

A BOY'S CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS.

By R. R. WOOD, B.A., Headmaster Bishop Feild College.

OR some reason there is a sort of conspiracy on the part of the grown-ups to give a fellow a good time at this particular season of the year. Ripping things to eat and as much of them as you can tackle, and no silly nonsense about the results of overdoing it! Unfortunately a fellow's appetite is not great enough for all the good things that are going! Half-way through dinner you find yourself unable to go any further without growing more and more uncomfortable. What is the sense of saving it all up for one day when you can enjoy it up to a certain point? Why not spread it out over three hundred and sixty five days each year. Perhaps, though, if they did, one would fall to get the same fun out of it and it would make you feel as if you couldn't be happy off it. Now I find riding a bigger fun than walking, and it is a nuisance having to keep the blessed old machine clean and working order. I wonder if one gets

It's anything you don't want yourself you don't mind giving it away; but with the money they spend on our presents they could buy things for themselves. Yes there can't be any mistake about it, they must enjoy giving us things, even if the old man does kick up a row when the bills for the things come in later on. I suppose that as a fellow grows up his way of looking at things must change. Perhaps there's something in what they say about selfishness, though I must say I prefer to get things rather than to give them, and I notice that a good many grown-ups manage to do themselves very well, especially the mean ones. Apparently what happens is that when you get to like anyone a lot you want to give them things. I've got a brother older than myself who is frightfully sweet on a girl and he's always wasting his money on getting her things. My old man, too, is none too wealthy, but he and the mater are always giving away money for various reasons when they really can't afford it, and doing without things they want—not to speak about what I want.

The more decent people are, the more trouble they seem to take for other people, and Christmas seems to be the time of year when even the meanest and crustiest boy wants to be decent to a fellow, though most of it lasts for only one day. What a lark it would be if they were like that all the time, and if everyone were on the look out for a chance to please everyone else. I've never tried to do much in that line, but there have been times when I have felt a bit mean because I hadn't much to give when everyone else was giving presents. One Christmas I had been saving up for some stamps I wanted as I couldn't afford to spend much; but one of the presents I got was a stamp album with the stamps I wanted in it, and a lot of others; and I might have spent all my money and saved myself from the rotten feeling of meanness: I won't get caught like that again.

I suppose people are kinder at Christmas than any other time because it is Christ's birthday, and He was that sort Himself. I have often wondered why He put up with so much when He could just have ordered things to come right without any worry to Himself. Anyhow if He did it, it must have been the best way.

When I grow up I think I'll try doing things for other people and see what it's like. There must be something in it that I don't quite understand, but I'd certainly rather be a decent sort than a mean old hunk. If all grown-ups were decent sorts it would be a jolly world for everyone. Perhaps the mean ones are meant to be a sort of warning to a fellow.



Baby's Skin Troubles
Chafing, scalding, skin irritations and itching, burning eczema are quickly and thoroughly relieved and the skin kept soft, smooth and velvety by the use of
Dr. Chase's Ointment
Apply daily after the bath.

that the Bishop do not spend one groat to the poor himself. The sermon done, a good anthem followed with violas, and the King come down to receive the Sacrament. But I waid not, but calling my boy from my Lord's lodgings, and giving Sarah some good advice by my Lord's order to be sober, and look after the house, I walked home again with great pleasure, and there dined by my wife's bed-side with great content, having a mess of brave plum-porridge and a roasted pullet for dinner, and I send for a mince-pie abroad, my wife not being well, to make any herself yet.

December 25th, 1664—(Lord's day). To Mr. Rawlinson's church, where I heard a good sermon of one that I remember was at Paul's with me—his name Margott; and very great store of fine women that is in this church, more than I know anywhere else about us.

December 25th, 1665—(Christmas day). To church in the morning and there saw a wedding in the church, which I have not seen many a day; and the young people so merry with one another! and strange to see these poor fools decoyed into our condition, every man and woman gazing and smiling at them. Here I saw again my beauty Lethuller. Home to look over and settle my papers, both of my accounts private and those of Tangier, which I have let go so long that it were impossible for any soul, had I died, to understand them, or even come to good end in them. I hope God will never suffer me to come to that disaster again.

December 25th, 1668—(Christmas day). I to church, where Alderman Backwell, coming in late, I beckoned to his lady to come up to us, who did, with another lady; and after sermon, I led her down through the church to her husband and coach, a noble, fine woman, and a good one, and one my wife shall be acquainted with. So home, and to dinner alone with my wife, who, poor wretch; sat undressed all day, till ten at night altering and lacing of a noble petticoat; while I by her, making the boy read to me the Life of Julius Caesar, and the Cartier's book of Masick; the latter of which I understand not, nor think he did well that writ it, though a most learned man. Then, after supper I made the boy play upon his lute, which I have not done before since he came to me; and so, my mind in mighty content, we to bed.

The Methodist Orphanage Christmas Tree will be held at the Orphanage on Thursday, Dec. 28th at 3.30 o'clock. Contributions in money and gifts suitable for a Christmas treat will be gratefully received, and acknowledged by Miss Mary McKay, Sutherland Place, King's Bridge Road, P.O. Box 1172. Dec 18, 21, 23, 25, 26

"Peace And Goodwill."

If you can't forget, you can forgive.
Better be silent than speak with ill-will.
When two quarrel both are in the wrong.
If you want friends you must be friendly.

A kindly feeling is the touch that never hurts.
The biggest heart cannot hold both goodwill and pride.
Be not the first to break the peace, nor the last to mend it.
Goodwill survives absence, if the last recollections are kindly.

If you lose your temper, don't look for it, unless you mean to keep it.
Say well and do well and with one better; say well is good; but do well is better.

The Pins in various designs, at TRARNELL'S.

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In FOOTWEAR for Everybody!



HOUSE SLIPPERS
FOR MEN and WOMEN.

- Men's Brown Leather Slippers—2.25, 2.50
- Men's Black Leather Slippers—2.25, 2.50
- Men's Black Romeo Slippers—2.25, 2.50
- Men's Brown Romeo Slippers—2.25, 3.00
- Men's Grey Felt (leather sole) Slippers—2.00
- Men's Black Felt (leather sole) Slippers—2.00
- Men's Patent Dress Pumps—5.00
- Men's Plaid Slippers (leather sole)—1.75
- Men's Camel Cloth Slippers—Leather sole and heel—2.30
- Men's Arctic Felt Slippers—Leather sole and heel—2.70
- Men's Yeager Slippers—Leather sole and heel—2.70
- Men's Carpet Slippers—Leather sole and heel, 1.30, 1.90
- Men's Grey Felt Slippers—Crome sole—1.40
- Men's Brown Kid Romeos—Stitch Down Soles—3.50

WOMEN'S FELT HOUSE SLIPPERS.

- Black Felt Juliet—Leather sole and heel—1.75
- Grey Felt Juliet—Leather sole and heel—1.75
- Brown Felt Juliet—Leather sole and heel—1.90
- Garnet Felt Juliet—Leather sole and heel—1.90
- Women's Black Felt Slippers, Plain Front—1.30

WOMEN'S BEDROOM SLIPPERS.

- Soft Felt Slippers, Crome soles, heavily padded insoles. Ribbon trimmed.
- In Saxe Blue at—1.60, 1.70
- In Old Rose, at—1.70, 1.75
- In Purple, at—1.50, 1.75
- In Oxford Grey, at—1.75
- In Wine and Orchid, at 1.75

WOMEN'S FELT ROMEO'S

- Ribbon Trim, Leather Sole.
- In Brown—1.90
- In Cardinal—1.90
- In Navy Blue—1.90
- In Oxford Grey—1.90
- In Cardinal and Black—1.90

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- Men's 1 Strap, 2 Buckle Gaiters 5.20
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- Girls' Patent House Slippers at 2.70, 2.80, 3.20 to 3.60.
- Girls' Felt House Slippers Sizes 6 to 11, at 1.25.
- 11 to 2, 70c., 1.35 to 1.50

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- Button Gaiters, 11 to 2—3.00
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- Women's Hip Long Rubbers—5.00
- Girls' Hip Long Rubbers—(11 to 2)—4.40
- Girls' Hip Long Rubbers—(6 to 10)—3.70
- Women's Long Rubbers—(3 to 6)—3.70
- Girls' Long Rubbers—(11 to 2)—3.20
- Girls' Long Rubbers—(6 to 10)—2.50

SKATING BOOTS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

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- Girls' Brown Skating Boots (11 to 2)—4.00, 4.50
- Girls' Black Skating Boots (11 to 2)—3.00, 3.75, 4.50
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- Girls' Brown Skating Boots (6 to 10)—3.50 to 3.90
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- Infants' Brown & Black Boots Lace and Button 1.35 to 1.60
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wadded and quilted lining and with black astrachan collars, at \$17 ea.

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Hymns and...
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