Passenger train No. 2 was whisking its load of humanity over the Mojave desert, a great, wide expanse of sand, mountain ... country ... [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

We passed a cheerless night on the desert, and Christmas morning found us a disconsolate party. There was no dining car attached to the train, and those travelers that were not provided with lunch baskets railed at the ill-luck that had placed them in so miserable a plight. Finally, some of them went on a foraging expedition, and down the track a few miles they located a section house controlled by Mexicans. Here they appeased their hunger on frijoles, chile con carne and the other warm dishes of the natives. A wrecking train at length arrived on the scene, but the work of repair was slow and tedious. Several yards of track had been torn up, and it was necessary to construct a "shoo-fly" around the wreck. This took the greater part of the day. Meanwhile the passengers looked on in a helpless way, and all vowed that they had never passed a Christmas amid such desolate surroundings.—C. N. Stark.

Santa Will Stay.

There are a lot of people
Who love to wag their jaws
And tell the children plainly
There is no Santa Claus.

No Santa Claus—what nonsense
Down childish throats to ram,
You might as well inform them
There is no Uncle Sam!
R. K. Munkittrick.

For Christmas Giving.

[illegible]

THEN AND EVERYTHING FOR ... [illegible]

[illegible]

Mrs. Hopkins was properly afraid and they laughed together over Marion's declaration that morning, and of how for the last time they would call that blank expression into play before they showed her that some one in the family had at last remembered. By and by Marion came.

"I've got them," she called. "The whole eight."

"Sixteen match boxes," said Mrs. Hopkins, with resignation. "Choose the prettiest, girls, and we'll put the rest away for another such emergency."

That evening Mr. Hopkins came in with his face wreathed in smiles.

"The young fry are so hot-headed these days," he remarked as he complacently laid a knobby bundle in his wife's lap. "I'm sorry for Tom."

"What about Tom?" asked Mrs. Hopkins, as she felt suspiciously of the package.

"We had started home together," said Tom's father, the keenest enjoyment in his voice, "and were up to Van Buren, when Tom jumped up and made for the platform. I called to him and he yelled back 'Match boxes!' and shot out the door. I tried to get to him to tell him that I'd got the batch, but he was gone. What's the matter? Didn't I get enough?"

Alice exerted herself feverishly to get the twenty-four receptacles arranged on a table before Tom's arrival, and when Tom came he didn't for a minute understand his reception. Then his eye fell on the tableful of distorted shapes and he slowly added his quota to the general contribution, while his father gave an impromptu lecture on haste vs. waste. The Hopkins family have concluded to give match boxes for Christmas presents this year.

She Knew.

"What are ... ?" the teacher asked the first class in animal ... "Things that grows on ... and ... ," answered the smallest girl.

Some people are willing to ... paid for it and others are glad for nothing.

In the smallest cottage there is room enough for two lovers.—Schiller.

Cast Care to the Winds.

Holly berries red and bright,
Wealth of candles flick'ring light,
Christmas in the air!
Childish faces all aglow,
Outside sleigh bells in the snow—
Banished is dull care.

[illegible]

The Christmas Dinner.

[illegible]

DAD AND MOTHER AND ME

Nobody's like old Santa Claus
With his red and jolly face;
There's not another around the globe
Can travel so swift a pace.
His twinkling eyes, and his merry laugh,
His chuckle of bubbling glee—
Nobody else is so dear by half
To Dad and Mother and Me.

He doesn't forget the baby sweet
As she rocks in her cradle white;
He has time to wait for the lagging feet
Of his old, by candle-light.
He has gifts and gifts for the young and gay,
Who encircle the Christmas Tree,
And he has the love to his latest day
Of Dad and Mother and Me.

The frost is chill in the nipping blast,
Smooth is the icy mere;
The short fleet days go hurrying past
To the last of the waning year.
And never was none of the summer's prime
So royally fair to see
As the rose that blooms in the winter's rime
For Dad and Mother and Me.
—Collier's Weekly.

A Child's Query.

In all the Santa Claus pictures
I've seen in my little day
He's traveling across the snow drifts
With a reindeer before a sleigh.

And this is the thing about it,
I ... really like to know—
Does he travel in a wagon
When there isn't any snow?
—Newspaper Clipping.

A Lover's Wish.

Since you cannot ... dear,
Give your ... heart;
Let me murmur in your ear
Joy you have ... ;
Write to ... Santa Claus
Plead ... ;
Beg him just to send to me
Christmas dream of you.

SNAKE STONES.

Cures of Venomous Bites by Their Use Reported.

Snake stones, as is well known, are small pieces of stone, or other hard substance, used, especially in India and the farther east, for curing the bites of snakes and other venomous creatures. In general they seem to be of no great value, though some remarkable instances are related of speedy cures thus effected. In the English periodical, Nature, Mr. D. Hervey relates some personal observations in this field. Several years ago, while bathing in the sea near Singapore, he put his foot in a small mudhole and received a bite near the ankle, which soon became extremely painful. A Malay who examined it on the spot said it was inflicted by a ... [illegible]

LOVE OF JEWELS.

Has Caused Many of the Tragedies of the World's History.

[illegible]

Progressive Economy.

An old bookkeeper declares that it is surprising to see how many valuable things a man can buy if he simply economizes in little things. "I once made up my mind I would become the possessor of a good gold watch. I saved up the money for it in this way: When I felt like eating a 50 cent luncheon, as I often did, I ate a 25 cent one instead, and put the other quarter aside for my watch fund. You will hardly believe it, but in less than six months I had saved money enough to purchase the watch." "But you don't seem to have purchased it," said his friend, observing that there was no outward signs of such a purchase. "Well, no. When I found how easily I could get along without 50 cent luncheons I concluded I could get along just as easily without the gold watch, and the watch fund is growing into a house and lot fund now."—Youth's Companion.

Puzzler to the Jury.

Jacob J. Friedman of Philadelphia is a member of a sick benefit society. He was taken sick and exhibited a doctor's certificate saying he was unable to work and that he should keep in the open air as much as possible. The society refused to pay and on being sued advanced the novel defense that Friedman, instead of staying in the open air, sat in a small room from 8 o'clock one evening until 10 the next morning playing poker. [illegible]

Eight Generations in Homestead.

Rev. James ... [illegible]

SPANISH CHILD PIANIST.

Remarkable Boy Prodigy Arousing Much Interest in Europe.

A remarkable boy prodigy has been arousing great interest in Europe. He has just appeared before the congress of psychology in Paris. His name is Pepito Arriola, and he came from northern Spain. The accounts of the prodigy are marvelous. He is described as a pretty, curly head, a little over three years old, who, at the tender age of 30 months, amazed his mother by playing on the piano immediately after her a piece of classical music of very difficult composition. He naturally does not know a note, but improvises in a way to amaze an audience of musicians. He throws into his modulations an intensity and a quality of expression of which it seems impossible ... [illegible]

HER HEART WAS TOUCHED.

A South Dakota Mother and Her Little Girl Express Their Gratitude in an Open Letter.

[illegible]

Best for the Bowels.

No matter what ails you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. CASCARETS help nature, cure you without a gripe or pain, produce easy natural movements, cost you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. CASCARETS Candy Cathartic, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet has C. C. C. stamped on it. Beware of imitations.

There is a Class of People

[illegible] ... Ask for GRAIN-O.

It is a poor brand of charity that sticks to the fingers.

Coughing Leads to Consumption.

Kemp's Balsam will stop the cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Sold in 25 and 50 cent bottles. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

The quiet action of the little wasp is responsible for many loud words.

Garfield Tea is an invaluable remedy for all forms of bowel and stomach disorders; it will cure the most obstinate case of chronic constipation.

It is possible for one to be so aggressive as to forget to defend himself.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on the box. 25c.

Man's inhumanity to man enables the poor man to draw his salary.

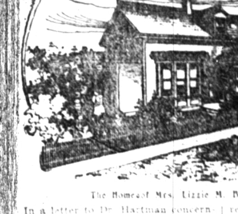
Dropsy treated free by Dr. H. H. Green's Sons, of Atlanta, Ga. The greatest dropsy specialists in the world. Read their advertisement in another column of this paper.

The one thing that everybody ... trouble.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

MRS. BREWER RECOMMENDS PERUNA FOR GRIP AND FEMALE CATARRH.



The Home of Mrs. Lizzie M. Brewer at Westerly, R. I.

In a letter to Dr. Hartman concerning the merits of Pe-ru-na, Mrs. Brewer writes, among other things:

Westerly, R. I.

"Dear Dr. Hartman: I find Pe-ru-na a sure cure for all catarrhal affections so common in this part of the country. It cures a cold at once. There is no cough medicine that can at all equal Pe-ru-na. As for la grippe, there is no other remedy that can at all compare with Pe-ru-na.

"I am among the such a great deal ... [illegible] ... I am enthusiastic in my faith ... I have never known it to fail to quickly and permanently remove that demoralized state of the human system which follows la grippe.

"In all cases of extreme weakness I use Pe-ru-na with perfect confidence of a good result. In cases of weakness peculiar to my sex I am sure that no other remedy is an approach in good results the action of Pe-ru-na. It meets all the bad symptoms to which females are subject. The irregularities and nervousness, the debility and miseries which afflict more or less the women from girlhood to change of life, are one and all met and overcome by this excellent remedy. I wish every woman in our city could read your book.

Mrs. Lizzie M. Brewer."

Pe-ru-na will cure the worst cases of catarrh. La grippe is acute epidemic catarrh, for which Pe-ru-na is a specific.

Mrs. J. W. Reynolds, New Lisbon, Ohio, suffered for many years with chronic catarrh of the lungs, head and throat; continuous cough; many physicians failed to cure. Permanently cured by Pe-ru-na. Thousands of testimonials could be produced. A valuable treatise on catarrh sent free by The Pe-ru-na Medicine Company, Columbus, O.

[illegible]

LOW RATES TO THE SOUTH.

Excursion tickets at reduced rates are now being sold by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway to the prominent resorts in the South, including Jacksonville Fla., Mobile Ala., New Orleans La., Savannah, Ga., El Paso, Tex., which are good for return passage until June 1, 1901. Information regarding rates, routes, time, etc., can be obtained on application to any coupon ticket agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway.

The author of a love story never sees the corns on the feet of his hero.

Don't Get Footsore! Get FOOT-EASE.

A certain cure for Swollen, Smarting, Burning, Sweating Feet, Corns and Bunions. Ask for Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder. Cures Frost-bites and Chilblains. At all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

In 1869 the State of Peru officially permitted the publication of a newspaper.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher.*

In Use For Over 30 Years.
The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Don't be stuck up. If you can't climb over creep under.

SEVERE HEADACHES

of any kind are caused by disordered Kidneys. Look out also for backache, scalding urine, dizziness and brick-dust or other sediment in urine which has been allowed to stand. Heed these warnings before it is too late.

$50 reward will be paid for a case of ... [illegible]

MORROW'S

KID-NE-OIDS

[illegible]

Morrow's Kid-ne-oids are not pills ... [illegible]

JOHN MORROW & CO., CHEMISTS, Springfield, O.

PISO'S CURE FOR
CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
CONSUMPTION

What Shall We Have for Dessert?

This question arises in the family every day. Let us answer it to-day. Try

Jell-O,

a delicious and healthful dessert. Prepared in two minutes. No baking! no ... add boiling water and set to cool. Flavors: Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. Get a package at your grocers to-day. 10 cts.

DO YOU COUGH
DON'T DELAY
TAKE
KEMP'S BALSAM
THE BEST COUGH CURE

It Cures Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Croup, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma. A certain cure for Consumption in first stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect, after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Large bottles 25 cents and 50 cents.

$4 FOR **25c** Your choice of a $4 Silk Umbrella, a $4 Oxford Bible, a $4 Carving Set, $4 Lace Curtains, a $4 Chafing Dish, $4 Opera Glasses. Any of these articles for 25c. Send 2c stamp for particulars. American Supply Co., ... Detroit, Mich. Mention this paper.

Dr. Bull's COUGH SYRUP

Cures a Cough or Cold at once.
Conquers Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Grippe and Consumption. Quick, sure results. Dr. Bull's Pills cure Constipation. 50 pills 10c.

If afflicted with sore eyes, use **Thompson's Eye Water**

DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY; gives quick relief and cures worst cases. Book of testimonials and 10 DAYS' treatment FREE. DR. H. H. GREEN'S SONS, Box E, Atlanta, Ga.

PENSION JOHN W. MORRIS, Washington, D.C. Successfully Prosecutes Claims. Late Principal Examiner U.S. Pension Bureau. 3 yrs in civil war, 15 adjudicating claims, atty since.

THE STANDARD SEWING MACHINE CO.

make 25 styles, including the only two-in-one lock and chain stitch machine. Also best low priced machines. For prices address

J. B. ALDRICH, State Mngr., Detroit, Mich.

CHEAP FARMS

DO YOU WANT A HOME?

100,000 ACRES improved and unimproved farming lands to be divided and sold on long time and easy payments, a little each year. Come and see us or write. THE TRUMAN MOSS STATE BANK, Sanilac Center, Mich., or The Truman Moss Estate, Croswell, Sanilac Co., Mich.

TOUR OF ALL MEXICO.

In Pullman's finest Compartment Drawing Room, Library, Observation and Dining Cars—all Vestibuled—with the celebrated

OPEN TOP CAR "CHILLILITLI"

for Observation in the Mountains and Canyons and Dining Car in the Tropics.

A delightful trip of 38 days with Three Circle Tours in the Tropics of the South of Mexico and a visit to the Ruined Cities.

All exclusive features of these itineraries of leisurely travel and long stops—The Special Train starts Tuesday, January 22, from Chicago.

TOUR OF PUERTO RICO.

Special Pullman Cars leave Chicago Thursday, January 17, and Thursday, February 14, at 9.30 a.m., connecting with the splendid new steamships Ponce and San Juan sailing from New York the second day following. Individual Tickets sold for other sailing dates, alternate Saturdays.

TICKETS INCLUDE ALL EXPENSES EVERYWHERE

These select limited parties will be under the special escort and management of The American Tourist Association, Reau Campbell, General Manager, 1423 Marquette Building, Chicago.

Itineraries, Maps and Tickets can be had on application to Agents of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway.