

# Thanksgiving Day Here and in Foreign Climes

By Mrs. Edward Dunroy-Reed



The Author

**W**e elevate our chins, expand our chests and don our "smile over on the Mayflower" expression when some one mentions the origin of Thanksgiving. Unhesitatingly we lay claim to the honor of having the "only original" Thanksgiving day on the globe. Then along comes a long-haired historian with his array of facts and our pride receives a shock.

There is hardly a country in the world which does not give thanks for one reason or another. Some have better reasons than others, but they all claim to have sufficient excuse for being grateful to set aside one day each year.

Thanksgiving day was held long before the timber for the Mayflower or the Anne was planted. It had its origin in antiquity when the Romans and Greeks held a fast day in October which they dedicated to the goddess of agriculture and followed—the day of fasting by one of feasting and royal frolicking, a day on which the chase and all sorts of rustic sports held sway.

Going even further back into the remote ages or—not our country, also—but of the world, we find the early Egyptian setting aside a day for general thanksgiving and burning of incense and offering sacrifices to their divinity of the crops, the Goddess Isis.

For seven or eight days the Jewish "Feast of Tabernacles" was, centuries ago, held during the seventh month, which is November, and after the completion of Solomon's temple the people that year held a 14-day festival which was a time of thanksgiving, and during which time they gave thanks for the abundance of their land. Living in booths they decorated their entire homes with branches of the palm and of citron trees and then showed that it was for the yield of the season as well as for the completion of the temple that they were giving thanks.

Coming forward a century or two we find Thanksgiving day being held in England under the name of "Harvest Home." This day was usually early in November and it opened by a church service, which was followed by a day of gaiety and feasting. Thanks were given in the churches for the benefits of the season and then the "masses" flocked to the grounds of the "classes," to which they were all invited. Here squire and gentle entertained the peasantry with free and easy dances in the barns, wrestling matches and feasts of archery, for which prizes were given.

In the evening harvest songs were sung by the light of the moon, over the beer and ale, which flowed freely. A dinner, such as only the early English knew how to prepare, was served to these great crowds of thanksgivers, and the Harvest Home day ended in repletion both of appetite and merrymaking.

Before the Reformation a special day was set apart in England for giving thanks, and after the reformation the custom was continued with added fervor, but after all, it is not from our English ancestors, as we might suppose, that we received the inspiration for our first Thanksgiving day.

Neither did the idea originate with the Pilgrims themselves. They merely continued a custom with which they had become familiar and of which their names approved, when they were living with their Dutch cousins.

To distress just a little: It has been claimed by some investigators who stopped just a little short of the beginning in tracing backward that the first real Thanksgiving day of true American meaning was held by the Popham colonists of Monhegan, but as they were Episcopalians and gave thanks every week in their regular church ritual this must be blackballing and cast out of our calculations.

And now to return to the Pilgrims and the customs they absorbed while protected in Holland. The pious Dutch, before the Pilgrims flocked to their peaceful land, had set apart October 3 on which to give thanks for their harvest, but more especially for their deliverance from Spanish authority. The

## WAS SPOILED IN THE TELLING

Good Joke That Somehow Lost Snap as Miriam Related It.

Miriam heard the story about the longshoreman who got a drink by chicanery, enjoyed the story immensely, and felt very sad when she told it and no one laughed. It was the ancient tale about the man who swallowed the whisky and said "Charge it." This conversation ensued between

the barkeeper and his boss, who happened to be in the cellar: "Mister Callaghan, has Timothy Casey sufficient credit in this establishment to warrant me in charging some liquor to his account?" And the proprietor called back: "Has Mister Casey consumed the liquor in question?" And the barkeeper shouted in reply: "Oh, yes, he has consumed it." "Very well, then," said the proprietor of the saloon, who was something of a philosopher in his way—

charge this to Tim Casey! So the barkeeper shouted down to the proprietor, who happened to be busy in the cellar: "Mister Callaghan, has

"Is Casey good for a drink?" "Has he it?" "He has." "He is."

As Miriam told it: "A wicked longshoreman, finding a new barkeeper at his favorite saloon, ordered a glass of whisky, drank it, and as he walked out remarked: 'You may

## AMBITION REALIZED

PRINCE FERDINAND ORDERED CROWN MADE TEN YEARS AGO.

Design Made But Pians Made to Make Him Monarch Fell Through—New Ruler of Bulgaria as He Is—Fond of Music.

London.—It is exactly ten years ago that Ferdinand of Bulgaria had his first inclination to become a king. He was not content with the common or garden title of prince, since in his hands lay the reins of government of a not inconsiderable state. In 1898 he openly announced that he wished to become king, but at that time Bulgaria would have none of it. Ferdinand had never dropped this, his pet ambition. Moreover, his mother, Princess Clementine, was as anxious as he was that her son should reign as king, and so she ordered from a Munich jeweler a crown of surprising grandeur, in which she promised to set some of the brightest jewels from the family collection of the Saxe-Coburg-Gothas. She even went a step further, and commissioned one of the greatest artists in Bavaria to prepare a special design at a handsome fee for the crown. The design was delivered and approved, but the artist failed to receive a check, and when he gently insinuated that one would be acceptable he was informed that as soon as the crown was made he should receive it. Subsequently Ferdinand gave up the idea of being crowned a king till the other day.

It is an open secret that for some time Ferdinand has been doing his

best

to

get

the

throne

of

Bulgaria.

From 1898 until 1907 the New England records show that 22 different dates were set apart by the various governors as days for public thanksgiving, and that with the exception of the two colonies mentioned no two held the day on the same date. The celebrations, however, were held in October or November.

In 1877, as other denominations had crept into Plymouth colony, over which the Puritan church had no ruling, the governor decided that it would be well to have the power of fixing public holidays, "whether for feasting, praying or funmaking," vested in civic authority. Accordingly in that year the first printed Thanksgiving day proclamation was printed. Thanksgiving day proclamation was printed, setting November 25 as the festival.

The law reads:

"That it be in the power of the governor and assistants to command solemn days of humiliation by fasting, etc., and also, thanksgiving as occasion shall be offered."

This shows that the law called for only "occasional" Thanksgiving days and so the holiday was buffered about hither and yon, from October to November, according to the pleasure of the rulers of the colonies and there never was any feeling of certainty as to the day.

That it was held annually with

out

break

in

Plymouth

and

Massachusetts Bay colony from its inception until 1869, with the exception of the year when King Philip's war interrupted, there are records to show. In this colony the church and government alternated in arranging the date of celebration.

## GEORGIA ON THANKSGIVING

Thanksgivin' day comes once a year because the Pilgrim band

Was thankful that they had the sense to leave their native land

And come across the sea to find a stern and rock-bound shore

Where they would never haft to bow to bosses enny more,

Where thieves would not break in and steal and trusts would never try

To gobble everything and let the little dealer die.

W. celebrate Thanksgiving' day because the Pilgrims came

In search of freedom where they knew that they would find the same,

Where men would be as brothers, where the strong would aid the weak,

Where libberty would raise her flag on every crag and peak,

Where billionaires would never dare to cheat for profits' sake

Or break the laws that other men were not allowed to break.

W. celebrate because the hopes hoped by that Pilgrim band

Have all come true, because there's not an evil in our land,

Because we have no wealthy rogues to plan and plot and scheme

To make the libberty we claim a vain and empty dream,

Because our magnates go to church and teach in Sunday schools,

And everywhere from sea to sea the Christian spirit rules.

We keep Thanksgivin' day because the man who does his best

To be an honest citizen is honored by the rest; May not have a share of stock or own a foot of land,

But all our wealthy senators are glad to shake his hand

And hear his plea and guard his rights with all the jellus care

They ever give the interests of any millionaire.

We keep the good old day because no idle rich ignore us

The pressing needs of those where Want is scratching at the door,

Because we have such freedom as the Pilgrims wished to claim,

Because we never are oppressed and never spoltched with shame,

Because we've frightened Greed away and raised our standard high

And kept the faith for which our sires were not afraid to die.

Very well, then; you may just as well charge it to his account!"—Harper's Weekly.

Thoreau's Philosophy.

A gentle rain makes the grass many shades greener. So our prospects brighten on the influx of better thoughts. We should be blessed if we lived in the present always and took advantage of every accident that befell us, and did not spend time in agonizing for past neglect, which we call doing our duty.—Thoreau.

very well, then; you may just as well charge it to his account!"—Harper's Weekly.

Best Patent Laws.

American patent laws seem to be the most satisfactory of any country, and it is probable that the statutes of many countries will be changed in the near future to conform with those of the United States.

Discharged.

"Yes'm; I had a comfortable home, and I stuck to it for ten years."

"How did you lose it?"

"My sentence expired, ma'am!"—Modern Society.

is directed especially against men.

Secusian in college breeds a distorted idea of marriage and of the sex relation in general, and it is to this class ignorance that much misery in the marriage relation is traceable.

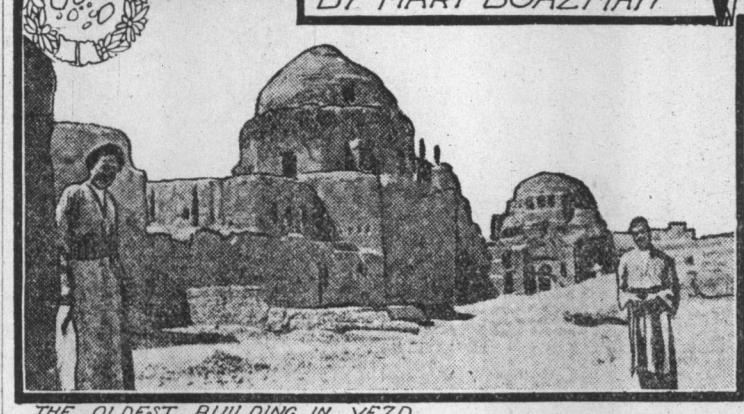
Another man, an author-physician, is even gloomier.

The tendency to withdraw and to seek a career, which is particularly noticeable of the college-bred woman, is a manifestation of a deep-seated abnormality, the results of a misdirected training in a freak institution." That is only one of the things the author-physician says. In particular he is bitter because a college girl—he believes—"wouldn't marry a man who is 'it's him'—Good Housekeeping.

First the motorman was provided with an inclosure, and now he is to have a seat therein. Evidently there's nothing too good for the motorman.

## WOMEN OF THE DESERT CITY

BY MARY BOAZMAN



## Truth and Quality

appeal to the well-informed in every walk of life and are essential to permanent success and creditable standing. Accordingly, it is not claimed that Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is the only remedy of known value, but one of many reasons why it is the best of personal and family laxatives is the fact that it cleanses, sweetens and relieves the internal organs on which it acts without any debilitating after effects and without having to increase the quantity from time to time.

It acts pleasantly and naturally and truly as a laxative, and its component parts are known to and approved by physicians, as it is free from all objectionable substances. To get its beneficial effects always purchase the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading drug-gists.

NOT EXACTLY.



Flossie Footlight—Part of the Japanese wedding ceremony consists in the burning of the discarded toys of the bride.

Winnie Wings—Horrors! You don't mean cremating her cast-off lovers, do you?

FUN FOR "HAPPY COUPLE."

Modern Wedding Described with Possibly Slight Exaggeration.

The young pair had so many friends that the police were quite unable to cope with the situation. The bride was headed up in a barrel and thrown into the river, while the groom was bound and gagged and suspended by his feet from a tall tree.

At this point the military was called out and arrived at double quick just in time to save the baggage from being passed over with insulting placards.

A number of shot were exchanged.

At a late hour the city was reported quiet and the authorities, though not denying the popularity of the high contracting parties, were confident that there would be no more violence.—Puck.

## SEVERE HEMORRHOIDS

Sores, and Itching Eczema—Doctor Thought an Operation Necessary—Cuticura's Efficacy Proven.

"I am now 88 years old, and three years ago I was taken with an attack of piles (hemorrhoids), bleeding and protruding. The doctor said the only help for me was to go to a hospital and be operated on. I tried several remedies for months but did not get much help. During this time sores appeared which changed to a terrible itching eczema. Then I began to use Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Pills, injecting a quantity of Cuticura Ointment with a Cuticura Suppository Syringe. It took a month of this treatment to get me in a fairly healthy state and then I treated myself once a day for three months and, after that, once or twice a week. The treatments I tried took a lot of money, and it is fortunate that I used Cuticura. J. H. Henderson, Hopkinton, N. Y., Apr. 26, 1907."

Mark Twain on Art.

Mark Twain and a party of friends recently went to visit the studio of a young sculptor who is coming rapidly into public notice. One of the pieces which was admired greatly by the majority of the party was the figure of a young woman coiling up her hair. Mark listened to the encomiums in silence, and when urged for an expression of opinion said slowly:

"It is beautiful, but it is not true to nature."

All expressed their surprise at this unexpected verdict and demanded his reasons.

"She ought to have her mouth full of hairpins," replied Tom Sawyer's father.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as this cannot remove the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies, such as a change of climate, the use of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a ringing sound in the ear, and the ear is entirely deaf. Deafness is the result and unless the inflammation can be removed, the deafness will remain.

As yet western influence has had little effect on the fundamental principles which govern the lives of Persian women. The teaching of the mulahs of both sexes, who make such an excellent living by reading the Koran to their golden cages (so poetical without, so sordid within), as they have done for generations back, their keenest emotions excited by a new fashion from Teheran, where there is rather a desire to adopt western notions in details of dress and manners and a big sale for Manchester finery. They never venture abroad except closely veiled, looking mere shapeless bundles with their large outside trousers, generally of a bright grass-green color, drawn over their indoor clothes; and the higher the lady, the stricter her seclusion. If she ride into the desert on her mule, or journey to her summer residence among the hills, her muleteer walks in front with his back towards her, and should she speak, he does not turn his head to answer her as western civility would demand. A princess of the royal blood was staying in Yezd. When she returned from an outing, a herald went in front to announce her coming. Immediately every man fled down a side street, and if any one among them was unable to escape he threw himself on his face in the dust until the feminine procession had passed by.

Every Persian house consists of two parts, the darum (within), the men's quarter, and the andarum (without), the women's quarter. No furniture of any kind is used, but the