# Christmas Eve

BY U. P. BABCOCK

HEN the train from Ogden and the Pacific coast drew up, puffing noisily, at the town of Gunnison, Col., at two o'clock in the afternoon of December 23, there was seated in the middle section of the siveping car a very cross-looking old gentleman. You could see at once he was out of humor. He looked so much as if he might, on slightest provocation, bite, you wouldn't have been sur-

prised to hear him bark It was a cold, unfriendly stare that he bestowed upon Kitty Waller when, bundled up in a great red coat and a warm hood, with a paper box under her arm and a little satchel in her hand, she was shown by the porter to a seat just across the aisle from his

She couldn't have noticed the look, for as the train began to move she plunged in among his bags and shawistraps, almost knocking a book-from his knee in her eagerness to obtain the iast glimpse of a woman on the platform, which was on his side of the car, says Browning. King & Co.'s Monthly.

"I beg your pardon," said she, "I wanted to say good-by to sunty " "You seem to have said good-by to your manners," was the hateful reply, and Kitty, now alive to the fact that the gentleman was very cross, crept back to her own seat and nestled

quietly in the corner. She was only ten years old, but she had grown up tall in the Elk mountain air, and her cheeks were rosy This was her first ride on a railroad. Indeed, from her uncle's half-log, halfframe house, where her mother bad died when she was a baby, no tracks save those of miners or jack-rabbits were visible. Now she was going ail the way to Denver to spend Christmas with Grandma Waller

She knew the train was due in Denwer at seven o'clock the next morning, and that after a long, happy day she would hang her stockings in the big room grandma had so often written to her about and old Santa Claus

would fill it. As early as seven o'clock the goodnatured porter prepared the funny bed to which she was to sleep, while she looked on in open-eyed amazement. and by eight o'clock she was in the fand of dreams, the last sound she had heard being the voice of the "cross "gentleman" scolding the porter for making up his berth with the head toward the engine.

It was early when Kitty awoke, and the train was not moving. Happy and scarcely stopping to wonder why they were not in Denver, Kitty dressed hercurtains opposite came the "cross gentieman," grumbling aloud and calling for the porter

"I's afeerd, sir," said that individaal, "we're done stuck here for mos of de day. The big tun'l this side of Marshall pass has caved in "

Then the conductor explained that a section of one of the mile-long snowsheds had fallen, and that all they could do was to wait for a wrecking. train from Pueblo.

"And not a blessed thing to eat,"

said Kitty's fellow passenger. ... With trembling hands the little gire enemed her box of luncheon Hardboiled eggs, a pot of jam, sardine sandwiches, thick slices of buttered bread and lots of cookies.

'There's more than I can eat, sir." said she; "won't you have some?" The "cross gentleman" arose He looked for a moment hard at Kitty, whose ever sank to the floor, and then. with a bow as though she had been a grown-up young lady, he crossed the siste and seated himself opposite to

It was not until afternoon that the damage ahead was sufficiently repaired to allow them to proceed, and when evening-Christmas Eve-came the train was just making its way through the Royal gorge nearly 24 hours late.

Their talk during the day had been of mines and snowshoos, with now and then digressions on her part into confidential anecdotes concerning her pet doll that had been lost in a snowalide a week before, but which she hoped to find in the egring, unless Santa Claus should-and she trembled with excitement as she mentioned itbring her another in the morning

"But" he had said to her just before he bade her good-night, "how can Santa Claus catch us? We're late and going at 30 miles an hour "

"Santa Claus is like an angel," Kitty replied. The can be anywhere he wants at any time". Then, just as she was quite ready to go to sleep she leaned out between the curtains and said. "Will you lend me a pirto pit my stockings to the curtain." I can't find any nati. He gave ber

to was case 11 o'clock, when the aghtest foot a wore een a the distan . The cross gentleman had not thought of going to hed and what in the regular test allowed to be pointed to

. "New " said he to the grinning dan ky as the trun began to slow up. YOU ELY WE have an institute her Do your best the handed the porter a bill? "Ring the shopkoeper up, pound on his door, any fire if necesssarv. Get him out of bed some way or other and buy as much as you can carry-toys, candies anything, but be sure you get a dold "

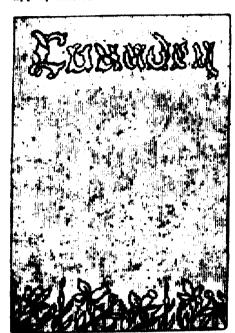
"See" said Kitty the next morning as the 'eross pentleman' poked his head my of the curtains five miles south of Denver, "diam' i 'ell you Santa Cieus was an angel?"

FOR MEN OF THE HOUSE. A Laundry Bag or Necktie Case Make Appropriate Christmas Pres-

ents for Them.

If one begin in due season, the work of planning and making Christmas presents need not be unduly burdensome: The difficulty besetting her that wishes to give only what she herself has made is that there are so few things of home manufacture one dare inflict upon a man.

Bearing this in mfind, we offer for consideration two articles that seem appropriate for father, brother or man



CONVENIENT LAUNDRY BAG,

friend; a laundry bag and a necktlecase. The bag should be made of some washable material, of coarse cream crash, or of denim in blue, red, tan or green. Place rings at top by which to hang bag, as the draw string kind is annoying when one is in a hurry and wishes to cram things in without de-

The necktle-case illustrated is made of white linen, embroidered in violets and lined with violet silk. Of course, another flower and lining to correspond may be chosen, one that harmonizes well with the toilet furnish-

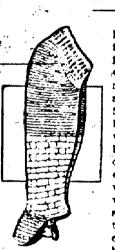


A NECKTIE CASE.

ings of the recipient, if the color of these is known. Baste lining to sheet of wadding on which orris root or some good sachet powder has been sprinkled and loosely tack to white cover here and there, in such a manner that the latter can easily be removed for laundering.

#### FOR THE KNITTER.

An Acceptable Present Grandmother Can Make for the Little Ones for Christmas.



All sorts of handiwork, is being revived; this in the day of the Arogue of handmade needlework and hand-made furniture, handknit articlés She who learned to knit in her early days now possesses an art of which she may well be proud, for she has the ability to turn out art!-

cles of wear that bear the stamp of Child's Kritted Leggentility-and are KINES

of the very highest fashion. too: hand-knitted sweaters bringing almost twice as much at the stores as machine made, and the hand-knitted baby sacks, caps and socks are very high-

priced So, this year grandmother has a wide choice in the matter of what to give for Christmas. We offer cut and description of child's leggings, and trust the design will prove a pleasing one to the knitter Materials required, one hank four-fold Germantown wool, three steel knitting needles, No. 15, Cast on 51 stitches and knit across two plain and two purl, repeating for II rows Twelfth row plain (make a ridge of two rows of knitting) and repear entil you have four ridges. Knit. 17 stitches (slip on another needle), knit 17 strickes more, forming the Inbeturn and knit back. Add stitch at the end of each needle until your 51 stitches are complete, 17 ridges on the knee knit blain 17 ridges on the leg part. For the family part, knit. Three pairs seven and repeat across the needle. In working back puri seven and knit three macross, the needle Week in this way until there are three ridges and then reverse the design Repeat until there are 12 blocks have rowing one at the end of each heedle. and at the end of family pertion there. should be 38 willobes. For the instep, End 27 support and allp the other 13 on another needle kn.t back 12 stitches (of the 25) and leave the remaining 13 on the first needle. Knit the 12 stitches back, and forth, until there are nine ridges, knill two more ridges, narrowing every and one. With the needle left at the right side of the work pick up stitches along the edge. of instep and knit across the toe. Repeat same on left side of work knift back and forth until there are three ridge- below the instep part. Itind off and sew up leg seam.

#### 22 Herr #22 Christmas Gift By BARRY PRESTONT

ARGAICET WILSON sat by the M window in the front room of the diminutive flat. In the street below the lights along the curbing twinkled frostlly. The sidewalks were lined with hurrying people, all of whom carried bundles and jostled and were jostled with rare good hu-

Day after to-morrow Margaret could go cheerfully back to her proofreading In the meantime this wretched holiday obtruded its grewsome prospect of loneliness

O, well, she would make the best of 1t. To-morrow morning she would spend reading her beloved Stevenson; in the afternoon the matinee, and after that dinner at the cafe down the avenue, where the linen was snowy and the coffee had a delicious flavor

She would keep up a sort of forced cheerfulness and forget she was alone. She angrily brushed a tear from her As she did so the bell in the hall

whirred noisily. She went to the speaking tube and called a dispirited "Helio." "Helio," came the cheerful response. "That you, Margaret? Merry Christ-

mas! Kindly unlock the door and I'll ascend." She opened the hall door and walted on the landing. Presently from the semi-darkness of the place Jack Cari-

ton appeared, pulling prodigiously "Hello!" he puffed. "Long flights. these. Ought to move down or have an elevator to move me up"

Margaret's face brightened perceptibly at the sight of him. "I'm glad you came," she said, fer-

vently. "Course you are," he affirmed. "Knew that beforehand or I wouldn't have come."

"I didn't expect you," she said.

"What!" he exclaimed. "I desert you on Christmas Eve? Never!" She led the way to the front room and lighted the red-shaded lamp. Carlton threw off his overcoat and lounged comfortably in a morris chair.

'May 17" he said, drawing a cigar from his pocket. She nodded. "To tell the truth," she said, "I ai-

most had the blue devils when you came. You must entertain me." "All right," he assented, affably, "What'll I do? Sing?"

He pulled down his collar and stretched his neck in mock prepara-

"No." she said. "Talk. And make me forget it's Christmas time." "Nonsense," said he. "Christmas is a necessary levil, and we must face it the best way we can. O. I brought

you some holly wreaths. In a moment he was banging them in the windows.

"Say," he said over his shoulder, "I had a present to-day." "Indeed," she said "From whom?"

"Some one who loves me" "Strange person," she commented. "Exactly." he said. "It was from

myself." She laughed. "Haven't been feeling Al lately, so I dropped in on Doc Higgins this morning." he went on: "What do you imagine the idlotic old pill-slinger told

"That you are as careless of your health as of your language, I preeume."

"Never, my lady," he replied. "Told me my breathing apparatus was out of gear again-nothing serious, but a littie care needed. Paraphrased Greeley and told me to so south."

She was silently watching him. "Therefore Little Willy hieth him to the agents of the steamship line and buyeth himself a ticket for the boat of Monday next. The same he presenteth to himself with much gusto as a Christmas present."

"O, I'm so sorry," she said. "For me?" he said. "Look here, you don't know what Easter Key is like. That is where I'm going-where I was two winters ago, you know You go down to Key West, and from there Old Jeff takes you over to Easter in a crazy old launch. You're no end seaaick going over, but after you get there-O, it's all white, shelly beach with big blue rollers coming in, and palms standing out against the sky. and green, green everywhere. You laza around and fish off the reef-down there you don't care whether or not you get a bite-and shoot 'gators at the edge of the awamp. And before you know it your tubes are well, and you wonder whether it will be better to go back or to laze here the rest of your hatural life. I wish you could see old Easter," he said, half wistfully

tive half a mind to develop brouchial trouble myself," she laughed "Hay do," he said, looking at her so earnestly the flushed. "Don't be stilly," she said, weakly.

"Look here." he said. "by your own confession your have the blue devisof londiness. Now, I'm going to give 302 a Christmas present that will rid you of them forever -- that is, if you'll merent if "

fit accept anything that would drive them away." she said Well, he said, "here's the cure It's the other ticket."

"The other ticket" she questioned "Certainly," said he. "I bought two this morning "

Rhe raised her head from his shoulder and smiled up into his eyes "You said I'd be sick going across from Key West, didn't you?" she asked.

"[e]] be worth it," he assured her -- Hoston Glubs.

#### TO MAKE FÖR FATHER.

Some Little Things the Children Can Construct That Will Be Appreciated.



Little fingers can construct the following articles for Christmas, and the owners feel the glow of satisfaction because they, too,

have had part in the holiday preparations, the receivers of the gifts be much pleased that the youngsters have devoted so much thought and time to them.

To make the case for shaving papers, cut a circular piece of card-board the desired size and a number of pieces of tissue paper the same size Cover the card-board smoothly with a piece of silk, and on it have some

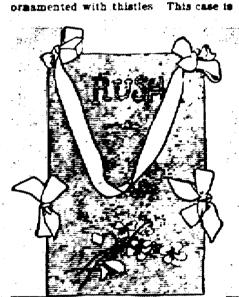


the family paint A Match Striker. the "Shavers" design in water-colors; or, and perhaps better, let the youthful worker finish the gift herself, paste on the silk flences out from some advertising page of paper or magazine To have "done it all herself" will be a great triumph. Fasten shaving-papers and outside together with a gord loop For the match-striker, use a covered card-board foundation out on the "striker" as suggested with the "shavers," but have the gentleman's trousers of sand-paper

### ACCEPTABLE XMAS CIFTS.

& Couple of Suggestions for the Hoiiday Season for the Homeworkers.

.When one wants a postal card it is always at a rush time, and yet nothing is more clusive than the postal cardunless it be the notorious collar button. Which fact is explanation for the need of the case herewith illustrated The case, which is made of colored ilnen, has a card beard four last a and may be finished with either a cord or a bow of wash-ribbon. In this day of liking of variations of brown and of green, we would suggest a brown background with embroidery of tawnycolored nasturtiums, or green art-linen



suitable for presentation to that trove blesome being man, as it is practica and not over-turny

Another article that probably woulmeet with masculine appreciation is pine-needle pillow; a small one t throw over the top of a joungin. chair, or a streamle one for couch o bed. Very pretty designs for these arnow shown in the shops, artistic an inexpensive ones. We have in mind tan cotton with brown cones embrodered thereon, and some letterin among the cones, a woodland quota

If one is not skilled with the needle. a very pretty case for the fragran pine can easily and cheaply be made of thin leaf-green sitk, and it will convey sylvan suggestion as well as the more elaborate cone-embroidered one

#### POWDER CASE FOR XMAS. One That Is Both Practical and Easily

Made by the Homeworker.

To traveler and

shopper the pow-

der case is a friend

in need, and the

one hereillustrated

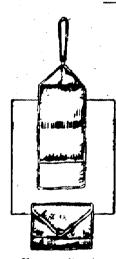
is practical easily

made, and can be

rolled into small

compass. Materi-

als needed are a



Edition bebdomadal == \$5.00.1

bit of ribbon, a bir of chamois, a fragment of crepe de chine Take a piece of taffeta ribbon four inches wide, nine long, and line with chamots, when stuching them together For this Powler have the ribbon at

one end extend a little beyond the lining. At the opposite end of the ribbon fasten a scented powder pad of thin silk, or of crepe de chine, the pad a bag about an inchor so wide and as long as the chamois is wide. A case for the pad is made of a piece of ribbon a little wider than the hag, is stitched along the outer edge and fastened with some baby ribbon when the bag is not in use. Another recommendation for this powder-case is that the chamois and powder are in one piece.

## Her J Christmas Mite

By MADELINE BRIDGES

RS PLANNITOUTE (thoughtfully)—Dear, I have determined to make a new departure this Christmas I feel that the spirit of Christmas lies, not in the giving of expensive trifles to those who have the comforts and luxuries of fife, but in remembering those who suffer deprivation of the very needs of existence. Mr Plannitoute-That is very sweet

of you, dearest, I'm sure. Mrs. Plannitoute-Yes. I have promused to donate the hundred dollars you always give me for Christmas gifts to Mrs. Van Spreddem's Christmas tree for poor children.

Mr Plannitoute-I could not wish the money put to better use. If more of this sort of giving were common, Christmas would be--

Mrs. Plannitoute---Yes, wouldn't it? I shall just tell everyone my intention. and people will understand-

Mr Plannitoute (warmly) -- They will do more. They will value your kindness of heart, beyond any gift you could bestow on them. Individually. Your,

thought is noble! Mrs Plannitoute-Thank you, dear, so much! Of course, our own children. and Tom's children, and Emma's little ones, we can't blackball them. It would be cruel! And there are three or four of my very oldest friends. I jeou.d. scarcely say to them that they must not expect to be remembered.

Mr Plannitoute-Nino Mrs Pannitoute And now, I am just recalling that I told Sister Lou I I would get her a new wrap for Christmas. The dear girl quite looks forward. to it

Mr Plannitoute-Oh-h-h! Mrs Plannitoute-And there's Dr. Offenkahl! Dear, when we reflect what that man did for darling Bertle, gratitude simply commands-I was looking at a glorious set of Shakespeare vesterday-as be in such a lover of Shakespeare a gift of that sort might pay, in part, the debt that money can never

pay. Mr Plannitoute-t'm-m-m' His bill was the sort that money could pay

There's nothing else imperstant except some recognition to Mrs. Shribetchecke. Her wedding gift to Lil an was magnificent! I have ordered a silver chafing dish for her- the new model, that has that funny contrivance for-

Mr. Plannitoute-But, Louise you said you had taken a new departure this

Mrs Plannitoute- I have: perce before did I even think of giving my Christmas allowance to the poor and needy ones'

Mr Plannifoute- Yes but you also declared you would not therefore, make presents to your friffield. Mrs Plannitoute (reproachfully) --Arthur, I am surprised at you! Becamee. a person wishes to be charitable to some persons, is that any reason for being

brutal to others, it would be simply brutal to neglect any of these duties I have mentioned Mr Plannitoute-You have promised your hundred dollars to Mrs. Van Spreddem, and it would take almost another

hundred to buy the things you have enumerated Mrs Plannitoute (brightly)-Just

about, I think Mr. Plannitoute- You expect me to present you with that much more

money? Mrs Plannitoute Why you always. give me a hundred dellars for Curist-

Mr. Plannitoute-Yes- but you have given that money to the poor Mrs Plannitoute-I have You said I was noble for doing so.

Mr. Plannitoute-Then, the upshot is

that you expect me to give you another. hundred to spend in gifts? Mrs. Plannitonte (with gent'e dignity)-- I expect nothing. But if you share the Christmas feeling you so admire in me, you will rejoice in doing so-even as I rejoice in helping the needy with

my poor little mite -- Brooklyn Life. One Miracle Begets Another.

In Roymania overfeeding of household animals during Christmas night extends to several kinds of cattle, oxen, cows, sheep and donkeys, while horses are always and emphateically excluded from the benefit in the Balkan states

Orthodox peasants, whom I asked about the custom, gave this explana-

"In the stable where the Christ Child was born were several kinds of animals, horses among others, but only the oxen, cows, sheep and donkeys behaved, that is, remained quiet witnout disturbing the boly family. 'The horses, on the other hand, kept up a continuous row, stepping from one foot upon the other, and kicked and neighed all the time. In remembrance of this we favor the asimals who were good to the Christ Child and His holy mother, and naturally the horses don't come in for the feast."

The Giving of Gifts. The custom of giving presents at the New Year is older than our modern custom of Christmas gifts. In the middle ages it was the common usage in churches to display boxes for especially liberal alms-giving, in honor of the season. Parents gave their children, masters their servants and employers their apprentices small sums of money to put in the box. By and by the money came to be given in the form of tipe. "Boxing day" is England is still the day following Christmas. The boxes very seldom remained in the hands of the recipients. Usually they were passed on to paments of

## FOR THE GIRL TO MAKE.

Crocheted Bedroom Slippers Will Not Prove Difficult and Will Be

Acceptable.

The school girl should not be required or expected to endanger her eyes and overtax her nerves with slaborate pre-Christmas labor, but usually the energetic miss wants to have part in the preparations for the grand festival of giving. We therefore suggest a gift that is not difficult to make, is useful and pretty-a pair of crocheted bedroom slappers. The materials needed are one and one-half hanks of Germantown wool, a pair of lamb's wool



USEPUL BEDROOM SERVERR

soles, a bone crochet hook, No 3 or 4. Commence by making nine chains, make half-stitch rib and widen by two stirches in each row; make 18 rows for nine ribs), which completes the vamp. begin sides of feet by taking up 12 attitches, rib, but do not widen any, make 38 rows (or nine ribs); connect at left side, and finish top by making shell; six whole stitches for first row, and seven stitches for second row Turn slipper wrong side out and sew to binding on sole. Finish front by making bow of ribbon and sewing to YAM D.

#### BATTENBERG CENTERPIECE.

It Takes Much Time to Make, But Is Always an Acceptable Christmas Present

A hand-made center piece takes considerable time to make, but the donor of such a kift is rewarded when something has been fashioned that brings pleasure to the recipient. The woman too busy to indulge in fancy work herself appreciates especially the handwork of others, and this should be dorne in mind when deciding to whom and to whom to send a needlework



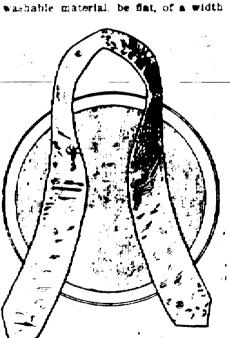
A DAINTY CENTELLISE E

gift. The accompanying Batterberg piece-does not require a great deal of work, but is effective and pretty. It may be made either of ecru or pure white if the f rmer would be suitable for library or settling room table. Horu-Battenberg on . reen art-linen is artistic and different from the ordinary. and this combination may prove a welcome a supposition to the Christmas worker. The state her employed in the lace are few and simple, principally black Brussel moint mesh wilder-web Seriento cressbar and Ilain Russian auth h. Eight rings and ten yards of

#### braid are regulated for a theinch piece. THE STOCK-COLLAR.

They Are Always Acceptable to the Dainty Woman as Christmas Presents.

Not only is there a variety of stockcollars to offer for Christmas gift suggestion, but the stock-collar has called into requisition the case for stocks and the stock-protector, two articles to theer the jaded searcher after novelties. The case for stocks should be made of white lines, or some other



A STOCK COLLAR PROTECTOR

to hold without creasing the tab-end stock, of a length to contain without folding the turn-over collar Tosinck-protector, which is not folded away in the secret recesses of a bureau drawer, but parades as an article of dress, wurn to protect collar and dress front from the outer wrap, should be of richer material than the stock-case

It is very pretty made of thick satin, edged with silk cord and fastened with fancy loop or frog One's monogram or initial may be embroidered on the protector below the fastener in a silk corresponding with the color of the flut-hing cord

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS Est très ""nandut en Louisians et dans tous les Etats du Sad. Se publicité offre donc au commerce des avantages exceptionness. Prix de l'absuncement ar l'anné : Bettier, Ouotidienne 112.0611