad, may happen. This later custom originated in feudal times, when the donor was compelled to be generous and his followers depended for their sustenance upon his gifts and what he allowed of the plunders of war.

Of course you can't nowadays surprise any Syrian early New Year's day fooling with a costly article. He can be depended on as knowing better, for either he would have to make a gift of it to the one who first greeted him, or else he branded as a miser, and no one would care to hand to the children who greet them.

Christmas Giving.

There are a great many people in the world whose income more or less, but to whom for various reasons we cannot well avoid a Christmas gift. But there is hardly one, in all the circles of our acquaintance, with whom we may not exchange the touch of Christmas life

In the inner circles, cheerful greetings, courtesy, consideration; in the inner circles, sympathetic interest, hearty congratulations, honest encouragement; in the humoist circles, comradeship, helpfulness, tenderness.

After all, Christmas-living is the best kind of Christmas giving.—Henry Van Dyke

A Useful Christmas Gift

A Christmas present, to be most highly appreciated, must be something that is not only pretty, but useful. In our Men's Furnishing Store will be found many such articles. Every man needs Shirts, Collars, Ties, Gloves, Socks, Hats, Caps, etc. and will receive such gifts very thankfully. Our's is a new store, hence our stock is new and up-to-date, which adds a valuable important factor, especially in choosing Holiday Goods. Fashionable articles and ones that are reliable will not fail to please. Come in and see what we have, then you will buy.

Men's and Boys' Shirts

All put up in neatly decorated holiday boxes:

Silver Brand Shirts for men, white and figured, plaited and negligee at $1.00
Acknowledged the best by all. Prices $1.50
Joseph Pels Co's. double plaited figured shirts. $1.00
Boys' white plaited shirts, extra good quality 50c
Boys' negligee shirts, specially priced at 35c
Boys' blouses, all colors and sizes ..... 25 and 50c
Men's and boys' soft shirts, collar attached ..... 25c and $1.00
Men's flannel shirts $1.00

Hats and Caps

Hats and Caps make gifts that are useful and will be appreciated. We have all styles and sizes of Derby hats at ..... $1.50 to $2.50
Our special is the Elk brand. Regular $3.00 Derby Hats at $2.25

Gloves and Mittens

Kid gloves, with or without lining; put up in attractive holiday boxes ..... 50c to $1.50
Work gloves and mittens in leather, canvass and wool.

Neckwear

Four-in-hand, bows and ready ties in all qualities and colors. Put up in ornamental boxes; they make an excellent gift for any man or boy. Prices range from 25c to $1.00
Silk reefer mufflers, exceedingly attractive. A special holiday value ..... 50c and $1.00

Collars

Silver brand collars with easy-to-button Linocord button holes—they don't tear out. The satisfaction a man gets from one silver brand collar is so complete that it always brings him back for more ..... each 15c, two collars 25c
Litholin, regular 25c water proof collars—you can't tell them from linen 20c

Cuff Buttons and Scarf Pins ..... 25 and 50c

Hosiery

We have some special holiday values in men's socks, irsous silk; 1 pair put up in attractively decorated boxes, making a handsome Christmas present 95c
Men's merino socks, extra good value at 25c
Bearskin stockings for boys—they wear like iron. Buy them for your boys and they won't keep you warming. Fine and coarse ribbed, all sizes 25c
Infants' stockings, black and prettily colored. Per pair 25c

Sweater Coats

Some extra good men's, boys' and infants' garments at prices ranging from ..... 85c to $3.00

Handkerchiefs

Put up in special holiday boxes

All silk handkerchiefs, cream center, with colored borders, each 50c
Excellent silk handkerchiefs, assorted popular colors, each 25c
Linen handkerchiefs 5, 10, 25c

Suspenders

President holiday suspenders, attractively put up, making an excellent gift 50c

Underwear

Men's superior finish normal wool sanitary underwear. An extra special at, per suit $2.00
Men's extra heavy fleeced lined underwear, suit $1.00
Boys' fleeced lined underwear, suit ..... 60c to $1.00
Men's union suits, wool, fine ribbed, regular $1.25 values, per suit 50c
Boys' silver fleeced union suits ..... 40 to 75c
Flannel night shirts at ..... 50c and $1.00

Ear Muffs 25c

Herbert B. Banks & Company