

dip. Candle.

15. lumber-room. A store-room in which old household stuff is kept.

heb. A projection at the back or side of the fire-place, where pots are placed to keep warm.

butter-boat. A dish for holding melted butter.

Pharaoh's daughter. See Exodus II.

Queen of Sheba. See 2 Chronicles IX.

Belshazzar. See Daniel IV. and V.

Prophet's rod. See Exodus VII., 12.

17. no bowels. The bowels are sometimes spoken of as the seat of pity.

19. all my own creation. As a result of swallowing the toothpick he would be so tormented with indigestion that he would fancy himself "persecuted by a legion of goblins."

22. for this earth. Labour, to make this earth better.

QUESTIONS

1. Why does the writer assure us so emphatically that Marley was dead?

2. (a) What details of Scrooge's appearance are given on pages 2 and 3?

(b) What means has the author used on pages 2 and 3 to make his description of Scrooge's character vivid? Point out two or three expressions that you consider especially striking?

3. What traits of Scrooge's character are seen in his treatment of (a) his clerk, (b) his nephew, and (c) the visitors?

4. Point out some details in the description of Scrooge's "home," that give us the impression of gloominess.

5. (a) What reason does Marley's Ghost give for having to wander over the earth?

(b) Of what was his chain composed? Why was he wearing it?

6. "It was not an agreeable idea" (page 23). Why not?

7. (a) According to Marley's Ghost, what should be the chief "business" of a human being?

(b) What was the cause of the misery of the phantoms which Scrooge saw and heard from his window?