A LOST CHRISTMAS DIRECT

BY PRED MYRON COLBY.

once visited, and where they had seen wrong as ony way." the diminutive, consequential King "There will be no confusion only for George II., who was then ruling Eng-

Elizabeth's time, and its vast rooms, ly enough." antique stairways and projecting "Surely you know, but it looks had gables gave visible proof of age and to me all the same. But there is of paint and the stylish furniture of ter rest." the period, which the present owner Nicholas kept his birthday, despite had provided, but the mansion would the change in the calendar, and he had not altogether relinquish its claim to his oyster patties, also, which, like a an honorable antiquity.

One of its most distinguishing charable Tudor architecture, from the roof of the Gregorian reckoning until the of which Nicholas and Margery, as twenty-third of December, by the new the precious thorn-tree stood, and the of which Nicholas and margery, as twenty-mile of this day, the precious thorn-tree stood, and the they watched the sunset, could catch style. On the evening of this day, two children dismounted from the second catch style. a gleam of Great Hampden, the seat which would have been the twelfth day dan, glad enough to stretch their among the Chiltern Hills.

The elder Dobson was a well-to-do mistress' cousin, the knight. clothier and cloth merchant. Like "Well, Sir Jasper," said the host, as miliar with the rise and fall of goods mas this year?"

in the London market and the latest "Why, I keep it on the true day, as burly man, who looked as if he might

One September night, as the boy sitting-room, the clothier entered with ing shrewdly at his wife. a frown on his usual cheery face.

those old periwigs at Westminster eve and blossoms on Christmas morn- if King George's Christmas was right. from us, and King George, they say, "And do you think the thorn will refuse to blessom on our new Christ-cooldings! I think it is shameful!" mas, Cousin Jasper?" inquired Dame

"Are you so sure that they have Deborah. done this?" asked Mistress Dobson, in "Truly it will. The thorn will know her quiet way. "And if they have, the day, mark that. It was a slip how do you know that it is not right?" from the sacred Glastonbury-bush is what Simon Collett, the haber- hand." dasher of hats and tobacconist, who has just returned from London, told thorn, and naturally biossoms that me. He said it was so, and that the time of the year," said the mistress, new style would take eleven days right incredulously. "Many a time during out of the year; and when I came by our first years of marriage did I ride the King's Crown, they were talking over to Quainton to see the blooming." about it there."

out it there."
"But suppose they are right, after blooms?" cried Sir Jasper. all, and that we were eleven days behind the right time, how then, father?" and Deborah Dobson braced inther; out it's no secred bush, for all
quiringly into her husband's face.

And I can hardly start that quiringly into her husband's face. | bury was

sale sing his shoulders. "How do tender's great grandfather." they know whether it is wrong or right, and what business is it of theirs anyhow? As it is, they have just robbed us of nearly a formioht's time.

The little folks looked around with some apprehension, but no Cousin Jasper and to add to their per appeared, and to add to their trouble neither Simon maft.

The little folks looked around with some apprehension, but no Cousin Jasper appeared, and to add to their trouble neither Simon maft. right to do. A pretty kettle of fish twelve days to come." they have made of it. Here was our "Well, we shall keep Christmas here sedan-chair, closed the door, and sank Ah, Sheila is smiling Nicholas, eleven years old on the moron the day after the morrow. We down on the cushions, where they soon So sweet an' beguilin', row, and he was going to have a birth stand by King George, Cousin Jas-fell asleep. day party. He as born on the 5th per," and Mistress Dobson sat down low. Well, this perliament says that her towering head-dress trembled. to-morrow is the 16th. So the boy has lost his birthday, and it's a wicked Nicholas and I go to Quainton to see no robin-redbreasts to draw leaves

"I don't care if I lost my party," he said, "if I have gained two weeks on Sister Margery.

"You have gained no more than she has," replied his mother. "Margery is twelve, and you are eleven, just the cidedly. same. So I say, that in introducing this new style, as they call it, they have not dealt justly with you, boy, in robbing you of a birthday."

The countenance of Nicholas fell. "Then, if I have not gained eleven days on Sister Margery, I shall have my birthday party!" he said.

mother; "and Janet shall serve the

The boy clapped his hands.

oyster patties, and please cook enough, "The children will need to sleep sometiree refused to bloom.

"Well, Margery, you may answer," pride to her daughter.

lunar year and the solar year. A in a smart wasitcost, silken small-ary, the matter became serious. To sidereal year is the time the sun takes clothes, silver knee-buckles and a settle the dispute, the fat hing and his in passing from any fixed star ap cocked hat, and little Margery gay in parliament ordered that both days, old around to the same star again, or one a flounced and furbelowed crimson style and new, should be similarly complete revolution of the earth in petticoat, scarlet stockings, and her kept. A solar year is measured by the revo-

lution of the sun."

"Here, in our England, Decer twenty-fifth was New Year's Day, important event, the year was ordered the captain of the guard." to commence on that day. But it soon grew out of fashion, and for four huna coach?" saked Nicholas, who, for a Christmas dinner. dred years we have begun the year wonder, was nearly as well versed in English history as his sister.

I suppose it is to begin on the first of March. Now I imagine this is a ceach," said Christmas was first substitute girl. "It is much more conflict."

Nicholav and Margory Dobson were . "And a fine more it will make," said an English lad and lassic, who lived the clothier. "Our whole realm will in a great old house at Amersham, in be in confusion, for ne one will know that you Buckinghamshire, not many miles when the church days come due, and from Windsor Castle, which they had we are as likely to keep Christmas

"When we start with the first of Janu-The house had been built in Queen ary all right, things will go on smooth-

faded grandeur. It is true these were Thomas, the butler, to call us to supsomewhat disguised by the new coat per, so, mistress, we will let the mat-

generous lad, he shared with Margery. No further allusion was made in the acteristics was its turret, of indisput- Dobson household to the introduction sons had a visitor to tea. It was the

most of his class, he was a busy, prac- he cut a generous slice of capon for throng. tical man of business, far more fa- his guest, "when do you keep Christ-

blessed day for me."

"But how are we to know which is and girl sat in a corner of the grand the proper day?" asked Dobson, glanc-

"How do we know?" exclaimed Sir "Do you know what Parliament has Jasper. "Why, this is how we know. thorn. been doing, mother?" he seked, as he Whether the calendar be wrong or took a seat in his high-backed arm- right, the thorn-tree at Quainton will chair by the fireplace. "Just think, know. It always buds on Christmas

mas, Cousin Jasper?" inquired Dame

how do you know that it is not right.

Am I sure?" cried the clothier, which the holy Joseph of Arimathea ly in the wrong. hat irately for him. "AR I stuck into the ground with his own

"Pshaw! The plant is only a haw-

bed us of nearly a fortnight's time, I will warrant you this slip at Quain- trouble, neither Simon nor Daniel return maff. which no king or parliament has a ton will not bloom for more than could be found. They did not know

her silver tea-urn with such force that

"What, child; go ten miles, and mayhap lose your Christmas dinner?" Dame Deborah Dobson looked some-

what astonished. "I tell you it won't bloom on your new Christmas!" said Sir Jasper, de-

"But if it should, the children would want to see it." said his cousin. "Then we may go, mother?" cried

Margery, jumping from her chair. "If your father says so, and Cousin Jasper will go with you." "That they may, whether Cousin

"That you shall, dear," declared his head of the household. "They shall wait until the true Christmas for ride in our sedan-chair. I heard Simon that." best dinner for you that she can get and Daniel express a desire to see the lt was as the knight said. It was in blooming, and they can go and carry vain the minister talked an I scolded.

where, and my father's haif-sister will "The new way is all right for kings "You shall have the patties if you be glad to welcome them. But I prom- and queens, perhaps," they said, "but

Nevertheless the children persisted father's kept." "Don't ask me! Margery will tell in going. So, on the afternoon of the .And so there was no Christmas dintwenty-fourth, Sir Jasper, mounted on ner eaten that day in Quainton. And the lad went to work with re- his bay steed, waited at the gate of the When King George heard at Londoubled exertions upon the toy he was mansion, where the two stout servingmen, Simon and Daniel, stood with the those in the other villages refused to

Presently the little people came run-"We have the siderest year and the ning down the steps, Nicholas dressed was its wont, on the fifth day of Janu-

they felt as proud as young sover- twenty-sixth.

until William the Norman's time. His Kenilworth, and you are Lord Leices back to Quainton when the old Christcoronation happened to occur on Janu- ter," said Margery, trying to look very mas came, the poor children missed it ary first, and as it 'yas considered an dignified. "Mother's Cousin Jasper is altogether. And this was how Nicholas

voice at the window, "I pear your leave to ride on and prepare the ca against your coming."

And, with a pleasant laugh, Sir Jas-

per bowed low and galloped forward hoofe on the flinty read, and soon the echoes themselves died away.

It kept growing darker, and the crowd also grew thicker, and sometimes the sedan-bearers had to stop altogether, on account of the pressure. Torches and lanterns gleamed all along the road, and there was a tu-

mult of many voices. All England seemed coming out to the bloom

They found the field all astir and countless lights moving around. About the thorn-tree there was a great

out of coats and waistcoats than with a Christian should," answered the be a butcher. "Just look at it. The plant is dead"

It was a quarter of twelve, and all grew silent. A tall man, in a black garb, and wearing a very white neck-tie and lace under his great, ruffed sleeves, took his post just before the

He field a lantern in one hand and a heavy silver watch in the other. The As yet there was no sign of a blossom. The stock looked dead; would it

Off in the distance rang a peal of bells. It was twelve o'clock. Christmas day had come; but the wonderful

Nichelas and Margery stood hand in hand on the outer edge. They could catch a glimpse of the thorn-tree now and then, by standing on tiptoe and craning their necks, and they felt very much disappointed when the wonderful blossoms did not appear. One by one the crowd broke up, and

the field ere long was almost tenant-

which way to go, and so they did the

They were awakened by a hearty voice crying:

"Ah! here you are, almost like the For Sheila is kneelin' over you. But come go with me, and get some breakfast."

They rubbed their eyes and looked Ourselves an' no otherup into the face of Sir Jasper Planchard. And by his side they saw the two servitors, Daniel and Simon.

The bells were ringing when they went out from the field; but, as they reached the streets, they found no one going to church. The shops were all open, and the smith's nammer and the chimney-sweep's voice were busy. In the church door stood the parish

minister alone. "That they may, whether Cousin "They will hang no miscletoe to-Jasper goes or not," answered the day," said Sir Jasper. "They will

"And you will make her cook some "I will go, too," said the knight. cut holly-boughs so long as the thorn-

will tell me how many kinds of years ise you they shall see no blooming." and queens, permaps, and queens, permaps, as for us, we keep the Christmas our

said Mistress Dobson, turning with tween them. fat sides shook.

respect to a fixed point in space. A mother's jeweled necklace sparkling But, however satisfactory this ar-

rangement was to the people in gen-They were in a merry mood, and eral, it did not remote matters any for "True," said Mistress Dobson, dealong by the stout servitors, with Sir the twenty-fifth with their generous lighted with the readiness of her Jasper riding gravely beside them, cousin, and returned home on the At Amersham, the new Christmas

"I am Queen Elizabeth going to had been kept, and as they did not go



SLENDERIZING LINES.

Delightfully smart is this attractive front of the skirt is flared at the will have come. wise). 20 cents.

be of interest to every home dress-shook his head. "Every room is taken.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS. or?" and Deborah Doborah Dobor

Himself.

There's never a sight in the world half so fair; So happy I'm feelin'.

By a little white crib—the world's centre is there!

His father an' mother-

Know we'l why the blue of the sky is so dim. The flowers are failin'

The rosy dawn palin';

His first Christmas mornin'-I give you fair warnin' The fairies have touched him, the winsome wee elf!

Your heart you'll be losin' Without any choesin': Like Sheila's an' mine 'twill be there

with Himself. -Marion Mallette Thornton.

The Christmas Rose.

In a manger, cradled deep In the hay.

Mary's little Jesus lay Fast asleep!

Softly breathing, horns locked low, Cattle kneet.

While the wondering angels steal To and fro. . .

Old Judea wakes to find A Rose about her heart entwined! -Anne M. Robinson.



home of their grandien, Jesse, and of David, his son, and it was there Sam-uel anointed him to be king over Israel. There was buried Asahel, "God bless us every one" Israel. There was ourses manney, thou ones us every one ardent young warrior, son or David's Along the years illuming each aister, slain in David's wars. There As far as faith itself can reach, that the prophet Micah saw, in a vision of the future, a victorious prince come forth, of David's line, who would deliver the land from its oppressors and himself become his people's peace, "God himse us every one" Micah 5:2-6. And there, in strange Magic of kindly thought is fulfilment of that prophetic hope the Music of carols in the air Christ, Prince and Saviour, descend. As in the days of Tiny Tim ant of David's royal line, was born, in called "the Great."

in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night," that the vision of angels announced his coming. And it has always been to men of simple faith, doing the world's hard work, keeping their faithful watch, that the vision and knowledge of him have most surely come. The angels announced "good tidings of great joy make the which shall be to all people," and their song was of "Glory to God in the larger highest, and on earth peace, good will layers. toward men." These have always been the significant words of the Christian faith—joy, peace, good will to all men, and these were the signififrock having the modish surplice clos-cant notes of the teaching and of all

lower edge and the back is plain. Con- THE STORY-It was evening when trasting material is effectively used the two travelers reached the gates of for the shawl collar, vestee, lower sec- Bethlehem. They were tired after milk-white bloom showed not. King tion of the sleeves, and chic bow at their long journey. The road was the left closing. No. 1457 is for ladies dusty and crowded, for many other the left closing. No. 1457 is for ladies dusty and crowded, for many other and is in sizes, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and people were on their way to Beth'e- the same time. Before the icing be-46 inches bust. Size 38 requires 41/2 hem. The emperor had sent out word gins to set, thrust a smooth white or yards 39-inch plain material, and 1/2 that every one was to return to his red three-inch candle firmly down into yard 36-inch contrasting (cut cross- own home town, in order to have his the centre of each rose. name written in the emperor's book. Our Fashion Book, illustrating the Bethlehem so late went at once to the

maker. Price of the book 10 cents the There is no room for you," he said.

geaned grain for Naomi, some shep-herds were watching their sheep. The shepherds sat on the ground. They wrapped their heavy coats around snow crystals and touch the ends of them, for the night was cold. They some of the branches with red fruit watched the stars twinkling in the sky, coloring. A bit of fresh icing placed

one of them shouted: "Look at the light! What is it?" A great light had appeared in the sky. It was so bright that at first the shepherds could not see clearly. Then

good news for everyone. To-night in Beth ehem there is bern a Baby who They're all in the pink cheeks an' will be a sign to you that what I say Nay, no closed doors for me, is to be the Saviour of the world. This

Then all the sky became light, and To welcome young and old. a great crowd of angels appeared.

They sang, "Glory to God in the high-

"And on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased." The shepherds thought as they listened that they had never heard such

beautiful music. All at once the angels disappeared. The sky was dark again, and the stars lvy and privet dark as night, were shining as before. "Let us go at once and see the

Baby," cried the shepherds. So they left their sheep and came to the walls of Bethlehem. A sleepy gateman opened the great gate to let them in.

found the Baby lying in a manger, just as the angels had said. And there beside him was Mary, his mother, and violet near by was Joseph.

The shepherds told Mary of the

angel's message, and all who heard the story wondered about it. When they had seen the Baby Jesus, the shepherds went back to their sheep. build;
And as they walked through the dark, Fer I've a care, which some she quiet streets of Bethlehem and out through the gates, they sang songs of thanksgiving to God for all that they Christina G. Rossetti had heard/and seen.

AT THE CLOSE OF THE LESSON-The shepherds sang their thanksgiving to God because they were so giad that they had been told of the Baby Jesus and allowed to see him. The Wise Men brought gifts to the little King. They brought the first Christmas gifts. To-day we give Christmas gifts with one coat of gum-crabic much because we remember the Baby, who that any druggist will make up was born at Christmas time. But did

of one of the guests arrived very late. moistened spange and are used home," he explained.

"Oh, my dear Mr. Blank," said the thing it may be cheaper to buy the ostess, "why didn't you come gummed paper instead of making to



Timy Tim's Carol.

was the well of good water by the As far as faith itself can reach, gate, from which three of the chief of That message comes from Tiny Tim. his mighty men brought David drink "God bless us every one"—at the risk of their lives, when the It echoes with a wealth of love town was temporarily held by a Philis—That wings its way to God above tine garrison. It was from Bethlohem With hope and cheer that will not "God bless us every one."

> Magic of kindly thought is there, As in the days of Tiny Tim. "God bless us every one"-

the days of the infamous Herod, so- Christ's soul itself is in that plea alled "the Great."

It was to simple "shepherds abiding" With Bethishem's star its shiring rim, "God bless us every one." -George Elliston

The Holiday Cake Use any good cape recipe that will make three large layers. Bake one layer in a pan at least two inches larger in diameter than the other two

When the cake is done, put together with your favorite filling, using the largest layer on the bottom. Cut the centre out of the top layer to within ing, and slenderizing effect accomthe active ministry of Jesus. When plished by means of the bodice being peace and good will and joy are established by means of the bodice being peace and good will and joy are established by means of the bodice being peace and good will and joy are established among men then his kingdom ing a hollow place in the centre of the cake. The whole with a collect cake. Ice the whole with a cooked white icing.

With a pastry tube filled with ornamental frosting make roses by forcing

If the cake is to symbolize the New Year, space mineteen of these roses and candles in the hollow in the centre of the cake. On the rim at the bottom of the cake, made by the first layer The gentle-faced girl who rode on extending beyond the others, space a donkey looked at the man who walk- twenty-five more roses and candles.

they could find in the crowded town. and dip them into cooked icing that That night, out beyond the city has been melted over hot water and walls, in the fields where Ruth had tinted a soft deep green. When the and they talked together. Suddenty on the cake, and the tree pressed down firmly into it will hold it tightly

they saw that an angel was near ing a tiny pinch of cream of tarter them. He was speaking to them, and and enough powdered sugar to make they listened, almost afraid of him. the icing hold its shape when forced "Do not be afraid," he said. "I have through the pastry tube.

is true: you will find the Baby in a But open doors for me, manger, where once exen ate their But open doors and open hearts and

My short days end, my lengthening days begin: What matters more or less sum in the When all is sun within?

weave with hips and have a cheerful show, And holly for beauty and delight, And milky mistletoe.

While high above them all I set When they found the stable they Yew twigs and Christmas roses pure and pale;

May keep, so sweet and frail;

May keep each merry singing bird. Of all her happy birds that singing

Christina G. Rossetti, in Pag-

was born at Christmas time. But did you if you tell him what you want ! you ever think how few of us give for. When the gummed paper is der gifts to Jesus to show how glad we are cut it into strips about one into the was born? to hree inches long, or would inte At a Christmas party the husband rolls. The strips are drawn contract "I have only come to take my wife tively to fasten ends of the packet If you count your time worth

Must be

strung nerves valencence is and years of quently follows an attack of inf Much of thir be avoided by up the blood e the nervee and body the elem store their no ties. To build store it to its r no other medic Hame' Pink Pi

it is their mi

blood and thu

and vigor. The value of described above ment of Mrs. broke, Ont., who I was stricken the time but If for my recover best of care I v after some mon cover my stren me I was unaer poor, I grew n was deathly pal However, rem girihood I had Pink Pills with cided to try the I had used two doubt the pills v tinuing their us attend to my ho I had used two at any time in t In gratitude for

health to some o woman " You can get medicine dealer box from The D Co., Brockville, (

done for me. 1

the hope that It

Love To love in vali dies. So often it sufferers become Slumpe,

The post Cowle Y "A mighty pair And 'tis a pain But of all pair It is to leve, bu Quite true; but To that the reply

a man loves a ma

ing because in fer from by by they took a rese "liking," an l or the reverse very different

Clari He held an ebeny His fingers delicate The silver of the ke

tragedy to purs in

look before you e

By undiscovere! His face was the He had the look Some vaguely and And all the while As swallows on the

His eyes beheld in

will in future has openings aftered in a the total length of present every lamps

and left hand Brown coupled together, 16ft

dian Westinghouse Current Generator, 1 850 R.P.M. Running inspection. FIRSTBROOK BE

ses King St. East