

FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

The New year's Welcome.

BY MARY D. BREWER.
Ring, bell, ring the New Year,
Ring, bell, ring the New Year,
He comes with throne with smiling face,
He comes with throne with smiling face,
Ring for the joy his advent brings;
Ring for the happy songs he sings;
Ring for the promises sweet and true,
With which we gladness our hearts know.

The new-born Year is a happy fellow,
Ring, bell, ring the New Year,
With the Christmas gifts his arms are crowned,
With the Christmas blessings who wrap him round,
Tune ring, bell, ring for the joyous day;
The Past is silent, the Present is here;
Ring out your mirth, cheer after cheer,
To welcome the birth of the happy New Year!

—Harpers' Young People.

Shadow Pantomimes.

The plan adopted for the performances is where two apartments are connected by folding doors, for when the doors are thrown back the screen has simply to be fitted to the opening; however, as this advantage is not always available, a little management is required to prevent the light from showing over, and at the sides of the screen. This can be easily done by stretching a line across the room, close to the ceiling and handing thereon curtains, or any other piece of opaque drapery.

The screen is a square of muslin or calico strained on a common wooden frame by means of tacks. The cloth must be drawn tight and smooth, as the least wrinkle or bagging will quite spoil the effect of the representation. To get started the best way is to begin by fastening the corners, and then putting a tack in the center of each of the four sides. If it is done in any other manner it will be certain to bag. The material for the screen may either be a sheet, which having been immersed in water, is wrung out and tacked on a frame, or a few yards of the cheapest calico got for the purpose. The former is open to many objections, having the chief objection of having their house-linen soiled and iron mangled by nails; besides which there is the trouble and delay of putting it on the frame, to which it could not be properly attached before the sheet would dry. On the other hand, by having the screen "en permanence," these drawbacks are obviated, and the calico will easily be removed when the screen is taken off.

In putting on a permanent screen, after it has been strained, the following method will be found to answer best.

To coat the calico with linseed oil.

Lay it on with a painting brush until it is semi-transparent; or should it be desired to be very white, virgin wax dissolved in spirits of turpentine may be used.

The light is this is managed by having a small tin cup made about the size of a breakfast cup, in the bottom of the inside of which a piece of twisted wire should be soldered, to hold some cotton to serve as a wick; around this there is to be put some tallow, that cut from candle wicks is best, any other kind of fat is not so good.

It is to be melted with salt, which causes the wick to split and splutter. The fat should be pressed down close all around, leaving about a quarter of an inch or so of the cotton sticking up. On lighting this it will burn on melting the tallow until it becomes sea of almost boiling grease.

The cup should be placed in an asbestos pan of such a size that it ought to be filled to the top with sand, on in which the cup should be placed. This is a very necessary precaution, as should the lamp by any chance be overturned, the hot grease would be overturned, the hot grease would be absorbed by the sand.

The performance—Having arranged all these preliminaries, viz., the screen tightly strained and fitted to its place, and the lamp prepared and lighted, the pantomime may commence. The light being laid on the floor about four or five feet from the center of the screen, the aurilon is of course left in complete darkness, as otherwise the shadows thrown by the actors on the screen would not be seen.

Should any lady or gentleman be so obliging as to play a few lively airs on the piano as an overture, it will add greatly to the effect.

All those not actually engaged in the performance, but who are behind the screen waiting to come on, must be particular to keep to the back of the light, or the shadow will be apparent when his presence would be undesired.

It is well to confine each performer to his side of the screen to the light. This in front will have the appearance of his having dropped from the ceiling, and when he has finished his part and wishes to make his exit, he does so backward, when it will appear to the audience as if he had gone up through the ceiling. Care must be taken to invariably put on the hat side of the screen, and without hasty, without hurry or heedlessness, and without knocking against the light. This in front will have the appearance of his having dropped from the ceiling, and when he has finished his part and wishes to make his exit, he does so backward, when it will appear to the audience as if he had gone up through the ceiling. Care must be taken to invariably put on the hat side of the screen, and without hasty, without hurry or heedlessness, and without knocking against the light.

In going through the business of the pantomime, the actors must remember that it is essential to do it in profile, as their shadows should have the effect in front of *silhouettes*, or figures cut out in black paper. In using this effect they should be placed as close as possible to the screen, without causing the person sitting on or walking in front of them to touch the screen.

When ladies take part in the pantomime the stage manager should be particular in making all come out from the sides. There must be no jumping over the light, for ladies young or old, so that no accident from a dress taking fire can possibly take place.

GREAT MAINE SNAKE.

On Friday, last Mr. Hall and Mr. William Libby, of St. Stephen, were looking for a large snake, and in hunting for William Drury, and in hunting for a certain touch of spruce unexpectedly came out on Chain Lake. It was a beautiful day with only a slight breeze rippling the water, and they stopped on the shore to take their lunch. Mr. Libby soon noticed a peculiar noise, which seemed at first to issue out of the woods, and he came from the direction of a cove above. Mr. Hall could not for a time hear the noise to which his attention was called; but when he did finally distinguish the sound, he remarked that a crew of men must be repairing the dam above. Just then there appeared in sight around the point, a mile away, an object which they took for a large snake, and which was covered to be an enormous snake. With its head elevated six feet above the water, it came swiftly down the lake, facing the sun, until it reached a position just opposite the men, and distant less than half a mile. It then stopped short, throwing the middle part of its body out of water, and an acre also six feet high. Its head, which had been before turning in the direction of once shore and then the other, was pointed for a minute in the direction of Mr. Hall and his companion, who stood motionless. After this it moved again, and suddenly straightened out again, and passed down into the outlet. Its speed was about a mile in five minutes, or twelve miles an hour, and its appearance while in motion is thus minutely described. From its head to the water was six feet, and its body seven feet, or more of its form was under water; then some twelve feet of its back appeared above the surface to a height about sixteen inches; the remainder of its greater length was hidden

from view, and, as the propelling power was necessarily attatched to the last named part, its entire body could not have measured less than two and one half feet across, and the upright portion of its body, though of course, by no means the largest, was "as big as a pork barrel." When last seen in the outlet it had left the water, and was passing over a distant point of land covered with large boulders, among which were "tough vines." The erect part then "looked like a man that would weigh 300 or 400."

Mr. Hall's theory is that the serpent travels and lives on land as well as water, and that its chief food consists of deer. On the name "it" was hungry, and having smelled us, came out of the water and "laid in" passed by the serpent, borne on the wind, and when it got where the sun would permit it to see us, we stood so still it took us for stups on the shore, and proceeded on." Mr. Hall says the Times was incorrect in stating that he saw large scales on the snake's back. He saw nothing of the kind, and added, "I think they were not having been distinguished as half a mile off; nor did he see as one paper deliberately reports, that it had eyes "as big as saucers." He could tell nothing about its eyes. Then again, the monster was not frightened by shoal water or some other cause," as it never approached directly toward him. Finally, he struck his pipe, and stood still, knowing the neither shoal water nor flight to the woods would save them if the serpent kept the scent and was bent on mischief. "I had plenty of time," says Mr. Hall, "my worst came to worst, to cut and sharpen a sapling a dozen feet long, and at close quarters, should have plunged the pole down its throat, and let Mr. Libby kill it with the ax, and never better to have attacked him with the ax first."

Mr. Hall says that any man seen on the St. Croix who will dispel the existence of the above-described "boa-constrictor," in the face of what his eyes and those of Mr. Libby have just witnessed, is not clear-headed. This is not the first time this snake has been seen. On Oct. 1, Lewey saw it some years ago, and one of the Passamaquoddy Indians has seen it in Big Lake at various times. Every member of the tribe knows of it and believes in it. Mr. John Williams and a crew of men saw it at the mouth of Little River twenty-nine years ago, and his description attracted much attention at that time. Mr. Williams, who is part of the tribe's body for an instant, by laying across the boom, and upon advancing to see how the log lay there, the brute moved away, and in going across the land made a broad deep furrow in the grass and soil of the meadow. Mr. Hall now regrets that he ever said anything about the snake, as there are so many among men who do not believe and despise what is written.

Provisions—Pork dull and nominal at \$10.75. Lard quiet at \$10.85. Bulk-meats in fair demand at \$6.25a50. Bacon quiet at \$7.50a50.00.50. Whisky—Quiet at \$1.15.

Beef—Quiet, creamy, 4c; choice to reserve, 28c; choice central.

Hogs—Firm; common and light, \$5.00a50.15; packing and butchers, \$6.15a40. Receipts, 1,800. Shipments, 300.

Toledo—

Grain—Wheat steady; No. 2 red, \$1.25a36. Corn strong; No. 2 mixed 64c. Oats quiet; No. 2 mixed, 47c.48. Bye stronger at \$1.041/2. Barley dull at \$1.05.

Provisions—Pork dull and nominal at \$10.75. Lard quiet at \$10.85. Bulk-meats in fair demand at \$6.25a50. Bacon quiet at \$7.50a50.00.50.

Whisky—Quiet at \$1.15.

Beef—Quiet, creamy, 4c; choice to reserve, 28c; choice central.

Hogs—Firm; common and light, \$5.00a50.15; packing and butchers, \$6.15a40. Receipts, 1,800. Shipments, 300.

Cincinnati—

Flour—Heavy and unchanged.

Grain—Wheat inactive; No. 2 red, \$1.25a36. Corn steady; No. 2, 65c.

Cloves—No. 2, \$4.85; prime, \$4.971/2; premium, \$5.121/2.

Barley—quiet at \$1.05.

Meat—Wheat quiet but firm; No. 2 red spot, December, \$1.231/2. Corn, No. 2 spot held at 67c. Oats quiet; No. 2, 4c. 45c. asked.

New York Dry Goods.

The general demand continues quiet, but agents are receiving fair orders for certain spring fabrics for future delivery. Cotton goods quiet and steady. Shirting prints in fair demand. Allen's shirtings have been opened at 52c. Woolen goods quiet.

Guiteau's Wife.

A Washington special of the 17th to the Globe Democrat says:

Guiteau was visited in jail on Saturday, who was very ill, and was seen by Mrs. Dunnmore, his widow, who was very ill, and was seen by her eyes as she said, "Charles, I'm sorry to find you in this condition."

"Never mind," he said, and then went on to abuse Corkhill for having brought her on as a witness.

She then said she had called to bid him good-by, and she never might see him again. Guiteau, however, seemed anxious to inform the interlocutor of his wife, and his thin lips twitched nervously. Said he:

"Anna, I can wish you no harm. I hope your life may be prosperous and happy."

The lady's husband then stepped forward and shook Guiteau's hand, saying "We say good-by now, for I hope to leave for Leadville Monday night. It is too close for me around here."

"And for me too," said Guiteau, with a ghastly smile—and they parted.

One of the leading insurance companies of Hartford, Conn., has just ended its experience with "dead man who didn't die." In October of last year one of its agents, Mr. Allen, took out an accident policy for \$2,500, payable to his wife, Almira C. Piper, in case of death. For this he paid \$2. He also applied for a life policy for \$1,500, and the policy was duly written by the company and forwarded. For this Piper paid \$5.73. Thus his investment was \$80.73 for \$4,000 of insurance. The policy was issued by another company, and the agent, Mr. Allen, in case of death, would be entitled to \$1,500.

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