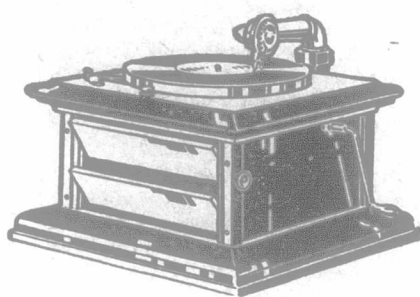


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Please Mention The Advocate

the swamp, and seen them strings of popcorn and red marsh berries, and the little stars cut out'n tin foil from Billie's tobacco wrappers, and the candles saved from some Christmas doin's in the Pole's country, I was plumb flabbergasted to see such smart decorations turned out'n nothin'."

Sophie'd change a 'tato into a peach if she set out," affirmed pa admiringly.

"And it give me a turn," went on ma, "to see Mis' Bistle there, and I ups and says to her when we washed the dishes, 'I've wished a thousand times I'd sent that present up to your sister; but my folks persuaded me to keep it.' And Mis' Bistle says, 'I never onct thought about the present, I jest thought you acted cool and queer, so I made up my mind to stay away till you come over ag'in.'"

"I acted kinder cool 'cause I thought you'd be mad," I says.

"Why, land!" cried Mis' Bistle, "my sister got three water-sets jest like the one you bought for her and kept yourself!" Then we both broke out laughin'—and now we're better friends than ever."

"Women git me," remarked pa, shaking his head thoughtfully.

"And to think that I thought that we couldn't have a nice Christmas unless we was rich," laughed ma, "and here Sophie's give us a good time out'n nothin' jest because she couldn't bear to have a little child go without his Santy."

"Sophie is rich," declared pa emphatically; "she's what you call rich in spirit."

"And there's a kinder peace on earth, good-will to man feelin' in the air, jest as you said, Pa—"

"Sure there is," responded pa softly. "I knowed you'd feel it if you got a chanct."

peace terms, but it is possible that the final settlement may be taken in hand by a European conference. Already, Austria-Hungary has definitely warned Serbia that she may expect no territorial gains in parts of the country overrun by her soldiers. . . . Some serious charges of unnecessary cruelty have been brought up against the Bulgarian officers in command at Serres, and against the Servians for their treatment of the Albanians, who were given no quarter, women and children being drawn up into lines with the men, and all shot by machine-guns.

By action of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, future ex-Presidents of the United States are to be granted a pension of \$25,000 annually. The ground for granting the pension is that these men may be free to devote their knowledge of public affairs, gained during their presidency, to the public good.

President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, has declared that trades unionists in the leading nations of the world will compel universal peace by refusing to furnish munitions of war in case of hostilities breaking out. . . . In Paris, on November 21st, French Socialists met to consider what attitude they should assume at the International Socialist Congress to be held at Basle, Switzerland, and the decision reached was that countries should not be permitted to be bound by secret treaties, but that if, in spite of the efforts of the Socialists, war became imminent, through the machinations of diplomats, the people would be justified in having recourse to "a general strike and insurrection to stop war and tear from their places those responsible for it."

News of the Week.

CANADIAN.

Parliament was opened at Ottawa on November 21st.

The experiment of lighting 2½ miles of country roadway near Galt, by Hydro-electric, is to be tried.

Six new senators have been appointed to fill the Senatorial vacancies for Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. They are Mr. W. B. Ross, Mr. Girroir, Dr. Mackay, Mr. Curry, Mr. Dennis, and Dr. Murphy.

There is a movement afoot in the Ontario Legislature in favor of shifting a larger share of the tax burden from improvements to land value.

Sir George Ross was chosen, on November 22nd, by the Liberal Senators, to succeed Sir Richard Cartwright as their leader in the Upper House.

A mass-meeting was held in Winnipeg, on November 22nd, as a protest against the action of the authorities, during the Macdonald bye-election, in having four young men arrested, detained in jail, refused bail, and afterwards liberated without trial, or inquiry, or chance of having explained to them why the action was taken. A resolution of protest against the possibility of such conditions was adopted.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Two towns in Jamaica were practically destroyed last week by a tidal wave, about 100 people losing their lives.

Desperate fighting between the Turks and the Balkan allies took place last week at Tchatalja and other points. On November 18th, Monastir, the second city of importance in European Turkey, surrendered to the Servians, 50,000 soldiers and 3 generals, laying down their arms. Later, battles took place at Gallipoli, near the Dardanelles, and at points on the Gulf of Enos and Marone; the Island of Mytilene was taken by the Greeks, and the heaviest fire of the siege took place at Adrianople. Towards the close of the week plenipotentiaries from both sides met to discuss

The Storm.

Night, and the birds drift nestward,
Havening fast;

Night, and the wind, swift westward
Hurls blast on blast.

Night, and the star eyes glisten,
Widened with fear.

The clouds huddle, hushed to listen,
The storm is near!

Night, and the waves are gripping
The rocks in vain;
And the savage lightning ripping
The dark in twain.

Night, and a sudden quaking
Seizes the trees;
And a demon of fury waking
Lashing the seas!

A lily is crushed in its sleeping
And left to die;

And into a passion of weeping
Bursteth the sky.

Night, and my heart's wild wonder
Findeth its cry;

Gods of the way-out-yonder,
Answer me why!

—By Ethel M. Kelley, in Ainsley's Magazine.

Unveiled.

Deep in the stillness of a night
Whose rain had drenched the way I
trod,
I wakened from day's earthly dreams
And walked alone with God.

The moaning winds were hushed in rest,
The world seemed sleeping after pain,
And where the cloudy rack had gloomed
The stars shone clear again.

Each wayside puddle held a glimpse
Of heights wherein it used to dwell,
As if the rain had brought with it
Memories of whence it fell.

Rained down and drowned in dusky
pools,
The quiet stars lay shining through;
And earth was all so steeped in heaven
That it was heaven too.

I listened, and the voice of God
Spoke to me in that lonely place;
I raised my eyes in wondering fear,
And looked and saw His face.

And ever since I see but God
In earth and man, in deep and height,
As one whose eyes the sun has filled
Looks round and sees but light.

—A. St. John Adcock, in The Academy.