



Take your break away from the busy world, and enjoy the peace and quiet of the forest. Christmas trees are always found in the forest.

one for a season when indoor gaieties are the fashion, and the younger members of the family can exhibit their talent as amateur theatricals, charades, or tableaux. It represents a simple and thorough practical way of arranging an impromptu stage in any sitting room, while the hints given could probably be adapted to a village school room or hall, should a larger public than the household be desired, though they are intended only for the latter purpose.

To arrange this stage, stretch pieces of copper wire tightly across the room, attaching them firmly to the stanchions. On the one nearest the audience, hang the legend "A Merry Christmas To All" which can be worked out in colored green leaves on a strip of white or material, or as the fanciest of the material may dictate. On the second and third wire hang the curtains selected for the purpose, which should be on rings, so to run easily, and these can be obtained at any ironmonger's for a few pence.

At any ironmonger's for a few pence. Above this, and at each end, hang a pair of blue, ivy, or any evergreen to hand can be festooned, or paper hangers if so preferred, while in the center can be hung a bunch of mistletoe, below this a Japanese lamp, as this lends a pretty bit of color to the centre. Do not light it, however, for fear of accident. A little drapery arranged at the sides of the curtains, if required, and small fir-trees, or evergreens should be placed in spots as seen in the sketch.

The title of the play and the number of acts should be written out plainly on a sheet of paper or cardboard, and attached to the curtain on the left-hand side. For the scene rough sketches done in pastel, or in pen color, on large sheets of brown paper will answer the purpose and be effective. The various scenes required should be pinned one over the other to the wall at the back in the order required for the play, so that the curtains can be quickly taken down, leaving the scene behind, and so on. With a little ingenuity one scene can be made do for two or more, by pinning another smaller portion over it so as to alter the character.

The lighting can easily be arranged with lamps with tin reflectors, only careful to have those for the footlights fixed to a piece of board for fear of accident.

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BIG BATTLE WITH THE STORM

BANKBURN'S NARROW ESCAPE LAST NIGHT

Under Bare Poles From Race Rocks to Trial Island—Damage in the City.

Shortly before midnight, just as the celebrants of Christmas were enjoying their first sleep, a gale sprang up from the south and tearing landward drove in its path. Sleepers were awakened by the slamming of doors and the rattling of windows, while even the most substantial structures quivered under the vibration of the storm.

Along the further end of Douglas street, great havoc was played with the sidewalk. In the depression in the street, the water was driven up to the level of the sidewalks, while sections of sidewalk were lifted bodily and thrown on the road, and in some instances across the street.

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HOW CHRISTMAS WAS CELEBRATED

VICTORIANS SPENT IT QUIETLY, AS USUAL

Services Were Held in the Various Churches—At Hospital, Orphanage and Jail.

The Christmas of 1901 belongs to history. Amid the fury of the elements the greatest day of the calendar took its departure, and is now but a memory. Fixed custom has settled the nature of its observance in various lands, but it still remains the province of the imagination to the fuller and deeper consideration that may be given to the subject.

The weather was rather disagreeable yesterday morning, but the wind held up for the people. Naturally, the majority of Victorians was at home, and consequently the streets were more or less deserted. People were too much absorbed in the demolition of the king of birds in stock, there was a larger run on the streets than in any other day.

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MUNICIPAL PROBLEMS.

THE PAPER COMBINE.

One of the chief of the resources of Canada is supposed to be wood-pulp. This commodity enters largely into the composition of many useful articles, chief of which is paper.

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THE SEPTIC SYSTEM.

WE CONVINCE SEPTICS

COLDS, CATARRH AND CATARRHAL HEADACHE RELIEVED IN 10 MINUTES—HEALED AND CURED BY DR. AGNEW'S CATARRHAL POWDER.

Here's one of a thousand such testimonials: "I wish to thank Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder for its cure of my Catarrh of the Bladder. I was afflicted with this disease for years, but the first time I used your medicine I was cured. It is a most reliable and safe remedy. Sold by Jackson & Co., Hall & Co., etc."

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ABOUT MENELIK'S ARMY.

MAJOR HANBURY-TRACY CAPTAIN

Major Hanbury-Tracy and Captain C. Cobbold, the two British officers who were dispatched early this year to Abyssinia to accompany the Abyssinian expedition against the Emperor Mullah, have just arrived in London.

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THE CAST OF SANDOW.

SANDOW IS PLEASED AND GRATIFIED

Sandow is pleased and gratified that his cast should be thought worthy to be placed in the National Museum at South Kensington, to serve as an object lesson to generations yet unborn.

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MR. BOYLE'S STATEMENTS.

THERE IS A LARGE AND EVER-INCREASING

number of thoughtful and well-informed people in Great Britain who express the serious belief that if radical changes do not come about in the near future, the United Kingdom will be relegated to the third position in the ranks of the world's trade and commerce.

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CHILLED TO THE BONE?

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A teaspoonful of Peppermint in a cup of hot water will do you ten times more good than rum or whiskey. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Pain-Killer, Peppermint, etc. and 50c.

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THE SMALL BOY

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The small boy was pretending to be a Red Indian, and was sitting on the ground, and then he was hit by a stick.

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