

CHRISTMAS and CIVILIZATION

ALL Christendom again celebrates the nativity of the founder of the Christian faith, and the inauguration of the new year. The heart yields to the prevailing spirit and sentiment, despite intellectual dissent. Not to observe, in some form, the Christmas festival is felt to do violence to the best instincts of humanity. This holiday eclipses all other birthdays, as the sun makes the electric light to cast a shadow. At this season a large majority find delight in giving. It gives occasion for springs of human kindness and good will to flow. It challenges the charge that man is innately and persistently selfish. More than is believed practice the truth that is more blessed to give than to receive.

Christmas is the festival of children and women. Christ's conception of childhood and youth and his treatment of women made it possible for them to commemorate his birthday with joy and gladness. At the outset of his career he foretold the regency of the cradle and the glory of the woman. Christmas celebrates the birth of a child to whom the world owes the progress of 1,900 years, and whose work will endure so long as earth shall continue and influence other worlds.

NINETEEN centuries ago a peasant woman of Judea in a stable gave birth to a child destined to do the greatest possible work—to free all women from bondage and all children from slavery—the evils which disgraced past ages. Jesus' influence upon humanity as a child, a man, a teacher and as a Saviour, as one who put the eternal right of man above all established customs and precedents, is the greatest inheritance of the human race. The king of the Jews has become the king of the world. A Hebrew mind with no racial bias is now ruling the nations. The spirit of the Christ most deeply moves modern life and thought. His name has passed over our institutions and his mind has penetrated into our social and domestic existence. The inspiration of true liberty and education, the benediction of the beautiful, the elevation of letters, literature and morals are ascribed to him.

HIS influence upon the centuries is as clearly marked as the currents of the Gulf Stream bringing verdure and beauty to inhospitable shores, light to those in darkness, and making the wilderness to blossom as the rose. Innumerable poems, dramas and songs have been developed through his teaching. Art taxes itself fittingly to portray his life, architecture struggles to build temples suitable for his worship. Universities, colleges, schools, and all systems of education attempt to realize his estimate of the dignity and worth of childhood. "Government itself," said Gladstone, "is but the translation of the teachings of Jesus Christ into human laws and institutions." His thoughts and ideas toil like a giant for man's progress. The single historic vine in Santa Barbara carried to California by a priest has changed all the industries of that land, so Christ's ideas carry energies for civilizing worlds. "As the sun upon the horizon rolls forward, pouring forth warmth out of its invisible urns, so we perceive an atmosphere of hope and joy has been poured over the continent out of the heart of Christ and those who loved him." The world celebrates at Christmas the advent of this wonderful being. It looks reverently upon the face of him, the feeble infant in the manger, and upon other children to whom he gave so much.

CHILDREN and Christmas are the factors of civilization. Edmund Burke defined civilization as "the spirit of a gentleman, and the spirit of religion in a life lived in the presence of man and God." The beauty, purity, humility, faith, helplessness and the promise of children educate the parents in affection and gentleness, and through them the community. The spring whence civilization flows is the Babe of Mary, and the babe in every home. The Christmas spirit incarnated in deeds of kindness, of self-forgetfulness, love, mutual helpfulness, is the secret of Christian civilization.

It will inoculate all the world with that purpose to do justice and deal kindly with our fellows. Christianity has been defined as "a beautiful civilization slowly journeying across the earth." It is the only civilization worthy to be named. It presents ideals, with the power to realize them.

THERE were individuals who reflected ideal virtues in other periods, but were unable to multiply themselves, dying like Beatrice, who took her beauty, as they carried their moral excellences away with them. The first Christmas dawned on a world of selfishness and sin, and dark with folly and cruelty. There was beauty for the few, slavery, poverty and starvation for the many, death for the unwelcome child and degradation for woman. There were 375,000 paupers in a population of 1,000,000 in Rome. It was a period of intellectual chaos, moral and social desolation, and individual hopelessness. Into this gloom came the star of Bethlehem, beaming light, hope and sympathy. The contrast between the manger birth and the Christmas morn that will dawn this week with its carols, songs, gifts, joy and gladness, is the most striking contrast earth's history holds.

With that first Christmas childhood became sweet and sacred, woman was crowned queen of the heart and home, the slave made free, the ignorant, poor and wretched found education, shelter and sympathy, and the joy of generosity became contagious. As the sun rises earlier and lingers longer than yesterday so the spirit of Christmas will usher in the golden age of happiness and good will. In the great picture of Coreggio the light on the face of the babe lends a glow to shepherd and wise men. The Christmas spirit lends a glow to all the instruments and forces of society.

WHILE humanity falls below the ideal, the effort to practice it is not wholly nugatory. The "drift of the world is upward." The people are climbing. Interest in children is increasing. Woman is coming to her own. Labor is entering the reward of work. War is becoming unpopular. Racial prejudice will hide in shame. The Christ spirit is victorious. God's good will becomes triumphant in home, street and legislative hall. The triumphs of the past dictate new struggles for the future. When Pericles gave his oration over the Athenian dead, pointing to the graves, the great orator said: "Their silence is eloquent! These heroes ask us to go and live for the city for which they died." Thus past achievements pledge us to fresh fidelity. Christmas asks us to lend the impulse of a new love to home, school, street and city; to be a friend of the friendless, a benefactor to some dumb beast or deserted child, to be voice for the dumb, eyes for the blind, springs of water for the thirsty, trees of shade for the weary, food for the hungry, refuge for the smitten.

"Be an angel of mercy, bringing peace on earth and good will toward men," and thus hasten a Christmas which will not simply come to-morrow, but will stay all the year.



Christmas Salad.
For a Christmas salad select the largest and brightest red apples, and cut a deep slice from each at the stem end. Scoop out the pulp; drop both the covers and apples into cold water and leave them until needed. Cut crisp celery into small pieces with one-third the quantity of English walnuts or pecans broken; mix with very stiff mayonnaise. Wipe and polish each apple and fill with the salad, fitting each cover carefully, and set on a bed of crisp lettuce leaves just before serving.

A Christmas Carol

THE night was darker than ever before
(So dark is sin),
When the Great Love came to the stable door
And entered in,
And laid Himself in the breath of line
And the warmth of hay,
And whispered to the Star to shine
And to break, the day.
—Alice Sewell.

A Yuletide Bouquet To You, My Friend

BY CAPT. JACK CRAWFORD

FROM out the larder of my soul,
Where nature's mystic posies blend
With fruits and flowers, I fill love's bowl,
And serve it warm to you, my friend.

I call the sweetest, wildest flowers,
Soft-tinted as the rainbow spray,
And fling to you from nature's bowers,
To mingle with December gray.

THESE are but echoes of the past,
Co music set in memory's chimes;
The silken nets that love has cast,
Co catch the sunshine of my rhymes.

AND isn't it sweet that some kind deed—
A memory throb, a God-sent tear—
O'er comes to cultivate the seed
That we are sure to sow each year?

AND so, I'm flinging this bouquet
Of thankfulness and love to you.
Sweet buds of reciprocity,
Besprinkled with affection's dew.

AND with the cheerful Yuletide,
This is the hopeful wish I send:
That love of God and man abide
With you and yours, my faithful friend.

J. W. Crawford

FROM THE SPRITES A STORY FOR CHILDREN

[Letter enclosed in a box which will arrive about 7 a. m. Christmas day for Fred, the protege of learned sprites.]

HEAR FRED: Within this package you will find some little things; just a crumb or two of pleasure, such as any fellow flings to a friend he's met but once or twice and yet considers rather nice and thinks of what the jolly season brings. We remember, sir, your courtesy in sitting while we lectured on the knowledge that is proven, also that which is conjectured. To our utter gratitude you were never, never rude, for your heart, indeed, is very finely textured.

When the series of discourses found its most untimely close, we assembled in a cornfield, and indeed we nearly froze. We'd forgotten, we're so old, there was such a thing as cold, and we're much too smart to think of things like those. But our hearts are always warm, and in thinking, Fred, of you, such a warmth arose as any time would boil an oyster stew. Then, abasking in the heat, we did all of us compete in discussion of what would and wouldn't do. Once the argument grew fierce, but over this we'll draw a veil. We are all of us so learned that we thought (you know the tale), that we each of us knew best what would lend the greatest zest—what a modern boy would not consider stale.

We consulted sundry lists which only mixed us up the worse; we rejected some suggestions far too long for any purse; and we bickered and we snickered, while above the moonlight flickered, and discovered that ideal things were "secure." And at last we gave up trying to decide it for each other, and departed, saying: "Give him what you like, my learned brother." So each made his own selection; which accounts for the complexion of the articles we hope you'll show your mother.

On the top you'll find a ticket for a trip around the earth. This, of course, is from old Jogerfy, the chap who had a dearth of ideas, but in fact was rather diligent than lax; he is hoping that you realized his worth.

Next in order is a dictionary—don't turn up your nose. It's no ordinary volume, as its queer appearance shows. When you're stuck for what to say, turn the knob the proper way, and the word is in your mouth, and out it goes. In this book is every language, e'en including that of birds and the speech the cows are using when they stroll about in herds. Why, you cannot go astray, as to how and what to say, if you use the present sent you by old World's.

With apologies we mention what you get from Anglo-Saxon. He's the chap for whom the speech of other nations had attraction. He sat down, it seems, and wrote you a promissory note. You will never get the coin without exaction.

From Numero, a present that will comfort you, we feel. It's a table with a marvelous, unusual kind of wheel. Yes, a multiplication table; turn the crank, if you are able, and you'll have before your eyes a luscious meal.

Old History, the grandpa of the whole great human race, sends a Pat-

ent Iron Memory—a thing you can't replace. Put it 'way into your ear, and you'll find that all you hear you'll remember quite distinctly—for a space.

And lastly, Hy G. Ene, the man who gave you such a scare, puts in something you can always use and something you can wear. It's a thing that makes for health; indeed, for happiness and wealth. It's an everlasting bottle of fresh air.

So remember, when your toys are spread about you on the rug, that the Learned Sprites have tried to make you happy; they have dug in the present-mines of China, than the which there's nothing finer, and we're sending you as much as we could lug. If you use these little gifts that we are forwarding just right you will never have to listen to another learned sprite. But there's one thing more, to-wit: "Merry Christmas,"—that is it.

So we hereunto subscribe, in black and white:

**JOGERFY.
WORDS.
ANGLO-SAXON.
NUMERO.
GRANDFATHER HISTORY.
HY G. ENE.**



TWO DINNERS FOR CHRISTMAS.

Menus in Which Roast Beef and Goose Are the Leading Entrees.

For the Christmas feast roast beef or roast young goose are the prime favorites, taking the precedence of turkey, which very soon after the first of December begins to lose its delicacy of flavor. The English dinner of roast beef and plum pudding is historic, and in recent years Americans have generally followed the custom of serving an English dinner on Christmas, improving on the old country menus by the addition of dainty entrees and salads.

Here are some suggestions for menus for Christmas home dinners.

MENU NO. 1.
Grape Fruit with Sherry.
Olives. Radishes.
Small Oysters, Roasted in Shell.
Cream of Chicken.
Roast Sirloin of Beef.
Macaroni au Gratin.
Bermuda Potatoes. New String Beans.
Toasted Wafers and Edam Cheese.
Plum Pudding.
Fruit. Coffee.

MENU NO. 2.
Oysters on the Half Shell.
Cream of Celery. Stuffed Olives.
Fried Smelts, Sauce Tartare.
Hothouse Cucumbers.
Roast Young Goose.
Apple Sauce.
Mashed Potatoes. Boiled White Onions.
Stuffed Green Peppers.
Remaine Salad and Toasted Wafers.
Rougefort Cheese.
Plum Pudding or Mince Pie.
Coffee. Fruit.

She Had Tried It.
Belle—This holly in my hair wants a little relief—it's too red.
Aunt—Well, why not put in a sprig or two of mistletoe dear?
Belle—Nonsense, aunt! Why, I should have all the young men kissing me.
Aunt—Indeed, no, my dear. They'd do nothing of the kind. I've tried 'em!

A POSER.

Mrs. Whim—You needn't say woman has no mechanical genius. I can do anything on earth with only a hair-pin.

Mr. Whim—Well, sharpen this lead-pencil with it.

An Experienced Walker.
Champion Hayes of Marathon fame, praised at a dinner in New York a walker.

"He is a walker?" someone said.

"Yes," said Mr. Hayes, "and the next race he enters, mark me, he will win."

"Why, I didn't know he had had any experience as a walker," said the other in a puzzled voice.

Mr. Hayes laughed.

"No experience as a walker, eh?" said he. "And the fellow's owned an \$80 second-hand motor car for the last two years!"

SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Headaches, Bitter Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature

W. D. Wood

REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

45 to 50 Bu. of Wheat Per Acre have been grown on farm lands in

WESTERN CANADA

Much less would be satisfactory. The general average is above twenty bushels.

"All are loud in their praises of the great crops and that wonderful country."—*Ex-Association of August, 1902.*

It is now possible to secure a homestead of 160 acres free and another 160 acres at \$3.00 per acre. Hundreds have paid the cost of their farms (if purchased) and then had a balance of from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per acre from one crop. Wheat, barley, oats, flax—do well. Mixed farming is a great success and dairying is highly profitable. Excellent climate, splendid schools and churches, railways bring most every district within easy reach of market. Railway and land companies have lands for sale at low prices and on easy terms.

"Last Best West" pamphlets and maps sent free. For these and information as to how to secure lowest railway rates, apply to Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or the authorized Canadian Government Agent:

W. V. BENNETT,
801 New York Life Building, Omaha, Nebraska.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by all Druggists, etc.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

She Spoke Too Quick.
Mr. Crimsonbeak—I see by this paper that women are barred from the Island of Ferdinand de Noronha, belonging to Brazil.

Mrs. Crimsonbeak—That's like the selfish men! Don't want the women to have any privileges!

"I forgot to say, dear, that the island is only used for convicts!"

Starch, like everything else, is being constantly improved, the patent Starches put on the market 25 years ago are very different and inferior to those of the present day. In the latest discovery—Defiance Starch—all injurious chemicals are omitted, while the addition of another ingredient, invented by us, gives to the Starch a strength and smoothness never approached by other brands.

There are nearly 88,000,000 sheep in Australia and New Zealand, 10,000,000 cattle and 1,871,000 horses.

Lewis' Single Binder—the famous straight 5c cigar, always best quality. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

Good harvests make men prodigal, but bad ones provident.—W. Penn.

FILES CURED IN 6 TO 14 DAYS.
PAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

Give some people their pick and they'll pick flaws every time.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

Sometimes a woman is known by the company she avoids.

It Cures While You Walk
Allen's Foot-Paste for corns and bunions, hot, sweaty callous, itching feet. 25c all Druggists.

The proportion of left-handed people is one in six.

BACKACHE,

Sideache, Headache, and a Worn-out Feeling May all come from Constipation.

Lane's Family Medicine

(called also Lane's Tea)

is a herb Tonic-Laxative and will cure constipation and the ills that come from it.

It is a great blood medicine and one of the best for all stomach, kidney and bowel complaints.

All druggists, 25 and 50 cts.

YOUNG MAN

YOU ARE WANTED AS A RAILWAY MAIL CLERK.

Postal Clerk, Examination: Typewriter, etc. Only Common School Education Required. Special Opportunity. Permanent Position. The Pay Superior. Instructions by MAIL to meet Govt. Examinations. Full Particulars Free. Thousands of Successful Students. Name on Questionnaire and "How Govt. Positions Are Secured" sent Free. C. S. Dept. INTER-STATE SCHOOLS, 71-6 Iowa Ave., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

CALIFORNIA IRRIGATED LANDS, for oranges, fruit, alfalfa, and potatoes—10 to 20 acre tracts. Agents wanted. Paul Hunter, 208 First St., San Francisco, Cal.

W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 51, 1902.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

Dr. J. C. Fletcher

In Use For Over Thirty Years

CASTORIA

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK.

At 6 months old 35 DOSES—35 CENTS

Guaranteed under the Food and Drug Act.

Exact Copy of Wrapper.

ALCOHOL—3 PER CENT
A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS & CHILDREN

Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC

Recipe of Old Dr. SAMUEL PITCHER

Pumpkin Seed -
Aloes Senna -
Rochelle Salts -
Aster Seed -
Sagebrush -
Bismarck Sassa -
Warm Seed -
Clarified Sugar -
Whitrogen Flavor

A Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP

Fac Simile Signature of
Dr. J. C. Fletcher
THE CENTAUR COMPANY,
NEW YORK.

MAPLEINE

A Flavoring. It makes a syrup better than Maple. SOLD BY GROCERS.