

Beasley's Christmas Party

By BOOTH TARKINGTON

VI—Continued.

Part of the room was clear to our view, though about half of it was shut off from us by the very king of all Christmas trees, glittering with dozens and dozens of candles, smugly in silver, sparkling in gold, and laden with Heaven alone knows how many and what delectable ornaments. Opposite the tree, his back against the wall, sat old Bob, clad in a dress of a state, part of which consisted of a swallow-tail coat (with an overgrown chrysothemum in the buttonhole), a red necktie, and a pink-and-silver chrysoem of tissue-paper. He was scraping a fiddle "like old times come again," and the tune he played was, "Oh, my fiddle, my fiddle!" My feet shuffled to it in the groove.

No one except old Bob was to be seen in the room, but we watched him and listened breathless. When he finished "fizza," he laid the fiddle across his knee, wiped his face with a new and brilliant silk handkerchief, and said:

"Now come de big speech." The Honorable Davy Beasley, carrying a small mahogany table, stepped out from beyond the doorway. He advanced to the center of the room; set the table down; disappeared for a moment and returned with a white water-pitcher and a glass. He placed these upon the table, bowed gracefully several times, then spoke:

"Ladies and gentlemen!—There he comes!"

"Well," said Mr. Simon Peck, slowly, "don't this beat hell!"

"Look out!" The Journal reporter twitched his nose. "Ladies present!"

"Where?" said I. He leaned toward me and spoke in a low tone.

"He is Miss Apperhwaite," she said behind us. She followed us over from your boarding house. She's been standing around near us all along. I supposed she was Dowden's daughter, probably.

stant still; calling the figures at the top of his voice and dancing simultaneously; his expression anxious but polite (as is the habit of other dancers); his hands extended as if to swing his partner or carry the fiddle lightly; and his feet lifting high and flapping down in an old-fashioned step.

"First four, forward and back!" he shouted. "Forward and salute! Balance to corners! Swing partners! Grand right-and-left!"

"I think the combination of abandon and decorum which he performed that 'Grand right-and-left' was the funniest thing I have ever seen. But I don't laugh at it."

"Neither did Miss Apperhwaite, at my side."

"Now do you believe me?" Peck was arguing, nervously, with Mr. Schulmeyster. "Is he crazy, or ain't he?"

"He is," cried, agreed, humorously. "It is a stark, stark, ravinin' morin' luncheon!" And the nigger's morin' luncheon!

"They were all starting open-mouthed and aghast, into the lighted room, and they saw who there it put us up."

"I guess I do!" said Grist. "You come to try a turn, and get a house and lot for the same money. It's the greatest night's work you ever done. Sim Peck!"

"Shako on it, Sim!"

"They shook hands, exulted with triumph. "This do the work!" glared Grist. "It's about two thousand per cent better than the story we started to try."

"He lifted himself on one elbow, and for an instant something seemed to be wrong with the brace which was under his chin. He looked at it, and then he looked at Beasley. Then he bowed elaborately toward the mantle-piece."

"Mrs. Hunchberg," he said, "may I have the honor?" And offered his arm. "And I must have Mister Hunchberg," whispered Hamilton. "He must walk with me."

"He tells me," said Beasley, "he'll be mighty glad to. And there's a plate of honore for Munchberg."

"You lead the way," cried the child; "you and Mrs. Hunchberg."

"Are you all in Ho-Ho-Ho?" Beasley glanced back over his shoulder. "Honor! Now get on, Ho-Ho-Ho!"

"He-r-r-r-r!" applauded, Mister Swift.

"And Beasley, his head thrown back and his chest out, proudly led the way. They were all in Ho-Ho-Ho!"

"You lead the way," cried the child; "you and Mrs. Hunchberg."

That judges are, but pen, like the rest of us, has been demonstrated again in Chicago. A member of our staff, followed in his wagon, his thin with the civil side of procedure by announcing that he will send correspondents in divorce suits, male and female, to jail. He even refused a request for one of our staff to make an investigation to see if action under the criminal law could not be taken.

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MEMORIES This is a hard-boiled age; and when sentiment is mentioned in its presence, it reaches for another cigarette and mutters something about "Heaven-sent mother-stuff." But this age will pass away, as ages do, while sentiment will endure forever. Moreover, even the hard-boiled guy who tries to be wholly selfish loses an opportunity to take a profit when he reveals sentiment. For, as the result of existence, says the Philadelphia Record. For while persons who have only vanity where their souls ought to be may depend upon their possessions for happiness, those who have their souls in their hearts and their hearts in their hands will grow rich by the way.

Those who have had experience of loss and grief have learned the hard lesson that unfeeling kindness to loved ones is a form of self-protection, an investment in consolation against a day of need.

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FOR OVER 40 YEARS HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE has been successfully used in the treatment of Catarrh.

Woman Commands Ship. Probably the only woman who acts as a ship's captain is Mrs. T. Alken.

Cuticura Soothes Itching Scalp. On getting gently rubbed with Cuticura and itching with Cuticura Ointment.

WAR TAUGHT PEOPLE THRIFT One Good Effect, at Least, Came as Result of the Gigantic World Conflict.

While Christmas savings clubs originated about 15 years ago, the World War is credited with the tremendous growth recently in the number of depositors, and, of course, the totals of savings.

The weekly payment systems for Liberty Bonds, regular purchases of Thrift and War Savings stamps and more or less regular frequent contributions to the war funds, are the average American into the habit of putting aside something out of the pay envelope.

The word "thrifty" writes a philologist, "did not imply a lack of mentality until the middle of the Seventeenth century."

Important to All Women

Thousands upon thousands of women have kidney or bladder trouble and never suspect it.

You may suffer pain in the back, headache and loss of ambition. Poor health makes you nervous, irritable and maybe dependent; it makes you so.

Polse is the best thing. It keeps you firmly planted on both feet.

Simple Matter. "Don't be afraid," said an aviator to a timid passenger. "All you have to do is to sit quiet."

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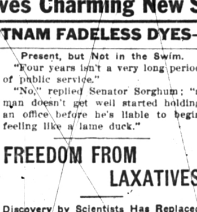
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QUESTION:

Is it possible for a busy housewife to serve hot mince pie?

ANSWER: This wonderful old dessert is possible in the busiest homes and the results are very gratifying if the housewife will use



NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT "LIKE MOTHER USED TO MAKE" MERRELL-SOULE COMPANY SYRACUSE, N.Y.

Freedom from LAXATIVES Discovery by Scientists Has Replaced Them.

Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer product prescribed by physicians over twenty-two years and proved safe by millions for

KNOWN WHAT HE WAS DOING Obvious Advantage in This Gentleman's Manner of Wearing His Diamond Ring.

Lenin's Remorse. Samuel Gungers said at a labor banquet in Washington: "Lenin regreted to be sorry for the ruin his Bolshevistic doctrine have brought on Russia. Well the sorrow of Lenin reminds me of Mr. Bolus."

Off to school on a winter morning —fresh and rosy—or pinched and chilly? That's a matter for Mother to decide.

Children, as well as grown-ups, need a hot maltine beverage that is wholesome, invigorating, and free from harmful after-effects.

A Story Never Heard. Percy—Have you heard the story about the Scotman who loaned a fellow a fiver?

Archibald—Don't think I have, Percy—No? You never will.

Aspirin

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Postum FOR HEALTH "There's a Reason" Malted by Postum Cereal Company, Inc., Battle Creek, Michigan



Opposite the Tree, as a Back Against the Wall, Sat Old Bob.



"You Lead the Way," Cried the Child; "You and Mrs. Hunchberg."

Moldavia. He walked stepped on your train—Sashay All!

After the "sashay"—the noblest and most dazzling bit of gymnastics displayed in any while—quintettes he bowed profoundly to his invisible partner and came to a jump, wiping his streaming face. Old Bob dexterously swung a New Year card into the stately measures of a triumphant march.

stepping boldly and in time to the exhilarating measures. Hamilton Swift Junior, towel by the bearing old man, followed in his wagon, his thin with the civil side of procedure by announcing that he will send correspondents in divorce suits, male and female, to jail. He even refused a request for one of our staff to make an investigation to see if action under the criminal law could not be taken.

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MANY GYPSY BANDS IN HUNGARY

In almost every village of that country there is a Gypsy Band.

Nowhere but in Hungary are found so many musical instruments without

the instruments most used. The cimbalom was created by the Hungarians about the twelfth century, and is their violin. It is used to accompany the violin. What the banjo is to our negro, the cimbalom is to the Magyar.

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