Their notes proclaiming, far and near, The birthday of our King.

A King, indeed, the Son of Heaven.
Whose coming down to earth
Placed upon man the signet true
Of his immortal birth.

The starlit heavens in beauty shone As Christ, the child, appeared; And shepherds, gazing on the scene, Beheld, adored and feared.

Brightest among the starry orbs.
The star of Bethlehem
Shot forth its fairest, purest rays,

As if to becken them To tarry not, but seek the spot Where in the manger lay The heavenly babe, the one foretold, To be a King alway.

Aye, Sovereign of a world redeemed, Of man from sin made free, Though humble, lowly as a babe. Yet still a Prince was He.

One universal song should rise This Christmastide on high, Earth's millions sing as angels sang When Christ to earth drew nigh.

Good Will to Men, and Peace on Earth, Sang the angelic choir, And through the centuries these words Have falled not to inspire.

Their meaning sinking deep within The hearts of all mankind, From thence producing grand results, Which souls together bind

Good will to men the infant Christ Brought from His home above; And this rich gift He freely gives

The Christ-child and the risen Christ Should claim our thoughts to-day, Through them there came the blessed hope

Ring loudly, then, ye Christmas bells, Until the charmed air Shall whrate with a melody Whose music all may share. -J. M. Thompson, in Boston Budget



667 ERE I am, Uncle John, for your Christmas present," and the call man found himself imprisoned by a pair of warm arms, while a sweet young face was held upto his own.

"Glad to see you, Puss. You look as your ma did at your age. It was kind of you to give up city holidays and come into a country village in the dead of winter."

"Oh, I came to visit you, and you are not dead nor cold," laughed Jessie, merrily. A thrill of new life went through

the old bachelor's heart. Then his sister had not let her children know what a selfish old fellow he was.

The large Kingsley family had scattered east and west, all except the eldest, John. When the town took in the old homestead he was able to start a bank in the village. The more he enlarged in his worldly possessions the more contracted became his heart. He lived in the old brick homestead alone, except for the presence of a faithful old domestic and the hired man. He did them to visit him, but Mary was a minister's wife and her husband had lately been sent to one of the small churches in the large city near, and the sister determined to try to win the lonely man back to himself.

'I am arraid you will find this dark house very still," said the uncle. the brightest winter sunshine in the world. While I am here we will have

"Nancy is a Tartar; you had better keep out of her kitchen," warned ber in the family. But what more many orders." But Jessie went in think I have a Fortunatus purse?" and conquered at once. She always expected the very best of everyone, them to the surface.

was in his own house when he saw a dress; I saw a warm pretty brown it all open, warm and light, with one downtown yesterday. And flowers in th windows, and Nancy Jake?" looking kind instead of haughty and severe. He heard such merry peals Jake doesn't earn more than his of laughter from the kitchen he ventured into those sacred precincts to help pop corn and crack hickory know that, of course; you dear old ruts. Man is a domestic animal, and fellow. You look sick yourself, and the odor of frying doughnuts and I'm going to bed and let you rest," the sight of the raisins being stoned said Jessie, dropping a kiss on the and eggs growing into snow white bald spot on her uncle's head.

to meet her uncle, and it quickened week was out he began to feel the his old heart to see the bright face "more blessedness," and surprised under the red cap coming his way. himself by going around whistling After supper she brought his slip- like a boy and handing out nickels pers and put the table near the glow- to school children, winding up with ing grate, for she insisted that there giving each of his bank employes a was nothing poetical in heat coming check Christmas eve. Not satisfied, out of the fic ., and then would sit down and talk. One evening she tree and to his sister Mary ten dol-

I hope you haven't made all of your Christmas plans. It would be

"Why, the list of what you are goautomobile this year and will visit piece of Nancy's "sample pie."
more people. Seriously, I mean, un"You haven't asked for anything more people. Seriously, I mean, unof people happy on Christmas, you niece.

He did not know, for he had not tried it. He had long ago made the been enthusiastic.

"It is a thank-offering year, you know, and we must do more than usual. The children have been making scrap books and fixing up old toys for months, and I've knit mitfive dollars for the poor."

mamma had that money. She has death." so much sewing and church work she couldn't stand it all alone, even with our help, but she said a little backache for Christmas was a pleasure. She sent a warm dress to a preacher's wife out west. Papa wore patched flannels and sent five dollars to India for an extra dinner among some famine orphans. Of course, there are some poor people for us to have for dinner, or we send it. How many family conners have you on your list, uncle, dear?"

"Nancy attends to the dirners her-

who look to you for their Christmas

turkey," said Jessie, brightly.
"Do as you think best," answered the uncle, with that inward pang Christmas angels, consented. some people have when parting with

for our own home dinner? The min- ister felt. He had for a long time

candy and popeorn balls. He erea ing to do for Santa Claus. He prop-fell to stoning raisins for the plum ably has exchanged his sleigh for an pudding and was rewarded by a

cle, it is hard to plan to make a lot for yourself, chick," he said to his

Tears came to the young girl's eyes. "It is enough to have such a kind, generous uncle," she answered. holy Christ-time an ordinary day.

"And, uncle, I don't believe people understand how noble-hearted you

Evidently not, for that evening the banker had overheard one of his clerks say, "This is the first time we ciding and the right of forming the have gotten what we did not slave for. Is he going crazy?" and Nancy tens at night, and mamma earned had remarked to Jake, in tones overheard in the next room: "He won't "How?" asked the uncle.

be long with us. Folks often change lishing houses, and the probability is that you will find more than one dif-In the morning Uncle John found

a pair of mittens at his plate from things, the handiwork of his niece. Nancy was radiant over the new wool dress and Jake grinning over a two-dollar bill, while Jessie danced with joy over a pretty gold pin set in pearls, having few ornaments dear to a girl's heart.

The dinner was a great success and the little widow and her children thought they were in paradise. The third minister's wife forgot her worself," answered Uncle John, a little ries and let Jessie fill her children with cake and candy almost beyond "Oh, can I help her and order what the rescuing power of any remedy. I want at the grocery? I suppose After dinner the banker called in a town tike this there are many Nancy aside and asked if the widow and her children could stay until she could find work, if extra help were hired, and Nancy, overshadowed by

If you have never devoured a man's best viands in a powerful frame of "And can I help invite the guests mind you do not know how the min-



"IT WOULD BE SUCH FUN FOR YOU TO MAKE OUT YOUR LIST."

ister's wife does her own work, so been trying to get up his courage to of course we want them and the talk to his richest and stinglest memdear children; and I met the sweet-est little woman on the train with building, and, with the aid of the two lovely children. Her hus Christmas angels, the minister senot often visit his relatives or ask band died a year ago, and cured a promise that the rich man she finds she cannot stand would bear half the expense of the wider than any boundaries. There can be no sewing in a shop to support new building and think about the and mountains. There can be no English "English." American "Enghood home to see what she can do here. I saw her yesterday, and I the house was still. If he had had wormed out of her that she was liv- a keener sense of hearing he would ing in two rooms and hadn't gotten have heard the Christmas angels

money, you see." in all of your old friends. My head ter," spoke up Jessie. "Thank you; and toward God and man. But you are

is tired from studying, but my hands Nancy said she'd admire to get din- fond of folks and of doing good with are all right, and I'll help cook and her for her preacher and his folks your money—the real John, I mean.

the uncle. "I do not dare give too do you want for Christmas? Do you generous soul!" "No; but a big neart lengthens any pocketbook; so I guess you and in hunting for the rose side of might give me five dollars to get every nature she, some way, got presents for these five children. Jake the blessedness of giving."-N. W. around the thorns without bringing said he could find me a little tree out in the woods, and we'll be all Uncle John could hardly believe he right. I suppose you'll get Nancy

"I always give Nancy a dollar, but

"He has a sick mother; but you

foam, bring up pleasant sensations. "I can stand it once," he groaned Jessie had a pleasant way of going when he was alone, but before the he sent oranges to the Sunday school

He smiled with real pleasure when he saw the five heavy baskets Jake such fun to help you make out your was to take around Christmas eve. He hung around, living over boy you've darn me stockin' so I cud hang "My what?" asked the uncle, in hood memories, while Nancy stuffed it up for Christmas.—Chicago Daily the big turkey and Jessie made News.

That night the man sat alone after

singing a song of thanksgiving near "Oh, we'll throw up the shades and let in all the light, and Wisconsin has Clark. Her father did not gave his speaking in the night: "John Kingsley, there has been a mistake. You "So you will help his poor daugh- have been thought selfish and cold The old, lonely, selfish man is dead, "Nancy is the best church mem- John. I am going, with God's help, to make myself a present of a noble,

In her happy girlhood sleep Jessie was smiling as if she heard the Christmas angels rejoicing, saying: "Blessed are they who show souls Christian Advocate.

ONLY THIS



Mrs. Jiggs-I'm sorry, my man, but I can't give you anything to-day. Drowsy Dunton-Dat ain't wat want, leddy. I jes called t' see could

UNIFORM ORTHOGRAPHY.

Difference in the Spelling of Words Between the English and American Styles.

Horace, the Latin poet, says that custom has made the power of deciding and the right of forming the standard of correct speaking; hence "And, uncle, I don't believe people the oft-quoted dictum, "Usus est norme loquendi." Very closely akin to speaking is the spelling of the words spoken, says Current Literature. Where shall we find the power of destandard of current spelling? You may take up two different reputable newspapers or magazines, or two books issued by two different pubference in spelling. Is the printer's devil or the proof reader the authority? Again, is the standard to be Nancy and several pretty but useful sought in this - English-speaking country or in the land of the birth of the English tongue? In England precisians abominate such forms as "labor," "honor," "color," "splendor," and they write "rumour," while they have "horror." On this side of the Atlantic certain publishers use the English form "labour," "honour," etc., while the majority give us what the British call "an Americanism." Some "s.andard" authors of England write "connection," while others equally "standard" use "con-nexion," and here the two forms are recognized. In the birthplace of the English

tongue "theatre" and "centre" are required in correct English, and although "metre" becomes "meter" in composition, as in "gasometer," the former spelling is held to be true form for the word when standing alone. Here you may frequently see 'theatre" in the same journal as "center" and "meter." In British schools it is taught that when words ending in "double l" are compounded each drops one "l;" hence we get "skilful." In America you must be "skillful" if you would be thought correct. The termination "ize," as in "recognize," is almost universally in vogue, but our "cousins" generally in vogue, but our "cousins" generally employ "ise." All English writers use "practice" as a noun and "practise" as a verb; an American writing the English language makes no difference between the two parts of speech. The diphthongs "ae" and "oe" are here usually contracted into the single letter "e," or used indiscriminately, but the British are careful to retain the diphthongal form, and it would indeed be a poor journal that did not possess the two as permanent letters of their "fonts."

Now, all this may seem to some as a very indifferent matter. They may argue that in this "land of freedom" we may spell as we like. They may even go so far as to think that each one of us may have his own way of representing sounds, as the man had his own way of reading, who held

Every Day in the Yeas.

The Northern Pacific Railway take pleasure in announcing that their popular overland train, the "North Coast Limited," will be continued during the winter. This broad vestibuled, steam heated, electric lighted train, with its model observation tar, equipped with the most modern conveniences, such as parlor, reading and writing rooms, library of choice books, supplemented with the latest magazines and illustrated papers, buffet, bath room, arber shop, and card rooms; with standard Pullman and tourist sleeping cars (the former with two berth lights in each section), as well as handsome day coaches, guarantees the traveling public service between St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth and Fargo, Butte, Bpokane, Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, supplemented by the "Burlington's" Special, running daily between Kansas City and Seattle, via Billings, is the most complete transcontinental passenger service now offered the traveling public. Chas. S. Fee, Gen'l Passenger and Ticket Agent, St. Paul, Minn. employ "ise." All English writers use "practice" as a noun and "prac-

his own way of reading, who held the newspaper with the bottom of the newspaper with the bottom of the page upward. But liberty is based upon law, and free are the law-abiding. Without law there is always tryanny. What are authors to do who look upon literature as a sacred thing? One who, perhaps, has studied philology with enthusiasm and is an "authority" on spelling, sends a carefully prepared manuscript to the publisher only to reason a "proceeded, and it was noticed that he gave proceeded, and it was noticed that he gave ceive a "proof" with his spelling changed. He corrects it and returns it to that invisible autocrat who has charge of "traditions of the office," and when the book reaches the author he sees such forms of words as to make him feel ashamed. There can be no license in the matter of spelling. The republic of letters is wider than any boundaries of oceans and mountains. There can be no English "English." American "Eng. lish," Canadian "English," or Australian "English." Above all, there are the second and the second a ought not to be a multitude of invis ible autocrats, each with a will of his own on the subject of spelling, who from their little dens, stir up riots in the republic. We are ready enough to smile at the letters of Chester fieldian days, in which a word might be written half a dozen ways in a single page: but the laugh would be upon this twentieth century if a Martian should come to Terra and undertake to learn English from text-books issued from the different publishing houses in different English-speaking countries. By all means let us have a "norma scribendi."

India's Mendicant Army.

India is the mendicants' paradise, for there they are regarded as holy instead of being considered a nuisance. The penances of these beggars take many and strange forms one of the severest being the passing of the devotee's life in an iron cage, bound with fetters so heavy as to prevent him standing upright Others hold one arm above their heads till it becomes withered, while others bind ropes and chains so tightly round their bodies that the bonds grow into the flesh and cannot be removed. A form of penance which savors of the ridiculous is that in which the fakir ties his hands and feet together and rolls head over heels for long distances; in some cases, it is said, thousands of mile are traveled in this way. Although there are over 3,000,000 fakirs in India alone, a beggar never starves, except voluntarily in self-punishment so afraid are the natives of in curring the wrath of their multitudinous gods if the holy men are not cared for.-London News.

Oddities of Memory It is instanced as one of the curiosities of the memory that people who know long pieces of verse by heart frequently cannot remember their telephone number

SHOULD HAVE BEEN RED.

The Name and the Color of the Mali Did Not Correspond, Thought the Young Lady.

"At least, Miss Ticklowell," said the young man, pale but firm, and standing before her with folded arms, "I am entitled to an explanation."

"I never supposed, Mr. Hoxwell," she replied, facing him with equal firmness, says the Chicago Tribune, "you would ask me to marry you."

ays the Chicago Tribune, "you would ask me to marry you."

"That is not an explanation. Leaving out of the question the fact that you have accepted my attentions for a period of a year or more, which I might plead as ample justification for my presumption, if you so consider it, in proposing marriage to you, I am wholly at a loss to understand the repugnance, amounting almost to horror, with which you have turned me down. Am I so disagreeable, personally, that—"

"No, it is not that," she interrupted, covering her face with her hands. "I admire you as a gentleman and esteem you highly as a friend, but can you not see—O, can you not see?—why any nearer tie is impossible?"

"No! For the life of me I can't!"

"No! For the life of me I can't!"
"Mr. Hoxwell," she said, with restored calmness, "I had hoped there would be no necessity for this explanation, but I can never, never marry a man with black hair and so grotesquely inappropriate a name as Rufus!"

FILLETED BY INSTALLMENTS.

He Thought His Bones Were to Be Taken from Him a Bit at a Time.

At the Royal national hospital, Ventnor, At the Royal national hospital, Ventnor, recently a patient found a very small piece of splintered bone work out through his skin. Next day he happened to be called up for medical examination, with some four or five other patients. In the consulting room he told the physician of the preceding day's incident, relates the Philadelphia Inquires.

ing day's incident, relates the Philadelphia Inquirer.

"Can you produce the piece of bone?" said the latter. Whereupon the fellow carefully unwrapped a little piece of paper and handed over the tiny object. The doctor made some remarks about its chemical nature, and passed it on to the resident medical officers for further scrutiny.

The patient was then dismissed, and in the next room caused some amusement among the few fellow sufferers present by the remark: "That's all right, ain't it?. I wonder what he'll do next. He's started sneakin' my confounded skeleton, and says how very interestin' it is!"

"NORTH COAST LIMITED."

Every Day in the Year. The Northern Pacific Railway take pleas

She Was Not Superstitious. proceeded, and it was noticed that he gave an extra tug at the nuptial knot.—Kennebec

Prepared.

Beryl-So Ethel's parents have purchased an automobile?
Sibyl-Yes; they think that she will be

able to "run across" some eligible young man that way.—Baltimore Herald. Southwest Colonist Excursions.

She—"Cholly is always running after an heiress. He has a passion for gold." He—
"He inherited it. His father died of yellow fever."—Indianapolis News.

Many of us might be happy if we did not suffer from disorders of the liver. Then we ought to use Dr. August Koenig's Hamburg Drops, which cure the disorders and bring the whole system to a healthy condition.

Dicer—"They tell me Fred has been play-ing the races." Knickleby—"He thought he was; but it turned out that the fellows at the races were working Fred."-Boston Transcript.

"De man dat's allus tryin' to git sumpin' foh nuffin'," said Uncle Eben, "is purty li'ble to wind up by bein' one o' de people dat gits nuffin' foh sumpin'."—Washington Stops the Cough

and works off the cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25 cents. We are none of us either as foolish or as smart as some people think we are.—Indian-

apolis News. Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infalli ble medicine for coughs and colds.—N. W. Samuel, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Life is made up of events and recurrences. Chicago Daily News.

Iowa Farms \$4 Per Acre Cash, bal. Kerop till paid. Mulhall, Sioux City, Ia. Self-trust is the essence of heroism .-

Carpets can be colored on the floor with Putnam Fadeless Dyes.

A clean youth makes a clear old age .-

A man in Butler, Okla., who has followed the "biggest ear of corn" and "biggest pumpkin" controversy in the Star, writes to tell about his giant radish. "It is a black Spanish winter radish," this weracious correspondent writes, "just commencing its winter growth. It has leaves as long as a Missouri fence rail: it is larger long as a Missouri fence rail; it is larger at the top than that Kansas pumpkin, and has sapped my well of all its water. It looks like a steam merry-go-round and is still growing. Grasshoppers fattened on its leaves now weigh 40 pounds."—Kansas City Star.

ST. JACOBS

POSITIVELY CURES

Rheumatiam

Neuralgia

Backache

Headache

Feetache

All Bodily Aches

SECURITY.

Genuine

Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of



CARTER'S FOR MEABACHE, FOR BILLOUSHESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

The Vast Areas of This Remarkable Agricultural Country





To prove the healing and cleansing power of Partine Tellet Antiseptic we will mail a large trial package with book of instructions absolutely free. This is not a tiny sample, but a large package, enough to convince anyone of its value. Women all over the country are praising Partine for what it has done in local treatment of female ills, curment of female ills, curpraising Partine for what it has done in local treatment of female ills, curing all inflammation and discharges, wonderful as a cleansing vaginal douche, for sore throat nasal catarrh, as a mouth wash, and to removatriar and whiten the teeth. Send to-day: a postal card will do.

Sold by drugglets or sent pestpaid by us. 50 cents, large box. Satisfaction guaranteed.

THE E. PATTON CO., 201 Columbus Av. Beston, Mass.

Send & cents TODAY for our large Gene atalogue No. 71. It gives pictures, descr

MONTOCMERY WARD & CO. "The House that Tells the Tr

For Burns and Scalds Use

THERE IS NO TEST LIKE THE TEST OF TIME AND USE