

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

DECEMBER 24, 1886.

Christmas.

Of Christmas it is difficult to say anything that is new. Cleric, essayist, poet, have all been busy with the theme—viewing it in its religious, its social, its historical aspects; and, in these last days, the editor, whose pen is supposed to be ever dipped in ink, as his mind is immersed in thought, must not fail to add his word.

Christmas is the festival of the Christian world. It is the occasion of family reunions and of friendly cheer. Tokens of goodwill are given and received, and, once a year at any rate, another's preference is studied rather than one's own. Each becomes for the time a diviner of what another would like, and ministers as far as may be to the satisfying of that.

All this deepens goodwill, or ought to. Yet, the best of institutions may be abused; and, doubtless, even on Christmas, there are some pouting faces, or faces with pouts repressed, to tell or hint of disappointed hopes. The most skillful maternal management may fail to prevent an outbreak of young jealousies; and, while it is more blessed to give than to receive, yet if the gift is not well received, there is but little bliss for the giver. There must be the sense of need before there can be any true feeling of satisfaction. Young boys, during these days of music and parades, derive more pleasure from the ownership of an oil-can, transformed by imagination into an Army-drum, than very costly presents could have given. After all, we only prize with a living interest that which we use; and the interest which attaches to other things is apt to be simulated, and will constantly need prompting.

Yet, in spite of local unpleasantness, the general atmosphere of Christmas is one of gladness. And so long as real kindnesses are rendered to those who need them or will prize them, and presents are not mutual rivalries in display, this atmosphere, as it is extended, is made purer. There is room here yet for wider action. How few have taken seriously the words of Him whose birth this festival recalls, when He bade men on making a supper to invite to it such as were without the means of rejoicing.

Christmas is the festival of the year. Old and young, rich and poor greet its coming with joy. Eighteen hundred and eighty-six years ago there lay in a low "cattle shed," in the royal city of Bethlehem, an infant child with its young mother. All boys and girls have birth days, and this little boy had, too; and it is his birthday which we celebrate on Saturday. His birth had been foretold in the earliest ages of the world, and when He was born it was in a stable; the child of poor, very poor parents. The name, as you can easily see, signifies the mass of Christ. Formerly, there were many others, one of which is "Nowell."

In olden times Christmas Day was celebrated on the 6th of January. Carols were sung by a band of youths who travelled around the country. But sleigh-driving is one of the principal amusements now.

Hear the sleigh bells ringing Merrily and sweet, See the children walking on,— On with eager feet. Others are skating, and the crowding sport to the children is to get up early in the morning and look into their stockings, filled with goodies and the things the little ones like best. Generally, however, the whole thing to older and wiser heads, would suggest "mamma and papa." The story of Santa Claus is founded on an ancient legend, and the children's divinity was said to have been one of the less important gods.

At the birth of Christ the wise men offered him gifts of frankincense, myrrh and gold, and it is supposed that from this arose the custom of presenting gifts to others on this glorious day. Following the example of this blessed Saviour who, regardless of the suffering he had to endure came into the world to save sinners and to make them happy, we on this day should endeavor to make others happy. Many people, who have lost friends, who have had sorrows and troubles and trials, are apt to regard this season with dread. We should point out to these the error they make, and try with all our heart to make it as happy for them as for ourselves.—E. H.

Christmas is the most glad some time of all the year. At this season the shops are all decorated with their Christmas wares, and brilliantly lighted so as to attract the attention of the passers-by; Christmas Eve, especially, presents a very gay scene to the eye; all is one blaze of light; everyone is rushing about and fro, purchasing presents for their friends, and looking at the many pretty things for sale. The parents are out buying candy for the little folks' stockings, which are all hung up at home, awaiting the visit of Santa Claus.

We have several ancient names for Christmas, such as Yule-tide, Nowell, etc. This festive season is to celebrate the birth of Christ. About eighteen hundred years ago our Blessed Lord was born in Bethlehem, as it had been foretold.

He came down to earth from Heaven. Who was Lord and God of all? And His birth place was a manger. With the poor and mean of earth Had our Blessed Lord His birth.

While certain shepherds were tending their flocks one night, they saw a bright light, and looking up beheld an angel descending from Heaven. Instant fear seized the men, but the angel drew near, and spake these words: "Fear not for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto us is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger." The angel then told them to follow the star until it shone over the place where the baby was laid. The shepherds did as they were commanded, and following the star they came to the manger where the child was laid, and falling on their knees they worshipped him who was the promised Messiah. Ever since that night we have celebrated Christmas Day as the birthday of our Lord.

not add to his popularity, or gain an increase of support in Queen's County by such means.

Christmas being so near, we refrained from pressing this point against Mr. Welsh, or saying one word more than is necessary at this time. But we hear that the omission is being misinterpreted, and that electors of Fort Augustus are being told that we desire to insinuate that they are influenced by Mr. Welsh's "unsound canvass." No inference could be more unfair. Our respect for the electors of Fort Augustus is too high to make such an insinuation possible on the part of THE EXAMINER.

The Schools.

BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS—CHRISTMAS PRESENTS TO TEACHERS—MUTUAL GOOD WILL OF TEACHERS AND PUPILS—A CHRISTMAS PARTY OF YOUNG FOLK—SCHOOL ESSAYS ON CHRISTMAS.

By the kind intercession of some friend of teachers and pupils, the Trustees were induced to permit the closing of the public schools a day sooner than they intended—so the schools were dismissed yesterday afternoon.

UPPER PRINCE STREET SCHOOL.

In this school the presents were chiefly of plush and the closing exercises were very pleasing. Addresses, suitable to the occasion, were delivered, Christmas carols were sung, essays written by the pupils were read, and true Christmas joy prevailed. Following are three of the essays. The first was written by a little girl, fourteen years of age, the writers of the others are fourteen and sixteen, respectively.

Christmas! how that season of the year is hailed with delight, both by old and young! The many hallowed and delightful memories associated with it, and the pleasures which we expect to come to us on that day, making it so dear to us. But when in the midst of the joys of Christmas, we ought not to forget what that day celebrates, and to thank the Giver of all good, whose birthday we are sacredly keeping. We ought also to remember the poor, and if one is so bowed down with sorrow, at the death of his loved ones, as to dread the coming of Christmas for himself, he ought to recollect the misery of a great number of his fellow creatures, and endeavor to make their Christmas much happier for them. He would behold a beautiful picture, if he would but look in at some of our happy homes on Christmas eve.

After the little ones have been snugly tucked in bed, the many-hued stockings are hung up by the fireside, in expectation of the coming of Santa Claus. If we glance at them in a few moments, the happy smile on their faces indicate that they are dreaming of the coming of St. Nicholas and his gifts.—W. P. M.

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One of the old customs of Christmas was that of candle-lighting. A band of young people would travel around from house to house singing some beautiful carol suitable to the occasion; and to this day we still sing those carols, many of them being hundreds of years old. Amidst all our festivity and happiness let us not fail to remember those who are less favored than ourselves. By some kind word or action we may considerably brighten some one's Christmas, and if we do our part towards blessing the poor, we shall ourselves be abundantly blessed.—B. B.

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WEST KENT STREET SCHOOL.

At the close of the school term for the Christmas holidays, the teachers of West Kent Street School were the recipients of valuable presents from the pupils of their respective departments. Principal L. Miller received a handsome plush-faced clock; Mr. Seaman, a handsome silver fruit stand; Mr. Duncan, an elegant silver sugar bowl; Mr. Robertson, a valuable dressing case; Miss Lawson, a plush dressing case from the girls and a silver bracelet and pair of vases from the boys of her department; Miss Wadman, beautiful toilet bottles, etc. In addition to the above, many handsome Christmas cards were also given to the teachers. Mr. Reid, the janitor, was provided by the teachers with a good Christmas dinner.

To-day some of the pupils of the several schools are having a Christmas party.

A Message of Peace and Love

WHICH OUGHT TO BE CARRIED INTO ALL THE RELATIONS OF LIFE.

By Rev. Job Shelton.

It came upon the midnight clear That glorious song of old.

The world had long been waiting to hear the message that God would send from Heaven. As early as at the death of Jacob the prophesy had been uttered that the Shiloh should come, when the sceptre should depart from Judah. But Daniel had minutely declared the time of the appearance of the great Deliverer. And now the last week of the seventy prophetic years was drawing near, and so an intense yearning desire had become the expectation of the world. There were strange appearances in the sky, which, in those eastern lands, were deemed to be the heralds of the birth of a great King. And so the Magi saw that strange star and they followed its guidance to the place upon which its luminous beams fell. How the heart of the patriot Jew, of whom the aged Simeon was the type, would throb as the vision came before him of the conquering Messiah. In a part of the world strange events were taking place, from which no such preparation could be expected. Rome, the proud conqueror of the nations must enroll its people, so the decree summons the obscure descendants of David to Bethlehem, for the imperial power of the Caesar must pay homage to their royal child. And when the fullness of time came, the angel's song was heard, ascribing "Glory to God in the highest Heaven and on earth, peace and will to men."

THIS SONG OF THE ANGELS

expressed the fact that the incarnation was a message of peace to the world. It is a well-established fact, that after long and bloody wars of conquest, peace reigned over the Roman world. The standards were unfurled, the swords sheathed, the legions at rest. Simple as might appear that fact, yet it was a prophecy of the purpose of christianity to bring peace to mankind. How sad and ruinous the history of war! Men may be dazzled with what is called glory, and boast of military prowess, and grow enthusiastic over the brave deeds of brave soldiers. But surely the Creator never intended for these things that His creatures should kill each other. The acceptance of the code of gospel morals, the enthronement in all the royalty of obedience to the precepts of the New Testament would make wars an impossibility. It is said, for instance, that thirty-five times the present population of the world has perished in war. In the German war of thirty years, one million perished; in Napoleon's wars, six millions; and during the American war of rebellion one million perished. Add to the waste of life, the waste of property, computed at fifty times the amount of property now on earth. Look at the trained, disciplined armies of the European nations, kept, if needs be, to destroy each other. Think of the millions sent to keep these men, drawn from the labors of those who prosecute peaceful pursuits. Surely the angels' song needs to be repeated, that peace may be on earth—

PEACE THAT SHALL HUSH THE STORMY PASSIONS

into the restful quiet of the lake of Galilee at the omnic word, "Be still,"—peace that shall close the vast military establishments of the nations, and so give freedom from the grievous burdens of taxation; peace, when the prophetic vision shall be a reality, as nations beat their swords into ploughshares, their spears into pruning hooks, and shall learn war no more; peace, when universal quiet shall reign in its deep hush, and over the redeemed world the angels shall again sing: "Peace, Goodwill to men." That song of the incarnation was God's proclamation at the birth of Him, named by Isaiah, "The Prince of Peace," who should bring in peace to our world. Reconciliation was to be the message of the gospel. That incarnation could mean nothing else. It was God's visitation of mercy, whereby the Day-spring from on high was to visit us. And that word, peace, was passed along all the years of the ministry of our Lord, till His death upon the cross. The apostle tells us that "He made peace through the blood of His cross." The proclamation of the incarnation was peace. The purchase of the atoning death was peace. It is to think along the line of the New Testament teaching when man is spoken of as at enmity with God, "enemies to God, aliens to the commonwealth of Israel," and when the atoning death completed the mystery of the incarnation, and explained its divine purpose, then peace became the message of the gospel, at it was the note of the angel's song. When the Lord rose from sleep in the frail boat, caught the tempest in His hand, and hurried it back to the hills of Galilee; when He said, "Peace, be still, and there was a great calm," that hushing of the storm was forever to symbolize the act of mercy performed for and upon the believing by

"THE PRINCE OF PEACE."

"He is our peace who hath made one." There is God in His inflexible character of holiness, and there is man the sinner, the rebel, and there comes One whose hands were pierced, and he takes the hand of both, and in His mediation unites them; makes them one, that by living "Peace and love"

will to men." That angel song passes its celestial notes along the ages, and makes harmony wherever heard. The discords of passion are removed. The hatreds of society are banished. The world puts on the tenderness and sympathy of love. It is only the outward expression of the purpose of the incarnation when wars cease, for inward, the divine purpose is found in the removal of the cause, in the prevalence of good will amongst men. Society ought to be constructed or reconstructed that all animosity should cease. The tongue should utter no word of slander, but character should be held sacred.

THE PEN SHOULD HAVE NO GALL

in it to write words of ill or falsehood upon black lines of enmity. In the whole range of literature there should not be a chapter that the most innocent child could not read. Why should we not put the angel's song in all the relations of life? Put it in the homes of our land. Around the family circle it will fling a melody, that in its sweetness will calm all asperities, remove all discords, and make home vocal with songs of gladness. All over our land, in palatial residences, in humble dwellings, on the prairies, this one strain shall be heard, the notes of which song would be, "Peace and goodwill." Put this song in the churches, and unseemly rivalries, and jealousies would cease; Judah would not hate Ephraim, nor would misrepresentations of doctrines or motives be made, but the prayer of our Lord would be answered: "that they all may be one;" one in faith, in love, in zeal, in holy work. For surely of all places these words should be true; for whatever the creed or discipline, upon the banner of the Christian church ought to be the two words, inwrought in threads of gold: "Peace and goodwill."

PUT THAT MESSAGE OF THE ANGELS INTO LITERATURE.

Let its notes chime with the setting of type, with the stamp of letters upon the papers, so that all printed words may spread peace and goodwill thru the press of our christian lands. There need be no weakness of argument in presenting truth; there need be no compromise of principle, but there can be the forcible presentation of facts that will convince. The book that flings its poison, subtle and penetrating, means no goodwill to multitudes of our youth, who will handle, read and mark the teaching. Oh! for the blessed day, when every page of reading matter shall be, as it were, printed upon leaves plucked from trees of life, which leaves shall be for healing earth's discords and diseases, and so made fit for the angel's song of "peace and goodwill to men." Put that song everywhere—in the workshop as busy men toil; in the factory amid the rattle of the looms; in the fields as the farmer ploughs and reaps; in the home to breathe its calm as duty is begun, to bring its rest as duty is done; in the senate, in the court, in the palace, in the cot, everywhere at this glad Christmas time may men hear the angels sing:—

For peaceful was the night, When the Prince of Light His reign of peace upon the earth began; The winds with wonder whist, Smoothly the waters list, Whispering new joys to the mild ocean. Ring out, ye crystal spheres! Once bless our human ears If ye have power to touch our senses so, And let your silver chime Move in melodious flow, And let the bass of Heaven's deep organ swell "Peace and goodwill to men."

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[SPECIAL DESPATCHES TO THE EXAMINER.]

POLITICAL SITUATION IN GREAT BRITAIN.]

Opinions of the Press.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

The London Times approves of Lord Salisbury's decision to support the defences of the country. It reproves Lord Randolph Churchill for acting hastily and desiring reckless economy instead of trying to reform the departments and secure greater efficiency without an increase of the estimates.

His resignation, says the Times, deprives the Government of its ablest member and completely changes the political situation. Lord Salisbury will, it continues, do well to renew overtures to Lord Hartington for a coalition Government. A reconstructed Conservative Cabinet without new blood can't last long, and will lead to the return of Mr. Gladstone to office.

The Evening News says patriots are pained and surprised. It asks Lord Randolph Churchill to justify his course, warning him if he does not his name will never be heard hereafter without exciting exasperation.

The Pall Mall Gazette declares that it will be impossible for Lord Salisbury to govern unless Lord Hartington steps into the breach. It says it is impossible to conceive of any hypothesis upon which Lord Hartington could defend, morally or politically, his refusal to accept the post which Lord Randolph Churchill has vacated.

THE FISHERY MATTER.

Canada's Position Strengthened.

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.

Notice has been received that the Queen has assented to the bill introduced by Mr. Foster last session, amending the Act relating to fishing by foreign vessels in Canadian waters, and which was reserved by the Governor-General at the end of the session. This act provided for the confiscation of American fishing vessels entering Canadian waters for any purpose other than the four named in the treaty of 1818, and covers the case of vessels entering for bait. By it fishing vessels are liable to confiscation if they fail to comply with the laws of Canada.

Fatal Fire.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 23. Caleb Russell's farm house was burned this morning. Russell and his wife

escaped from the house, but died soon after from the effects of heat and smoke. A deformed son was burned to death.

Enthusiasm in Dublin.

DUBLIN, Dec. 23. The resignation of Lord Randolph Churchill from the Cabinet, was proclaimed through the streets of Dublin this morning, by a bill man. The populace showed enthusiasm at the news.

Fatal Explosion.

SANCASTER, Pa., Dec. 23. While warming dynamite cartridges at a railroad cut this morning, a shock caused over fifty to explode. William Cahill was instantly killed, his body being torn in pieces, and thirty others fatally injured.

Ship News.

NEWBURYPORT, Mass., Dec. 23. The British schooner Hope, previously reported missing, arrived to-day.

Weather Bulletin.

TORONTO, December 24—10 a.m. East and northeast winds, gradually increasing cloudiness, followed by rain; higher temperature.

Sifter's Reply to Canto, No. 2.

We've been struck from the rear, both the skipper and I; Some agrarian unknown did the missel let fly;— It struck!—but no wound can we possibly find, Our armour is proof both before and behind. Now Julius the great, the Caesar of old Was struck from behind as the story is told, By Casca unseen. All such snakes in the grass Leave the stamp of their name by their slime as they pass. Now I can't measure swords with a man I can't see, Advance to the front, and whoever you may be I promise I'll sift you as well as I can; I'm good to sift ashes—perhaps not a man, You say that we're humbugs—to this I de-mur— The skipper may be; and yet, we prefer That all buy this sifter, and for yourselves see. Where the falsehood obtains,—with agrarian or me; The public then plac'd in position to try is And in sifting with care, you may find where the lie is.

MILLNER'S ASH SIFTER.

EVERY boy and girl in town should see our JUMBO CANDY STICK, the biggest STICK of pure candy ever seen on the Island.—B. Balderston, dec 23/86

Buy your Xmas and New Year presents at Dorsey, Goff & Co's. dec 22/86

LECTURE

A LECTURE will be delivered in the

Y. M. C. A. HALL,

Monday, December 27th,

FRANCIS BAIN, ESQ

SUBJECT—"Landmarks in Geological History."

Admission, 10 cents. G. F. BEEL, Secretary.

SKATES.

300 PAIRS SKATES, IN

Acme, Lansdowne and Woodstock, FROM 25 CENTS, UP.

SIMON W. CRABP, Walker's, Corner, Sign of the Star, Ch'town, Dec. 23, 1886—21 2 wks

PURE CANDY

MADE on the premises, from the Best Sugar and Finest Flavorings obtainable. Don't run the risk of eating poisonous, adulterated candy, when you can be sure of getting it pure from us. Our

TABLETS AND DROPS

are equal to the finest English Confectionery, and have the advantage of being Fresh.

Our caramels are very nice; our Choc. Creams are delicious; our Brown Cream, as the kind Ben Butler likes; our Cherry Car. and Choc. Sticks are what the boys like. Come and we will suit your taste and your purse.

FRUITS AND NUTS

In great variety. Choice GROCERIES, Colgate's Toilet Soaps and Perfumery.

B. BALDERSTON.

Ch'town, Dec. 18—3 wks 2 aw wky 11

NEW STORE.

A. E. YULL, respectfully announces to the citizens of Charlottesville and vicinity that he has this day commenced the

Flour and Tea Business.

at No. 63, QUEEN STREET, with a well-selected stock of Flour and Tea, and guarantee satisfaction to all who may patronize him. Inspection solicited. Ch'town, Dec. 21, 1886—11

During Christmas and New Year Weeks

we will offer the balance of our Fur Capes at prices to clear.

- Fur Capes at \$6.25 for \$5.00. Fur Capes at \$5.00 for \$4.00. Fur Capes at \$4.00 for \$3.20. Fur Capes at \$3.75 for \$3.00. Fur Capes at \$3.00 for \$2.40. Fur Capes at \$2.40 for \$1.92.

— ALSO —

Fur-lined Cloaks, Kyrle Cloth Newmarket Coats, Child's Cloth Jackets.

HARRIS & STEWART,

Successors to

GEORGE DAVIES & CO.

Dec. 20, 1886.

BRITISH WAREHOUSE

— 83 —

QUEEN STREET.

EXTENSIVE CASH SALE!

I have decided to close out the whole of my stock of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, commencing December 15th, 1886, and continuing until the whole is disposed of, at

LARGE DISCOUNTS FOR CASH.

A. L. BROWN. Ch'town, Dec. 14—11