

**THE NURSERY; A  
MONTHLY MAGAZINE  
FOR YOUNGEST READERS.  
VOL VII**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649659616

The Nursery; A Monthly Magazine for Youngest Readers. Vol VII by Fanny P. Seaverns

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**FANNY P. SEAVERNS**

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THE  
NURSERY

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

FOR YOUNGEST READERS.

VOLUME VII.

BOSTON:  
JOHN L. SHOREY, No. 13, WASHINGTON STREET.  
1870.

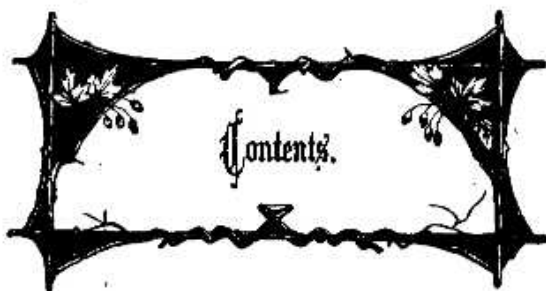
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### THE CHRISTMAS-TREE.

**I**T was Aunt Susan's plan. She is always doing something to make others happy. She said to papa and mamma, "These children have never seen a Christmas-tree. We must have a Christmas-tree for them."

And papa and mamma both said, "Oh, yes, Susan! that will be the very thing."

And then they all three put their heads together to take us by surprise.

Aunt Susan bought the presents. I know she did; for I remember now that she came home, one day, looking very sly, with some brown-paper parcels tucked away in her muff. She couldn't have put all the presents into her muff, though;

and how they got into the house, and how that tree got in, without my knowing it, is more than I can tell.

I keep my eyes open: I know pretty well what is going on; but they got ahead of me this time.

But I see now why it was that we were all kept up stairs that afternoon. When I was on the point of asking Jane to go down and play battledoor with me in the sitting-room, Aunt Susan popped up and said, "Look here, Charley: I have some pictures to show you."

Oh, yes! I was not wanted down stairs just then. Papa and mamma must have been fixing the tree about that time.

Well, I staid and looked at the pictures until it was dark, when we heard papa's voice in the entry, calling to us to come down.

Then Aunt Susan with the baby in her arms, and Jane and I, and little Johnny (we call him Tot), all went down together.

The entry was dark; but when papa opened the door of the sitting-room, there came a blaze of light, and there we saw the Christmas-tree in all its glory.

What a gorgeous sight it was! Poor little Tot didn't know at first whether to laugh or cry. Jane threw up her hands with delight. I was quite amazed. And as to the baby, she almost jumped out of Aunt Susan's arms.

We stood for a moment, gazing at the tree without saying a word. Then papa pulled out the rocking-horse and said, "Johnny, this is for you;" and mamma took up a splendid great doll, and said, "Jane, this is marked with your name;" and Aunt Susan snatched a rattle from the tree, and said, "Here is something for baby;" and then we all went in and picked out the rest of the presents for ourselves.

Didn't our tongues go then? I should think they did.

Well, I can't tell you all the presents that we had. I got a knife and a wallet and a book. We thought that there never was a Christmas-tree equal to ours.

But we found out, the next day, that there was a Christmas-tree at Uncle John's at the very same time. I do believe that Aunt Susan had a hand in that too; for the doll that Cousin Ellen brought over to show us was exactly like our Jane's doll. Cousin Tom, who came with her, had a present of a drum; and he made such a racket with it on our door-step that papa said he was glad that Christmas came only once a year.

But, for my part, I should like to have it Christmas all the year round.

CHARLES.

