

# The Sphinx. [Vol. 5, No. 6] [December 1903]

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## Some Gaudie Christmas Carols

Ye Christmas-tide is on us now, We don our gay apparel; And now ye poet knits his brow To write ye Christmas Carol.

Yet Christmas Carols at a pinch Are not so hard I wis, For oh, it is ye skinchy skinch To turn out stuff like this:-





### Ye Love and Nonsense Carol

"O Mistletoe, O Mistletoe, I pray you loud, I pray you low." (And that's the way they usually go

In a Love and Nonsense Carol.) "I pray you bring good Mistress Kate And let her 'neath your berries wait' (And it might be just as well to state It's a Love and Nonsense Carol.)

"Oh, bring her here before she go, "Tis all I ask good Mistletoe," (Sing hey, and maybe perhaps sing ho For the Love and Nonsense Carol.)

Ye Solloquial Carol

It's Chris'mus! It's Chris'mus! It's Chris'mus once more

An' the holly is hung on th' little church door; The snow is so shinin' and glistnin' and white And the moon is ez round ez an orange at night. (Improbable spelling and dropping of G's Are prominent features in carols like these.)

It's Chris'mus. It's Chris'mus! Its Chris'mus once more

And we're goin to granpa's tomorrow fer shore. Oh we're to goin' to granpa's to granpa's hurray! To eat Chris'mus dinner on old Chris'mus day. (Which same you might write by the bushel or barrel

This idio-dialect-fool of a carol.)

### Ye Sunday School Carol

Umpty umpty umpty sing "Christmas tide has come again." Lumpty diddle voices ring, "Christmas tide has come again." Tootsie ootsie wootsie here: Popsy diddle dopsy cheer; Umpty umpty far and near; Christmas tide has come again.

Voices Whoopty oopty sound, "Christmas tide has come again." Pilly willy winky round Christmas tide has come again. Jigsy jugsy jugsy grand, Trolly wolly willing hand, Scatter lumpty lumptly land, Christmas tide has come again.

### Ye Merrie Old English Carol

Sing hey! sing ho! for the log of Yule And the Moris dancers' folly. Wassail! Wassail! with the sparkling ale And drink to the jolly holly !

(Tho I might remark I'm quite in the dark As to just what a Yule log is; And I'll bet wassail with the sparkling ale Can't stand with a slow gin fizz.)

But hev! sing ho! for the log of Yule And the clown and the pantomime ! And down with a pail of the Henglish Hale To the good old Christmas time.



### Ye Ancient Mariners Carol

It were up in the North in the Artic seas On the brig Susanna B., In a rollickin', howlin', freezin' breeze When the Capting sez, sez he:—

- "Oh, shiver my timbers and foul my screw, And likewise darn my eyes."
- (A favorite saying of captings who
- Are wishful to emphasize.
- "Yes, shiver my timbers and rot mv keel," He sez in his pleasing way, "But may I be et by a Dover eel
- If this ain't Christmas day.

So, yo heave ho The wind can blow As much as it bloomin' likes;

- But here's to the feel
- Of the after keel And the heft of the marlin spikes.
- To the thirteenth notch
- On the starboard watch.

And the bark on the Capting's log, And the larboard aft

And the helm abaft

And the brew of the Christmas grog." HORATIO WINSLOW.





### THE SPHINX.

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Always remember that this is only pretence, so that you are not to believe a word of it, even if it is true.-Kingsley

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riches HaZ wIngs, butt moste oFF uS dOnt Gett EvEn A Chanst To see Iff wE CUd Fli witH them. KIM.

N VIEW of the recent rebellion of the sophomore gym class, in the course of which a large medicine ball was playfully thrown at the instructor, it seems timely to reprint the following newsy story from a 1909 Scaredinall:

"A great crowd was gathered at Library Hall this morning to hear Professor Billson, of Michigan, speak on the 'Higher Aims of College Life.' A most enjoyable time was enjoyed, which will be long remembered by those who had the good fortune to attend. After the freshman and sophomore classes had been driven down the hill, as usual, by a party of U. S. regulars, the hall was entered. Shortly afterward the faculty came in and sat on the platform. Much mirth was occasioned when X. Y. Jones, '13, poured a bottle of red ink over the white head of Professor Watkins of the Egyptology department.

"As Professor Billson appeared he was greeted with cheers, which, however, soon changed to laughter when a merry hearted member of the class of '12 hove a medicine ball at his middle. We do not wish to be discourteous to any guest of the University, but we must say that Professor Billson certainly did look funny as he doubled up there on the platform. His first remark, however—that this was the first time he had taken *medicine externally*—soon brought him the goodwill of the audience; from that time to the end of his speech he was scarcely interrupted except by some of the newer members of the class. There are some people at this University whose highest idea of wit is to throw moth balls at a person who has traveled from Michigan to address them. We would like to say to these jokers that they do not yet appreciate the true spirit of Wisconsin life.



### THE SPHINX

"It is to be regretted that Mr. W. H. Butterby of the class of '12 was in an intoxicated condition during the address. It hardly seems fair to expect a man to give a good speech when a sophomore is trying to shoot a hole through the reading stand. These things may seem amusing at first, but they have their limit. Although none of the bullets struck Professor Billson it was noticed with regret that Instructor Slithresby, of the Higher Aesthetics department, had his left ear shot off, while Professor Tivington, of the Applied Jolly department, had a rather large hole shot through the top of his head.

"Unfortunate as these accidents were they might have been passed over with less censure if a large portion of the audience had not show such bad taste as to cheer at the writhings of Instructor Slithresby and make coarse remarks about a hearse when Professor Tivington was carried out.

"Though ordinarily it is not the duty of the news department of the Scaredinall to criticise or commend, at the same time in the present instance we cannot refrain from mentioning the unsportsmanlike act of three sophomores, who cut Instructors Beasly and Middleton into shockingly small pieces while the students were attempting to leave the hall by a back door. Students should remember that the faculty has nothing personal against the student body and it is such incidents as these that tend to create hard feeling on both sides.

"Altogether the covocation was thoroughly successful and the students enjoyed a great treat in Professor Billson."

#### BALLAD OF THE WAN STUDENT

- It was a weary, wan, student, Who stood upon the Hill,
- And cursed and swore long thick black oaths,

That set my heart athrill,

- And I stood and listened with mouth agape 'Till he had sworn his fill.
- "For I was ready to hike me home, In a week, or two or three,
- And I was doing my daily work, As well as it could be,
- When my Profs began to give us quizzes With remakable frequency.

"A quiz in Physics and one in Math, And a Pschyological quiz,

And one in German and one in French,

#### Till my anger riz and riz,

And I'm staying now for to put those Profs Completely out of biz.

- I thought when I came to the Varsity, That exams came twice a year,
- But we get them whenever vacations come, Lest we have too much good cheer,
  - And I'm sick of the whole dam business and I'm going to make trouble here."

It was a weary, wan student

- Who slew the numerous herd
- Of the Profs that give the frequent exams, And no one said a word,
- But we wept with joy at the funeral, As we saw them all interred.

KIM.



### THE REINSTATEMENT OF BOB THORNTON

Considering that he had not written to her for almost two months it was in a remarkably easy manner that he approached Miss Weld, and asked her for three waltzes.

"You know, we always enjoyed waltzes most," he added by way of explanation.

"Who did, if you please?" she turned on him.

"Well, now-a-I for one and-"

"And?" stiffly.

"You."

"Thank you, I'm glad you told me. I believe I had totally forgotten that pleasure." She looked at him coldly. "I suppose the Varsity girls are good dancers?"

"You bet," he answered enthusiastically. "Take Miss Golden—I mean—er—er on the whole I don't think—"

"I see. You want to keep in practice." It came like a cold wave. "But will only three dances suffice?"

"There are ten on the program," he explained, rather dampened, "but I understand at least six extras will follow. Of the ten I have engaged six and—"

"Let me see your program," she commanded.

Reluctantly he handed her the card, as he sat down on the settee beside her.

"No. 1 Miss Carlton," she read aloud, "No. 2 Miss Golden, No. 3 Miss Oxnard, No. 4 Miss Golden, No. 5 Miss Gol-"

He began to feel uncomfortable.

"Now see here, Kate," he interrupted, "this Miss Golden is Jim's, my roommate's sister, and as they live way out in Nebraska, I invited them to come down here for the Christmas party. And besides, she is my—"

His words were drowned by the orchestra which just then swung into the opening two step. A man approached them, exchanged a few words with her, and then she arose.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Thornton," was all she said, as she joined the other dancers.

He was so thoroughly dazed by the onslaught that he failed to notice the approach of his roommate. Presently he felt a hand on his shoulder, and heard a familiar,

"Wake up, Thornton, old man."

"That you, Jim? Well, it's all up," he said slowly.

"What's up?" Golden inquired sympathetically.

"I've got the slides—completely," he growled. "She told me to go to the devil, and be doggone quick about it too."

"I see. No wonder you're staggered, if she told you that."

"Well, she didn't say that exactly, but that was the gist of it, the underlying principle, you know."

"It came unexpected, did it?"

"Like the Chicago game, only worse."

"What's the row about anyway?"

"You see, I didn't write to her for nearly two months-"

"Poker and bowling?"

"Yep. And now she thinks I've got a crush on some Varsity girl. I asked her for a few dances, as the privilege of an old friend, and as a result landed in a blizzard which ended with the frozen shoulder. I wish I were out of it," he groaned wearily. "You know, Jim, I feel worse than when I lost my last cent on the Minnesota game. Then, at least, I could unload a little, but now I'm afraid somebody might hear it."

His room mate pondered a while. Then he said gayly:

"No, you don't, Jim," Thornton said guardedly, "not on me. Do you remember that 'scheme' of yours, when I had to cut an exam and you offered to write it for me? You said I'd get an 'ex' sure, and —."

"Let me explain how that happened. I had ----."

"Never mind, Jim. You've been explaining that ever since. What-what do you propose to do?"

Golden smiled knowingly. "The fifth dance I have with Miss Weld," he explained, "and then I'll —, work my scheme."

"When you'll work your scheme!" Thornton exclaimed sarcastically,

"Why, man, if she knows that you are Miss Golden's brother you and your precious scheme will be frozen up mighty quick. She thinks I'm rushing your sister since she knows that I am to have several dances with her. However, we had better find our partners now."

"All right, Thornton," Golden replied cheerfully. "I'm pretty sure Miss Weld didn't catch my name correctly when I was introduced to her. I am going to risk it, yes, it's due to you on account of that 'con'. Bob, you scoundrel, I'm going to make a martyr of you!"

They separated, Thornton exceedingly dubious as to the outcome of his roommate's plan. Golden was more sanguine, although he too awaited the fifth dance with some trepidation. Luckily Miss Weld did not recognize in him the brother of Miss Golden when he finally claimed the dance.

Whatever Golden's faults were he at least was a ready talker. With consummate skill he guided the conversation from the "poor condition of the floor" to football.

"No, I'm not on the squad," he said, "-too blooming much work for me. When I was a Soph I tried football, stuck to it for five days and then cut it out. It wasn't much,—just two smashed fingers and my nose a little crooked. However, that settled me; besides, I found it interfered seriously with my—a—my work."

" Your studies?"

"Yes. I remember, several nights I—a—bucked till one o'clock and so I quit the biz. My roommate was less fortunate. He was elected student manager of the football team, took the job and stuck to it too, although it robbed him of all his spare time. While the season was still on Bob was on the move all day, doing the little jobs which the high moguls didn't want to meddle with. Then the season closed and I advised him to quit it, to take a lay off—a—to resume his neglected studies. But no, he was such a conscientous fellow that he wouldn't listen to me. Well, the outcome was that he was obliged to travel almost constantly to arrange next season's games. He would be home about two days in the week, and then instead of taking a rest, as I advised him to do, he'd buck—buck day and night to make up what he had missed."

" Poor fellow."

"But what troubled Bob most was that he had to drop his whole correspondence. Sometimes he would ask me to write to his parents, —just a few lines to let them know he was well. Yes, it was hard on him, mighty hard. When the Christmas vacation came he had finished the work but was nearly broken down physically. Now the poor fellow is recuperating."

She had listened sympathetically.

"Who is your roommate?" she suddenly asked.

.....

"My cousin, Bob Thornton," Golden's face was innocence all over. "Shall I introduce him?"

A bright color spread over her face and neck. "And I —," her voice was low and choky—"Yes."

When their dance was over he looked for Thornton but couldn't find him. Finally they came upon him as he was leaving the supper room with Miss Golden. The orchestra had just begun a waltz and so the introductions were made quickly.

"May I have this waltz, Miss Weld?" Thornton asked.

"You may," she said softly, "Mr. Thorn—Oh, Bob, dear, and I was so mean—." He felt a little guilty, but looking as virtuous as possible he took her in his arms for the waltz. Bob Thornton was reinstated. M. C. NOTZ.

"What is Bang's profession?" "A poet."

. ...

"She fell in love with him when she saw him hoeing corn."

XX

"But what does he do for a living?"

"Sort of a hoe-beau, eh?"











THE SPHINX

58

### THE SPHINX

#### MORAL TALES FOR FRESHMEN.

On his return to Madison for college this fall an Upper-classman stepped to the depot platform while the train stopped for water at one of the villages which grew in that neck of the woods.

Also, two callow-looking youths smoking cigarettes stepped to the rear car platform and made a feeble attempt to give the varsity yell.

"Are you Wisconsin men?" asked the Upper-classman.

"Nope," answered one of them, "but we hopes to be."

During the summer vacation a last-year'sfreshman was showing himself off at one of the lesser summer resorts.

A kid of twelve emboldened by the Sophomore's 'good-fellow" manner ventured to ask:



"You're a college man, ain't you?" "Sure," said the Sophomore, well pleased that one so young should be so discerning. "How did you know?"

"Tell by the pants," said the kid.

To all of which there is a moral if you should care to find it.—LUDLOW.

f A F

There was a young fellow named Sam, Who said to his wife one day "Ma'am— Your false as to figure Your hair is a wig, you're A false, e'en your pillow slip's sham!"



#### CHIVALRY IN 1903.

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For six long months I served this maid, My meed a smile or frown— Then found I was her page indeed, For she had turned me down!

M. A.

R R R

"Is the course in Edibles easy?" "Sure, it's a lunch."





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