

A Monday Christmas 1877.

Christmas day falls on a Monday this year. It fell on a Monday also in 1865, and on that occasion the following was unearthed from, it was stated, the Harleian MS., No. 2252, folio 153-4:

If Christmas day on Monday be,
A great winter that year you'll see,
And full of winds both loud and shrill;
But in summer, truth to tell,
High winds shall there be, and strong,
Full of tempests lasting long;
While battles they shall multiply,
And great plenty of beasts shall die.
They that be born that day, I ween,
They shall be strong each one and keen;
He shall be found that stealeth aught;
Tho' thou be sick, thou diest not.

The Leaning Tower of the town of Pisa, in Italy, was commenced in 1174, by Bonannus of Pisa and William of Innsbruck, and finished by Tommaso Pisano in 1350. It rises in eight stories, each of which is surrounded by half columns. It has six colonnades. Its height is 179 feet (nearly as high as the Monument in London), and it overhangs about 13 feet. Whether being so much out of the perpendicular was intended or simply accidental is not known.