

FROM ANCIENT TO MODERN.

What the Birth of Our Savior Has Done for the Human Race--From a Chaotic State of Debauchery in Which all Nations Revelled the World To-day Reveals Sunshine and Happiness.

To properly remember Christmas does not mean to open your purse to every beggar you come across, but to help the deserving poor, rest from labor, and have a reckoning with time and to remember the civilization enjoyed to day is but the outgrowth of that wonderful eve, when in a lowly manger a babe was found, above its head a aureole, and in its eyes the light of a mighty revolution. It was in this light the long, cold, cruel, terrible night of paganism began to wane. The voice that cried his coming in the wilderness, echoing the tidings of a new Jerusalem, but foretold the happy conditions of today. It is true politics debauches it, universities corrupt it, materialism obscures it, pernicious pulp teachings emasculate it, and brutal sectarianism all but eats it up alive.

But the fact remains, with the birth of Christ, began the delivery of the human race. The birth of our Savior was the most glorious event in all history, previous to this. At the time of his birth Tiberius Caesar was a monster in everything beastly and horrible in lust and cruelty. Rome, then the mistress of all known land and water, was given to war, murder, pillage, rape, gladiatorial butcheries and excesses of all kinds so monstrous and unnatural that historians have shrunk from recounting them. Chastity was the exception, women were the beast of burden. Slavery in the most intolerable form existed. War was no less than extermination. In the Roman amphitheatre the prisoner of war, the convict and the aged, were fed to the wild beasts to make a holiday. And why was all this?

Because there was no universal standard of truth! No accepted code of right! No order of men to instruct the masses in morals. Universal cruelty overswept the land. This is history indelible.

The last scene in a Roman coliseum. It is a holiday; two gladiators have entered the arena amid the plaudits of twenty thousand people; they are to fight unto death; their sharp swords are about to clash in mortal combat, when, from over the balustrade, there leaps a follower of Christ and hurries toward the two would-be murderers, holding aloft the image of the cross, and in the soft words that come from Judea, pleads, "Peace, on earth; good will toward men."

The stars had gazed like pitying eyes from heaven for centuries for that scene, and it was the last of bloody enactments in the Roman coliseum. A new philosophy had come from the lowly Nazarine—a new code of morals given to man, destined to encompass the world.

This scene was nearly two thousand years ago. Now mark the procession of the centuries.

Nero is prosecuting the Christians now, and the century closes with the same bloody stains upon Trajan wearing the imperial crown. The next century finds Marcus Aurelius suppressing persecution. The next, and Constantine has embraced Christianity and the closing see the Empire divided. Another century and the Goth has invaded Italy and plundered Rome. Then comes the century that sees Mohammed's plagiarism of the Bible—his

Sees Corpses Through Glass.
A certain "common informer," who lived under the Stuarts, died, and left money and lands to one of the great city companies for schools and other charitable purposes. He directed in his will that his body should be kept above ground in such a way that it could be seen through glass, and that the governing body of the company should, each year, under penalty of forfeiting the property, visit his tomb and see the body. This visitation is still carried out every year.

All Languages Spoken.
A Chicagoan who has just returned from Paris says that on most restaurants there are signs announcing "All languages spoken here." He remarked to the manager of one of these places: "You must have a great many interpreters in your establishment." "Not one," was the surprising reply. "Then who speaks all the languages?" asked the Chicagoan. "The customers," said the Frenchman, blandly.

Wasps Storm a Beehive.
A story of a curious battle between bees and wasps comes from Semperingham, England. A band of wasps entered a beehive in search of honey. The bees not unnaturally defended their property and tried to turn the enemy out. They were, however, badly beaten, and the wasps gained possession. When the beekeeper examined the hive later on he found that nearly all his bees had been killed and that the wasps were enjoying the fruits of their victory.

fight and death. Another, that closes with Charlemagne Christianizing the present Austrian Empire. The next century and Alfred, the Great is on the British throne. The next and a Christian king rules France. A thousand years have passed—Harold is king of England, and the next century Ireland is conquered; King John and his feudal lords rule England. Another passes and John Sobeski before the wall of Vienna saves Europe from the yoke of Moslem Empire. Joan of Arc dies at the stake; Martin Luther is born; Columbus sails the summer seas of the Antilles, America is discovered; modern history is begun. The light of universal knowledge is breaking, until, at last, there pass before us the wonders of the nineteenth century.

And there, in the very midst of its glory, in the midst of its inventions and plans, in the midst of its enlightened governments, there has come through all the blood and tears and tyrannies centuries, "marching with slow and stately tread across the realms and across the ages," the Man-God—the God-Man—the Christ of modern Christianity; and, with a gentleness unutterable, and a majesty unspeakable, is winning the hearts, and moulding the characters of men who have sought for a guide but Him who died on Calvary.

Empires have been swept away as autumn leaves before the wintry gale; battles fought that changed the destiny of continents; inventions that revolutionized the world; principles promulgated that changed the form of governments; and through all these epochs there has come the soft whisper of Jesus Christ—"Peace on earth, good will toward men." Millions have passed away, on mountain, plain and desert, in the solitude of prison cells, in the trackless forest, on wintry seas and battlefields, and with white faces of despair have raised imploring hands to heaven and cried in anguished voices, "What shall I do to be saved?" And there has come the image of the cross and loving whisper, "Believe on thy Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Is it any wonder, therefore, that a Christian world hallows the birthday of such a Redeemer—of such a God showering upon it such a multitude of inestimable blessings? The whole plan of salvation—fraught as it is with so many glorious promises—is one of the simplest, purest, and most easily adopted of all the other aggregated mass of teachings, revelations, the ingenuity of man or the inspiration of the so-called potentates, prophets, or powers ever intellectually encompassed. It appeals to everything that is pure, truthful and upright in humanity.

It asks for nothing that is not good to grant, either as the individual or citizen. Millions have embraced it, and died as only those can die who are filled with an eternal peace. To the poor and afflicted it has brought consolation. It has made nations more merciful, and the strong more tolerant of the weak. It has resisted all assaults and stood the test of time, into whose crucible all impostors must go. Blessed, therefore, is the land which hallows, reveres and celebrates its Christmas. There is not another day so momentous in all ancient or modern chronology.—Robert McReynolds.

Machinery on the Farm.
There is scarcely a thing done on a farm today in which patent machinery does not perform a greater part of the labor. The grain is sowed, cut, bound, threshed, cleaned, sacked, stored and transported by machinery; the corn is planted, cultivated and cut by machinery, while the mower cuts, the tedder spreads, the horse rake gathers, the hay loader loads and the carrier unloads the hay. The potatoes are planted and dug by patented machines or implements, and even the hogs are slaughtered and the chickens hatched by machinery.

Modern University Education.
A few days ago the rector of Oxford university received from a gentleman the following: "How much would I have to pay for the education of my son in your university? Let me know if I shall have to pay in case my son, besides rowing, should wish to learn to read and write."—Oxford Magazine.

Concord's Embattled Schoolm'm.
We are informed that an uncommon adventure occurred in this vicinity lately on the Emerson road, across the plains to East Concord. A well known lady teacher in the public schools, while enjoying a bicycle trip, encountered a large blacksnake near the road. Dismounting, she opened fire with a revolver, which caused the reptile to turn on her. After firing several shots she succeeded in dispatching his snakeishness by blowing of his head.—Concord (N. H.) Evening Monitor.

BOILERS EXPLODE

Black Diamond Steel Works in Pittsburg the Scene.

THREE KILLED AND A DOZEN INJURED

Hospital Burns at Marysville, Mo.—Three Negroes Shot to Death—Brakeman at Fremont Meets With Accident—Other Important News

Three dead, one missing, and twelve injured is the result of a terrific boiler explosion at the Black Diamond steel works of Park Bros., at Pittsburg, Pa. From what can be learned the four boilers exploded at one time, reducing the mill to a heap of burned and charred timbers and twisted iron. There is not a straight piece of iron or steel left in the entire building. Even the bolts in the beams and stringers are twisted like screw nails. The mill had sixty men on each turn and it is thought that almost 120 men, comprising both crews, were in the plant at the time of the explosion. A few minutes after the boilers let go the big mill was in ruins. The injured and dead were found under the wreckage and in the mill yard, where they had fallen in the race for life. The No. 3 ten-inch mill was a big iron-clad structure, built on a steel frame. In the rear of the plant on Twenty-ninth is the big boiler works of James McNeil. One of the boilers went through the Park Bros.' mill and crashed into the McNeil plant, almost completely demolishing it. The only man at work in the McNeil plant was Rudolph Korff, the night watchman. He was found in the plant and taken to the West Penn hospital, badly injured.

Three Negroes Killed.
Wayne Demon, an eighteen-year-old boy, shot three negroes to death in a saloon at the mining town of Davy, W. Va. It was pay day at the Davy mines, and the negroes had begun their holiday celebration. About a dozen of the big blacks entered Eugene Dye's saloon, on the leading street, revolvers in hand and demanded that all the whites within retire.

The bartender stepped into an adjoining room for his pistol and all the other whites save Demon made a run to get away. Demon refused to obey the command to depart. Instead he pulled his revolver and shot three of the negroes to death, the others falling over themselves to get away. In the excitement, Demon, whose home is in Catlettsburg, Ky., left the saloon by a rear door and up to a late hour had not been captured.

In fact, but very little effort is being made to apprehend him. He is an assistant bookkeeper for Cole, Crane & Co., of Cincinnati, who are engaged extensively in timbering in Virginia. **Brakeman All But Killed.**
Mat Henriksen, a switchman for the Elkhorn, almost lost his life in the freight yards at Fremont, Neb., but was lucky enough to escape with a few minor injuries and some torn clothing. He went to step from the rear platform of a caboose onto the head end of an engine that was pushing a train out of town, when his feet slipped on the steps and were thrown beneath the platform. He grasped the railing on the caboose and held on while his feet and legs dragged along the track. The engineer of the helping locomotive saw his plight and stopped the engine.

Hospital Burns.
A special from Marysville, Mo., says: St. Joseph's hospital was almost completely destroyed by fire recently and the lives of twenty-five patients were jeopardized, fatal results being feared in several cases, owing to the shock and the zero weather into which the sick ones were carried for refuge from the flames. The thermometer registered 13 below zero at the time of the fire. An overheated furnace was the origin. The estimated loss is \$6,000, fully covered by insurance. Residences were thrown open for the temporary accommodation of the patients.

Veteran Found Frozen.
Mathias Garthoeffer, an old soldier and an inmate of the Leavenworth, Kas., Soldiers' home, was found frozen to death beneath a trestle of the Chicago Great Western railway tracks, near the Leavenworth brick plant. Workmen on their way to the brick plant discovered the body. It was frozen stiff and lay in a ravine as if having fallen from the embankment above.

Compromise With Carnegie.
The city council of Lawrence, Kas., at a special meeting agreed to set apart an annual 5 per cent maintenance fund for a library if Andrew Carnegie will give any sum under \$50,000 for a library building. C. S. Gleed and General McCook will present the matter to Mr. Carnegie. The building was offered if the city would appropriate 10 per cent annually for maintenance.

Mme. Tsilka is Dead.
"Semi-official" news received from Constantinople, the Rome correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph cables, "asserts that Mme. Tsilka is dead and that Miss Stone, the American captive, will be released almost immediately."

Both Killed.
When Constable J. W. Murray went to arrest F. M. Simcock, a dentist at Burnet, Tex., the latter drew a revolver to resist. Simcock and the officer fired at the same moment and both men were killed.

A CARLOAD OF PRISONERS

Forty-eight Men From Muskogee to Leavenworth Prison.

A carload of forty-eight prisoners arrived at Leavenworth Dec. 13, from the Indian Territory. It was the largest consignment of convicts ever transported from the Territory to Leavenworth at one time.

The Seminole Indians, Hollycoody and Ponuskey, under life sentence for murder, were in the lot. Littletown Hildhead, who is sentenced to 15 years for assault, and Dick Sango, 21 years, were also long-timers. The others variously sentenced from 15 months to six years.

Dick Sango is a negro and a desperado of considerable note. His confinement at Muskogee has broken down his powerful frame. His case dragged for a year or two. It is one of the most brutal cases in the Territory's history. Sango almost murdered an old Indian, Adam King. The Indian had caught Sango stealing his hogs. King was lariatied by Sango and taken into the woods. He was shot, dragged a mile with a lariat around his neck, and beaten in the head with a stone, according to the testimony. But the Indian made a mistake in getting up and being around for a month before he died, and thereby saved Sango from the noose.

STIRRED IOLA UP

Five Hundred Pounds of Dynamite Explodes.

An explosion of 500 pounds of dynamite in the store room at the cement plant at Iola, Kas., rocked the town and brought people out of bed. The explosion was stored in a small brick building built especially for the purpose and warmed by a brick incased stove. Nothing was left of the building. Only a deep hole indicates where it stood. Windows were smashed everywhere in the cement plant and in all parts of the town glass windows were broken. People thought it an earthquake. None were hurt by the explosion. An engineer about 200 feet away was thrown about ten feet. Hundreds of panes of glass were broken. The damage will amount to hundreds of dollars.

The shock was felt distinctly at Fort Scott, Garnett, Parsons and Cherryvale, forty-five miles away. In a more distant magazine the company had fifteen tons of dynamite stored, but this fortunately did not explode from the shock.

One fire resulted from the shaking. A gas lamp in Dr. McMullen's office was broken and fell on a sofa. Smoke was discovered issuing from the windows. The fire department extinguished the flames.

She Committed Suicide.
Mrs. Isaac Gibson, a farmer's wife, living near Pomona, committed suicide recently. Mrs. Gibson was fifty-two years old and had been an invalid for a number of years. For the past eight years Mrs. Gibson had been despondent and at times demented. She had sometimes talked of ending her life. She had brooded much over a mediocre poetry, cut from a country paper, relating to the woes of life and the bliss of death. The poetry was headed "Content," and the crumpled clipping was found in the woman's waist after her death.

Mrs. Gibson took her life by hanging herself to a rafter over her head by means of a noose made from strips of bed sheets.

Atchison's Water War.
Mayor J. W. Orr of Atchison, Kas., and the members of the city council have begun a vigorous fight on the Atchison City Water Company. The fight is the result of the water company's failure to comply with its agreement to give the city better water service. At the last meeting of the city council the attorney was instructed to proceed at once with a suit in the courts for the condemnation and purchase of the plant of the Atchison Water Company under the public utility act. The council also passed an ordinance adopting a new schedule of rates to be charged to consumers. An ordinance was also prepared to force the water company to accept the new schedule.

St. Mary's Man Guilty.
The trial of Edward Williams for the shooting of a man named Welch at Westmoreland, Kas., last September, has been concluded. After being out twelve hours the jury brought in a verdict of guilty as charged. The defense was insanity, the theory being that Williams had become insane by brooding over the idea that Welch had been unduly intimate with Mrs. Williams.

Victory for Liquor Men.
Mrs. H. M. Stansbury sued five alleged liquor dealers of Coffeyville, Kas., for \$10,000 damages for selling liquor to her son. The jury decided against her after having been out only a few minutes. Mrs. Stansbury alleged that the defendants had made her son an habitual drunkard. It was the first case of the kind in that county.

Dr. Aley's home treatments cure chronic and private diseases. Ten days trial treatment \$1.00. Send stamps for references and clinical instruction to Dr. Aley, Lincoln, Neb.

Accused of Bank Robbery.
N. B. Carlisle, a lively stable man of Fayetteville, Ark., was arrested on the charge of robbing the Springdale bank of \$7,000. He is held in \$3,000 bonds for trial. About \$3,000 of the money has been recovered.

Crushed by a Boulder.
A boulder weighing a ton crushed the life out of William Price of Lead, S. D., a timber man for the Homestead mine. He was working on the six-hundred-foot level. His neck was broken.

NEGRO DESPERADO

One Killed and Another Wounded in Attempting to Make Arrest.

PROSPECTS ARE GOOD FOR A LYNCHING

Safe Blows Open at Atwood, Kas.—South Carolina Woman Kills Her Husband—Verdict in Portland Mining Suit—Other News.

In attempting to arrest Henry Porter, a desperate negro gambler of Sparks, Ga., M. J. Kinard was shot in the right hand and arm and A. J. Kirby who tried to assist Marshal Binard was instantly killed.

The negro opened fire on Kinard and Kirby as they approached him. Kinard's right hand was badly shattered, and then Kirby received his wound and fell dead at Kinard's side. Kinard picked up his pistol with his left hand and shot the negro three times. The negro fell several times; but escaped to a nearby swamp.

Special trains with dogs from Nashville and Tifton arrived and ran the trail to Adel, where it was lost. About 100 men are scouring the country. If caught he will be lynched.

BOTH GUILTY.

Judge Sentence Jackson and His Wife to Penal Servitude.

Theodore and Laura Jackson, the latter best known in the United States by the name of Anna Odella Diss De Barre, were found guilty by a jury in the old London Bailey on charges of immoral practices and fraud. The judge at once imposed sentences of fifteen and seven years' penal servitude upon Jackson and his reputed wife, respectively. The prisoners listened to the passing of sentence in evident astonishment, but maintained silence. As the judge finished Jackson turned from the prisoner's dock and walked down the steps, "Swami," as the woman, head of the so-called theocratic unity, has latterly called herself, smiled, bowed to the judge and court, and followed her male companion to where officers were waiting to take them to prison.

Lincoln Postoffice Squabble.
Postmaster Bushnell of Lincoln was in Washington recently and had an interview with President Roosevelt. Col. W. H. Michael, chief clerk in the state department, is said to have presented Mr. Bushnell to the president.

Referring to the Bushnell case two members of the Nebraska delegation are reported to have expressed the opinion that Mr. Bushnell's quest must prove utterly fruitless as will be the case with every non-favored candidate who seeks to antagonize the combined action of the senators and representatives in favor of a new man. The president has said repeatedly that where the two senators of a state come to him agreed upon a candidate for any office in their state he will appoint, throwing the responsibility on them. In the Bushnell case Congressman Burdett moved the appointment of Mr. Sizer. Senators Dietrich and Millard seconded the motion and the president declared the question carried. The fact that Mr. Bushnell has made a good record in the Lincoln postoffice will avail him nothing in this case. Senators Millard and Dietrich are working in perfect harmony in matters of patronage.

Secretary Gage to Resign.
It is Secretary Gage's plan to relinquish the treasury portfolio as soon as President Roosevelt can find a successor, and he has so informed the president. Secretary Gage will be relieved before spring. The president has done all he could do to dissuade Secretary Gage from retiring, and will probably continue to use his efforts in that direction. Secretary Gage's determination to retire was known to the president some time ago.

"What I may or may not do eventually I am not prepared to say now," said the secretary, "but I can say that the relations between the president and myself are perfectly cordial. He would do almost anything I wish and I would do almost anything he might ask."

In view of the repeated publications of late to the general effect that Secretary Hay is about to retire, a statement is given with full authority, touching this subject, substantially to the effect that Secretary Hay does not now contemplate retirement from the cabinet.

Killed Thirty-five Coyotes.

Jim Landers, who lives eleven miles south of Abienc, holds the championship of Dickinson county, Kansas, as a coyote catcher. Mr. Landers has captured thirty-five so far this winter, having killed ten of them last week. He has five fleet grey hounds and a bulldog. The greyhounds bay the coyote, the bulldog is carried on horseback, and when they arrive at the scene of action the bulldog is dropped to the ground and the coyote soon expires.

Home Destroyed by Fire.
Word reached Dubois Pa., of a terrible holocaust that occurred about three miles from Summerville, Jefferson county. The home of John Ashbaugh, a farmer, was destroyed by fire and four persons were burned to death. One other is burned in such a manner that recovery is very doubtful and four others are seriously burned and injured.

The affair happened at an early hour in the morning and the fire was undoubtedly caused by an overheated stove.

SAMPSON OBJECTS

Says Schley Was Not in Command at Santiago.

The objection of Admiral Sampson to that portion of Admiral Dewey's report of the Schley court of inquiry in which he says Admiral Schley was in command at the battle of Santiago and entitled to the credit for the victory was filed with Secretary Long. The document was brought to the navy department by Mr. E. S. Theall, the counsel for Admiral Sampson, and handed to the secretary. It is as follows:

Sir: As counsel for Rear Admiral Sampson we have the honor to request that the department for the reasons below state, strike out or disapprove that portion of Admiral Dewey's opinion filed in connection with the proceedings of the Schley court of inquiry in which he states his views to be that Commodore Schley was in absolute command at the naval battle of Santiago.

I—Commodore Schley was not in command at that battle.

II—The president of the United States and navy department had decided that Admiral Sampson was in command at that battle and Commodore Schley second in command.

III—The question as to who commanded at Santiago was not referred to the court for consideration and evidence bearing on the point was excluded.

IV—Commodore Schley was not in command at that battle.

(a)—The disposition of the forces at the beginning of the battle, according to Commodore Schley's own statement, places Admiral Sampson in command.

REPORT SUBMITTED

Reopening of the Schley Case Very Likely to Be Denied.

Judge Advocate Lemly and Solicitor Hanna submitted to Secretary Long their report upon the bill of objections filed by Admiral Schley, through his counsel, to the findings of the Schley court of inquiry. In substance this report is an argument supplementary to the argument made by the writers before the court of inquiry. The principal points are an instance upon their contention that the first report is the unanimous report of the court of inquiry; that the court was justified in rejecting Admiral Schley's evidence by the number of witnesses who took issue with him and that there is no sufficient reason for a reopening of the case as requested by Admiral Schley.

Freights Collide.

Two men cremated and another frightfully burned about the lower part of his body, and the destruction of locomotives and cars was the outcome of a rear end collision of two south-bound special freight trains on the Northwestern railroad at Little Sunmico, Wis.

The first train, in charge of Conductor Green and Engineer Oliver had reached Little Sunmico when Oliver stopped his train on the main track to take water. The night was frosty but clear. Suddenly a headlight of the special behind shot out from a curve, near the depot, and a few seconds later the collision occurred.

Verdict for Half a Million.

The jury in the Doyle-Burns mining suit at Council Bluffs, in which James Doyle asks for a million dollars in stock and dividends of the Portland Mining company, returned a verdict awarding the plaintiff \$445,923.73. Burns' attorneys at once gave notice for a new trial, and will argue the case next Saturday.

The verdict decides that Burns and Doyle entered in a contract in 1892 by which each should have share and share alike in all claims that had at that time been acquired or they should in the future acquire.

Hall of Tara to Be Sold.

The place in which the Irish kings were crowned, the historic hall of Tara, has been offered at auction. A wealth of legendary interest clusters about the spot, and that the monarchs of Ireland were crowned there from B. C. to 56 A. D. There were only two bidders when the place was offered at auction, and the highest bid was 2,920 pounds, and it has been reserved for sale privately.

Crackmen Secure \$1,500.

The safe in the county treasurer's office at Atwood, Kas., was blown open and about \$1,500 taken. Although the officers were on the ground in less than ten minutes after the explosion, not the slightest clue has yet been found. The Manhattan bloodhounds have been sent for and are on the road. The county commissioners will offer a substantial reward for the capture of the robbers.

Woman Defends Herself.

Near Varnville, Hampton county, S. C., Mrs. John Phillips killed her husband, who, it is said, in a drunken condition had attempted to take the life of Mrs. Phillips and her son. Phillips fired at the woman, who fled into the yard where she seized an axe and killed him instantly. The coroner's jury exonerated Mrs. Phillips.

John Roberts of Lawton, Okl., shot and killed George and John Higginbottom, brothers, and probably fatally wounded their father, G. A. Higginbottom, as the result of a quarrel over the division of a quantity of hay. Roberts escaped.

Charles Moore, a hotel keeper at Hot Springs, Ark., shot and instantly killed James A. Garner and mortally wounded William Garner, his brother. The tragedy was the result of a quarrel. Moore gave himself up, claiming self-defense.