

But also Touching Upon  
a Number of Other Mat-  
ters of Lesser Importance.

have been written, the personal circumstances of the occasion is the no

have been written, the personal surveillance of the occasion is the new point for consideration. The first symptoms of the approach of Christmas may be observed upon the countenance of the harrier, but the countenance of the hound is the great object. He is in difficulties and knows it. In most cases he has a wife, a mother, a maiden sister or two, and innumerable cousins and aunts to be provided for, and duplication is the order of the question. This is the supreme test of a man's ingenuity and his last analysis. He has to choose four out of a hundred, and to make his choice his wife to select all but her own parent, which is decided upon by

mother. He himself should conventionally be flooded with cigars and neckties, but in this respect I am inclined to doubt the testimony of popular authorities.

Speaking of cigars though, I am credibly informed that there is still a considerable traffic in them about Christmas time and I often wonder if sundry-maiden relatives realize the debt of gratitude they owe a certain Walter Raleigh who is credited

with introducing the use of tobacco to a formerly benighted civilization. The potato, Sir Walter's other portion from the savage regions of the American continent, has never risen to a position of importance except the observance of Christmas, except as a dietary adjunct.

One of the most remarkable thing about Christmas, barring of course the regularity and infallibility of its occurrence is the habit it has of catching you unawares. While I have frequently by the exertion of a supreme

mental effort awakened to the full realization of its impending advent full month in advance, I have found that to be but the exception that proves the general rule that one beginning to make frantic and feverish preparations about December 20th, and the intervals within one or two days before a month's work in the laboratory is generally devoted to the preparation of good results, which the student of year's conduct, which when the time comes are too usually disappointing. The selection of Christmas presents for his man more scope for play of his imagination than any other of his multitudinous Christmas

manity fails utterly to make an intelligent selection. I have often had visions of the early Christians exchanging such articles as monogrammed silver services, when a good stout sword, or even a coffin might have been decidedly more useful. For the guidance of the poor puzzled victims of the Christmas season, I have included at some pains in the preparation of this series of helpful suggestions what are herewith offered gratis for the alleviation of human suffering.

Helpful Hints for Christmas Presents

For Grandma, who is a trifle  
matic—a pair of roller skates.  
For Grandpa, whose eyesight is  
lnc—a set of Shakespeare.  
For Mother—a baseball bat.  
For Father, the hairs of w  
head are numbered—a fine t  
comb.  
For the washerwoman—a man  
set.  
For sister's best beau—an a  
clock.

For wife—a box of real cigars.  
For mother-in-law—a revolver.  
hair trigger variety will explode at least expected. Paris green is suggested as a substitute.

For the clergyman—a bridge set.

**IMPORTANCE OF DETAIL.**

Charles Frohman was talking Philadelphia reporter about the importance of detail.

"Those who work for me," he "follow my direction down to the

"Now, which did my wife say—have two whiskies an' get home by twelve, or—hic—have twelve whiskies an' get home by two?"

## SWEETS CONFECTIONS

Candied Grape Fruit. Peel three grape fruits, and remove six sections lengthwise of fruit. Over night in 1 quart of cold water which is added 1 tablespoonful of Drain, put in saucpan, cover cold water and bring to boiling repeat 3 times and cook in the water until soft. Drain and strips lengthwise. - Weigh peel take an equal weight of sugar. Take with 1/2 cupful of

in saucapan with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cupful of water, bring to boiling point. Peel and cook until the pieces are clear. Remove pieces to plate. Dip up as little syrup as possible. Roll each piece separately in powdered sugar and spread to dry. Store in glass jars.

**Stuffed Cluster Grapes**—small clusters of grapes and when remove seeds through a small hole made in the top of each. Insert

After-Dinner Mints—Put in pan 3 cupfuls of sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup boiling water,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoonful of tartar and  $\frac{1}{4}$  tablespoonful vinegar. Bring to boiling point and boil over stirring until mixture will be brittle in cold water. Pour on oiled large platter, cool slightly, then pull apart into small pieces until white and while pulling

with half of mint or wintergreen in small pieces into a bowl of powdered sugar. Stir until well coated when cold put into a glass jar. This will last for several days.

**Cream Nut Balls**—Melt  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of chocolate in saucepan. Add 1 cup of sugar alternately with 1 cup of sour cream. Bring to boiling and let boil until soft ball is formed. Add cold water. Pour on marble slab and work until creamy, then add 1 teaspoonful of vanilla and  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoonful of salt. Knead with the hands.



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