CHRISTMAS AS IT USED TO BE

Christmas like it used to be! That's the thing would gladden me Kith and kin from far and near Joining in the Christmas cheer. Oh, the laughing girls and boys! Oh, the feasting and the joys! Wouldn't it be good to see Christmas like it used to be?

Christmas like it used to be-Snow a-bending bush and tree. Bells a-jingling down the lane; Cousins John and Jim and Jane, Sue and Kate and all the rest Dressed-up in their Sunday best. Coming to that world of glee,-Christmas like it used to be.

Christmas like it used to be. Been a long, long time since we Wished, (when Santa Claus should

You a doll and I a drum You a book and I a sled Strong and swift and painted red; Oh that day of jubilee! Christmas like it used to be.

Christmas like it used to be. It is still as glad and free, And as fair and full of truth To the clearer eves of youth. Could we gladly glimpse it through In their joy-time we would see Christmas like it used to be. -Nixon Waterman.

ROB'S LITTLE SISTER.

"Its a-comin' Kitty, sure's you live and breathe !"

With an eager face Kitty raised her head from the sofa on which she lived, and looked through the window far over the dead level of the prairie, while her brother Rob danced about the room.

"Hear that queer kind of a toot? That's it. See that streak o' black smoke-hey? That's it. Now watch."

The two gazed at a locomotive which shot into sight from behind a fringe of trees skirting a small stream. At its distance it looked little larger than a cow.
"Hi! don't she skite!" exclaimed Rob,

unable to control his delight. "That's the first engine runnin' over this bit of road, Kitty, and by next week they'll be running whole trains, and you can see 'em every

It was a great event for the settlers on the far-away Dakota prairies when the railroad came through. They had made their way by slow, laborious journeyings with a wagon and horses to the patches of land which they made their own by pre-emption; that is, living upon them a certain length outs, then in houses built of sod; for timber, which had to be hauled for many miles, was too expensive to build with. And many of the things which we in the older States look upon as necessities were luxuries far beyond the reach of these pioneers.

from the house where Kitty lived, to see the first train go through. Kitty could not go; but she never expected to go anywhere, and was quite content with her share of watching the train pass within

"Watch sharp," said Rob, as the family were about to stow themselves in the oig farm wagon, and her mother bent close to make sure that Kitty was comfortably settled for the six or seven hours of their absence. Then Rob brought her a cup of water, mother left her a very plain little supper, and they went off. She had no new books or magazine or pictures to while away the long hours, but watched the big wagon out of sight, and much later the passing of the smoking, puffing, screaming monster, trying in her innocent heart to imagine what it must be to ride in such grand style, and wondering if such happy fortune might

"Oh, Kitty, you could ride on 'em all day," cried Rob, bounding to her side on his return from the most exciting sight-seeing of his life. "'Taint like gettin' into no wagon, I tell you. It's jes like goin' into a house—a splendid house. And when you get in you jes set down on the splendidest sofy you ever see—bounces like a teeter. And they do say"—Rob's face grew solemn "but I don't know whether they was foolin' or not, and I ain't goin' to be took in-that they have beds on some o' them cars, Kit-ty. Jes think o' goin' to bed reg'lar, like you was home, and a-goin' lickety-cut

along as smooth as a hand sled !" Kitty heard it all with great interest, making up her mind that she, being the sister of so sagacious a boy as Rob, would not be taken in either by any of these strange stories.

"And-the wonderfulest thing, Kitty, went on Rob growing still more excited, if such a thing could be. "Look-you'd never guess who that was; now would you?" Kitty made an attempt at guessing who

the stranger might be who was coming in more slowly with her father and mother. It was a pleasant-faced man, who looked with kindly eyes upon the wistful-eyed child who had lain down so long far away from all reach of help or treatment which might afford a possibility of better things for her poor little life.

"It's my cousin John Walters, Kitty," exclaimed mother, with a glow on her face which the children seldom saw there.

And Rob could scarcely wait until the warm hand shake had been followed by words of friendly sympathy and inquiry before whispering: "He's got something to do on the railroad, Kitty. Not the big-gest man on it; for that the President himself, sure's you live. Bill Green told me so. But Cousin John gets a ride on the cars whenever he wants it. Tired of it, Kitty! Told me so himself."

Kitty gazed in wonder equal to Rob's own at the man who could be tired of such little children in the far East whom he might bring out West to live some day.

It was a link to the outside world which became very sweet to the lonely, proverty stricken dwellers on the prairie. autumn wore away, and Kitty could mark that the nights, in which she sometimes slept but little, grew longer, it was pleasant to be looking for the visits of Cousin John and to hear his long stories about his own little girls who would come to see Kitty some day.

The winter settled down, aud Kitty did not like the wild storms or the deep snows, for they made it harder for Cousin John to watching for him; what if she should watch come from the station to see them, al- and watch and never see him come?

though he still did it when he could be off

But as the short days grew shorter and darker Kitty drooped. No one who loved her could tell what was the matter, but all of them could see that she grew weaker and weaker every day. Rob watched in fear and trembling, although he did not for some time catch the cold fear that lay at

mother's breast. At length a day came in which Kitty did not want to be carried from her bed to her

place upon the sofa.

"Not want to be where you can see the

trains pass, Kitty?"
"No, Robby; I am so tired." Rob gazed for a few minutes at her pale little face, wondering in his troubled mind what it might be to him to live without

his little sister, then went to his moth er.
"Mother, I'm goin' for the Doctor to see

"The Doctor, Robby, !" Such a thing had never been thought of. Poor folks suffer on without dreaming of such expensive

"Yes I'm goin'," said Rob, stoutly.
And taking another glance at the face on the pillow, mother could not say no. "But the weather looks stormy, Rob," Kindly hands raised the boy and carried she said following him to the door, and him into the car where restoratives were aplooking anxiously at a low lying bank of plied with skillful hands. "I'm afraid there's going to be a

"Looks a little blizzardy," said Rob eye ing the clouds critically.

storm.

"Better wait till it's over, hadn't you?" "No," said Rob shaking his head decid-"Don't you know there's such a thing as waiting too long, mother?" Mother looked in his eyes, and said n more, as he added, cheerily :

"You see, mother, if it should be a big storm, the snow might be so deep that nobody could get through no telling when; so I guess I'd better get ahead of it. Father did not object as Rob went to

harness old Brickdust to the rough cutter, which they had made with their own hands. only saying, "Go straight there, and, if the storm should get bad, don't try to come back tonight."

Last of all Rob went in to Kitty: "I'm goin' to fetch some one to make you feel better, poor little Kitty," he said kissing "Now mayn't I carry you to wher you can watch me go away, and then watch for me to come back?

Kitty held up her thin arms, and Rob tenderly carried her to her sofa. He had a feeling that he could not go leaving her in bed; it seemed to him like such a dreadful giving of her up to real sickness. And she could see his hand waving to her as long as he was in sight before disappearing over a little rise in the long monotonous road over the prairie.

"Get up, Brickdust," said Rob shaking the reins as his quick eye noted the rapid changes in the sky. "If you and me don,t hump ourselves up, old fellow, we'll be getting the cold end o' them clouds down on us before we get home."

Old Brickdust paid respectful heed to Rob's suggestions, always "humping" him-self up a half-dozen footsteps, and then relapsing into his former gait. Rob liked the look of the sky less and less, and as a few snowflakes came idly floating by his head, again and again urged his horse for ward.

Those who know with what sudden and fearful force a blizzard descends will not wonder at Rob's uneasiness. The spirit of the storm seems to take delight in forming A few days after the appearance of the first locomotive all the settlers who could do so gathered at the station, seven miles weak their force and fury upon whatever weak their force and fury upon whatever the seven seed to their terrors. hapless object may be exposed to their terrific power.

Rob had scarcely had time to observe the fugitive flakes before the air seemed to grow darker. For a few moments he drew his reins and hesitated. He knew the dange that might attend his way; could recall many a tale of unfortunate travellers who had wandered upon the pathless prairies until cold, or hunger, or both, had brought them to the end of all journeyings.

"What'd you and me better do now Brickdust?" he asked, taking another com-prehensive look at the sky. "It's lookin" uglier, isn't it, old fellow? Shall we go on or shall we turn back? We're just about half way now, and it's about as long as it's broad, you see. If the snow'll only come genteel we'll get on firstrate, and if we can only get to the Doctor, of course such a smart man with such a fine horse can get out to see Kitty-poor little Kitty! Get up

Brick, I say.' The thought of the pale face choked half the force of the sturdy command which came with a vigorous jerk of the reins, but even then it seemed too harsh a one to give his old horse, for he added, half penitently "She was as light when I carried her. Brick: yes, light as a feather. That's right step lively, now. I know you think just as I do about it. Let's see your real race-hors

steps. But the snow had no idea of coming "genteel." The darkness increased, clo ing in upon the lonely boy like a cloud Swifter and thicker circled the white flakes: then, with a low, sullen roar the pitiles storm came flying on the wings of a wind

straight from the frozen zone. "Hurry up, Brick," again cried Rob But as with straining eyes he tried to penetrate the white wall which surrounded hin he saw that every landmark was swept from his sight.

For a while old Brickdust kept his way in the road, and Rob strove to urge him forward. But the fast falling snow soon filled everything like a track. There was no fence, nothing to mark the path over the dreary waste.

Even Rob's courageous heart trembled little as he took in the full gravity of the situation. "It's no use," he presently said. "If you

can't keep the track, I can't. You take your way now, Brickdust, and get us home. Kitty'll be glad to see us even if we haven't got the Doctor.'

But poor old Brickdust's instinct seemed to give way before the blast which drove down upon him. Making a few blind efforts to stem it, he gave up, and plodded aimlessly on through the deepening snow. As night closed down, Rob felt an icy chill stealing over him. His benumbed fingers could scarcely hold the reins, and the keen blast seemed to cut like a knife through his not over well clad body. Still own at the man who could be tired of such magnificence, listening as he told about his own heart almost failed him. He wrapped around him an old blanket which was in the cutter, and for hours sat up straight straining his eyes in hope of seeing some

friendly light. "It's getting warmer, isn't it Brick?" he said at length, with a weary sigh. "P'r'aps the wind's letting up a bit." The boy's frame relaxed, and he sank back with a dulled sense of his dire extremity, and less anxiety about how he was to reach safety. But the next moment he sprang up with

a full realization that the stupor which was

creeping through every limb meant death.

He stood up, beat himself with his hands, calling wildly for help. But no help was near. Again and again he fought against the cruel power which was slowly overcom ing him. Nature yielded at last, and Kitty's brother lay helpless in the cutter, while poor old Brickdust stumbled on through the darkness and snow.

"No, we sha'n't see Hopeville to-night," said the conductor on a train, speaking to a few passengers.

"Then some of us won't get home to spend Christmas," said one.
"Reckon not," said the conductor, shaking the snow off his coat. "The snow

plough is working its very best, and still we're away behind time. There's no telling when we may have to stop."
"What's that?"—a cry came from several voices, as an alarming jar shook the train and it presently stood still.

"We've stopped now," grumbled the conductor. "Cattle likely. They make no end of trouble out this way.

The men went out into the wild storm. "It's a boy! Frozen-dead, I guess. And here's a sleigh knocked to splinters." "And here's the horse-a regular old bag of bones. He's dead anyway.' Kindly hands raised the boy and carried

"He's coming to, Doctor !" The words. spoken in eager, excited tones, were the first heard by Rob as he opened his eyes and saw Cousin John Walters and others about him. Stinging, burning pains shot through his hands and feet as he tried to

"Keep still, boy," said Cousin John.
"Jack Frost's been taking a nip at you,
but the Doctor'll have you all right before "How-did-I-get here?" asked Rob

looking around in dizzy bewilderment. "Why, we collided with you and smashed you up," said Cousin John, with an at-tempt at a laugh. "Well for you we did it, too. It's the first time I ever heard of a chap having his life saved by being run in-

to by a locomotive."
"But," said Rob, with an uneasy glance at the windows, against which the storm was beating with untiring fury, "Kitty'll be watching for me."

Nearly twenty-four hours after she had seen Rob drive away from the door, Kitty was watching the point where he had dis-

Perhaps it had been good for her, this break in the dull monotony of her life, even the break of an anxiety. A little of the brightness came back to her eyes as she watched, refusing to leave her outlook while daylight lasted. Mother watched her end in joy or sorrow.
"He's coming!" cried Kitty. A little

glow spread over her cheeks as she raised her head with more energy than her mother had seen for weeks.

Two horses were slowly plowing their way through the snow. All its sparkle seemed reflected in Kitty's eyes as she distinguished Rob, wrapped in a buffalo-"And two men," said mother.

"And one of 'ems Cousin John," said "Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas!" The sound of the hearty good wishes filled

the house as Cousin John came in, carrying Rob in his arms. "Merry Christmas, little girl," he repeated, as he laid him beside her on the sofa. 'No, don't squeeze his hands; don't even

kiss him very hard." After the story of Rob's deliverance had been told, the strange gentleman seated himself by Kitty's sofa.

"I thought," he said, "that as I could not get home for Christmas with my own little ones, I had better come with Mr. Walters and spend it at Kitty's home."

And never before had Kitty dreamed of

such a Christmas. Cousin John had brought a fir tree, and Kitty lay and gazed in rapture at the things useful and beautiful which he hung upon it. Rob hobbled about on his ailing feet, sometimes helping Cousin John, sometimes rushing up to Kitty with an ecstatic, "Oh, Kitty! did you think I wouldn't come back.'

Dr. Gilbert unpacked a parcel of books and pictures which took away from Kitty all fear of the long winter to come and all desire to lie still and let her life ebb away if it would. He watched her pale face very closely, had a good deal of talk with her mother, and the next day said good-by, telling Kitty to be of good eheer.

And Rob, after watching him as he made his way through the drifts, turned to Kitty with all his loving heart beaming in his eyes: "Kitty isn't this a Christmas time? Isn't it all peace on earth and good will and good good times, and me not frozen, and you a-gettin' better, and everything thankful—and just jolly? Hey, Kitty?" -By Sudney Dayre

A Disgusting Habit.

Boys should early be taught the heinous ness of the offense of spitting both from the basis of decency and danger to public health. It is much easier to prevent the formation of a habit of this kind in a boy than to correct it in a man, and herein lies the mother's part in the warfare against spitting.

No extension of woman's rights is neces sary to make mothers a power in this neglected realu. All that is required is return to a duty once faithfully discharged -but in the rush of modern life neglected -the vigilant maternal supervision of boys during the years in which their habits are

The boy that is taught that to spit on the hearth—the steps—anywhere about the house—is an infringement upon the rights of the family that will not be tolerated is not likely as a man to infringe upon the rights of the public by spitting upon the sidewalks, on the floors or steps of

public buildings, or in the cars. In the meantime however, there is a to be reckoned with in the interest of the those who have given careful attention to owners are more justly treated. the matter that these can be reached more effectively by the dissemination of knowledge upon the subject than by city ordi-

CHRISTMAS SONG.

Pillowed soft upon the hay,

Why do bells for Christmas ring? Why do little children sing! Once a lovely shining star Seen by shepherds from afar Gently moved until its light Made a manger's cradle bright. There a darling baby lay

And its mother sang and smiled. 'This is Christ, the holy child.' Therefore the bells for Christmas ring; Therefore little children sing.

-Eugene Field.

The Grangers Finish Up Their Work at address of Master Hill were considered Lock Haven.

ing at Lock Haven—The Business That Was Unfinished Before the Watchman's Last Issue Went to

Pomona Grange of Pennsylvania, in session in Lock Haven, up to and including the meeting on Wednesday evening. The Interesting reports were presented by

adjournment on Friday was as follows: The Thursday morning's session was de-

voted to hearing reports. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDA-

TIONS. The executive committee, consisting of Hon. Leonard Rhone, Louis Piollet and George W. Oster, presented their report. The report stated that during the past year the State was divided into districts for lecture work, and the organizers that were sent to the various localities did good work. The committee also had arranged that subordinate Granges should report quarterly the amount of business transact- of all legitimate efforts to secure the enacted with the several business houses, but as ment of a law making game the property only one-tenth of the Grangers had report- of the owner of lands on which it is found. ed, the practice will be discontinued. It and that it shall be unlawful for any perhas been decided that business houses shall son to hunt game without permission of hereafter report quarterly to the executive the owner; that the United States Senators has been decided that business houses shall

The committee make the following recommendations: That the secretary have printed on card board a complete business houses with which the State Grange has contracts, and that a copy be mailed to every subordinate Grange; that the worthy master designate some time in the near future as "Grange week" during which every Grange shall make a special effort to increase its membership; that a change in the constitution of the State Grange be made, whereby officers of the subordinate Grange shall be elected at the last regular meeting in September and installed at the first meeting in October, and that the names of the new officers be trans-mitted to the state secretary immediately after their election; that a permanent reserve fund be created, in which shall be placed each year at least \$200 of the money be invested in reliable building and loan W. S. Scholl, carpenter...... ssociations; that the coat of arms of Pennsylvania and the regulation flag of the H. F. Miller, carpenter state, with the name of the State Grange John F. Fortney, farmer ... emblazoned thereon, be adopted as the of- John Robb, clerk..... ficial flag of the State Grange; that a com- J. W. Foreman, farmer. mittee of five be appointed to design flags A. W. Gentzel, laborer... while daylight lasted. Mother watched her it would end in joy or sorrow.

mittee of live be appointed to design has a kind of the Pomona and subordinate Granges, and that where farmer's institutes are held harris Heylman, bank clerk... at state expense that provision be made for

one Grange address.

The statement of the finances of the comnittee show: Balance in treasurer's hands John Henderson, farmer. December 1st, 1898, \$5,545.50; receipts Benner Turner, farmer. from fees, dues and other sources, \$5,823.96; total receipts, \$12,185.70; total disbursements during 1899, \$6,331.69; balance Dec. H. M. Stewart, laborer... 1st 1899, \$5,854.69; net gain during the Jesse K. Cox, liveryman... year, \$308.51.

The committee on legislation, through Hon. W. T. Creasy, presented their report. David J. Gates, farmer.. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.

The special committee appointed at the last session, presented a different method for holding elections. The report was referred to the master, with instructions that it be sent to the National Grange for an opinion as to its constitutionality. The finance committee also presented its F. H. Thomas, superintendent

NATIONAL LEGISL The committee on national legislation W. S. Tate, carpenter. reported favorably on those portions of the master's address that had been placed in

their hands for consideration and offered the following resolutions: the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the State Grange of Pennsylvania while fully recognizing the economic advantages resulting from combinations of capital and the substitution of co-operation for destructive competition, holds that these advantages equitably belong to the whole people, where protection, as embodied in the law, alone renders such combinations possible and should not be monopolized by the favored few. It accordingly demands such legislation by congress as shall compel such combinations to occupy their true positions as creatures and servants of the public by enforcing publicity of methods and accounts, preventing overcapitalization in its various forms, forbidding discriminations in charges, and by other means as experience has shown, or may hereafter show, to be necessary,

Resolved, That we urge the enactment of a law regulating interstate traffic in foods, drugs and condiments, similiar in effect to the bill presented to the United States congress known as the Brosius Pure Food bill.

Resolved, That we further ask for the extension of the free delivery of mail in rural districts as rapidly as possible, and that the service be placed on the same permanent footing as the delivery of mail in cities and towns.

STATE COLLEGE. Dr. Armsby, director of State College ex-

perimental station, gave an interesting address in which he referred to the land acts of 1862 and 1887. He also discussed the educational question and spoke of the necessity of farmers being thoroughly educat-

S. S. Blymyer, of Armstrong county, was elected member of the finance committee J. A. Way, farmer and Frank Chandler, of Chester county, was elected member of the executive commit-

ROADS.

The committee on roads reported as fol-Your committee on public roads to whom was referred for consideration, that part of the worthy master's report relating to pub-lic roads, report favorably and in addition submit the following resolutions and re-

spectfully ask its adoption: Resolved, That while we are in full accord with the suggestions and recommendations therein set fourth, and firmly believe in the practical views expressed by the worthy master in his re-

We also recommend that the legislative committee of the State Grange, draft and urge the passage by the next legislature, such a road law as will best meet the reeneratiom of full-grown, active spitters quirements and demands of the people of this great commonwealth and that will so public health, and it is in the opinion of adjust taxation that all classes of property

> The committee on Dormant Granges recommend the distribution of grange literature. That county deputies he urged by the state master to proceed at once to re-organize Dormant Grangers.

DORMANT GRANGES.

EDUCATION.

The committee on education reported David Kinkead, laborer disprovingly of the resolution asking for the Wm. I. Brower, farmer.. repeal of the present law governing the Peter Corl, farmer school term; as the committee believes the term is not too long: Recommended that N. O. Weber, farmer the grange encourage the establishment of township high schools and better wages George Austin, teamster.... for teachers and expressed dissatisfaction at the cut in the school appropriation.

POMONA GRANGES. The committee on Pomona granges, Geo. L. Ebbs, chairman, made a lengthy report in which the suggestions contained in

The report coincided with all the recommendations of the master. The committee suggested that subordinate granges should furnish the secretary of Pomona granges with quarterly reports of the condition of the local organization, setting forth the In the last issue of the WATCHMAN was status of the local work to enable the offipublished a full account of the proceedings overs of Pomona to ascertain the exact con-of the twenty-seventh annual meeting of dition of the order. The report closed dition of the order. The report closed with a plea for representation of Pomona

Interesting reports were presented by the ousiness transacted on Thursday and before assistant steward and the lady assistant steward.

EXECUTIVE.

The executive committee was requested to continue their work as provided at last session, with the master to supervise the to make the system of appeal better

TRANSPORTATION. The transportation committee reported on the injustice of corporations not paying their share of local taxes.

RESOLUTIONS. Resolutions were adopted urging the use committee the amount of sales made to Patrons during the quarter, instead of annually to the treasurer, as done hereto- enacted such laws as will equalize taxation and thus relieve the farmers of their unjust burdens.

A change was recommended in the num ber of delegates to the state grange. Another resolution was as follows. Resolved, That we favor direct legislation the

initiative and referendum preserving to the peo-ple the opportunity of governing themselves by voting direct upon the laws under which they

Before adjournment on Friday morning a resolution of thanks was tendered th people of Lock Haven for their courteous treatment and it was practically decided that Lock Haven shall be selected as the place for the next annual meeting.

January Juroas.

The following have been drawn to serve as jurors at the next session of court, comeccived from business houses, said fund to mencing on Monday, January 22nd. 1900. .. Bellefonte. Geo. Pottsgrove, bookkeeper... .Curtin Bellefonte Bellefonte Charles Reese, farmer A. C. Ripka, farmer Thos. Homan, laborerWalker .. Taylor Philipsburg Huston .. Worth A. C. Williams, teacher... .. Huston Jacob Wyle, laborer Haines Elmer S. Williams, laborer .. John K. Rockey, farmerBogg S. W. Smith, farmer.....Centre Hall TRAVERSE JURORS-1ST WEEK. Michael Spicher, farmer.... J. C. Wagner, miller.... . W. Lukens, plasterer PhilipsburgLiberty Fred Robb, farmer.....

> .Spring John Spearly, laborer. Charles Kennedy, laborer. Nathan Krape, farmerBenner Harry C. Bailey, farmer .. . Harris J. Henry Fishburn, farmer. Wallace Walker, farmer Miles John P. Johnson, laborerPhilipsburg Samuel Homan, farmer... Walker H. K. Harshberger, laborer. .Potter A. V. Miller, gentleman John Myers, Sr., laborer.... ...Rush Noah Cronimiller, clerk .. Aaronsburg Adam Kerstetter, carpenter. Michael Shaffer, gentleman. P. Benner Graham, shoemakerBellefonte Benjamin Breon, lumberman. Gregg George Fravel, carpenter .. George Ellenberger, tarmer William Colpetzer, laborerBenner Foster Williams, clerk ... Bellefonte A. R. Woodring, farmer.. Paul D. Shaffer, clerk Bellefonte Samuel Bathurst, laborerBoggs John Hunter, laborer Patrick Hefferin, laborer .. Rus Aaron Fahr, farmer Union J. O. Stover, teamsterPotter C. D. Motz, clerk..... Haines Nicodemus Lose, farmer. Haines Michael Hazel, labor... Benner R. J. Gibbs, farmer Boggs Harry N. Lyon, laborer. .Spring Perry McCaleb, farmer Philipsburg George Simler, drayman. Jerome Spigelmyer, merchant... .Millheim Thos. Shaughenssy, carpenter ... Bellefonte William Peeler, merchant, W. B. Haines, farmer Antes Confer, farmerHoward TRAVERSE JURORS-2ND WEEK. Miles Zimmerman, farmer... Thos. D. Weaver, carpenter Snow Shoe Thos. N. Stover, laborer Miles Philipsburg .Curtin .Snow Shoe ...Spring

Orrin Vail, merchant... Cornelius Stover, farmer... William Miller, farmer Harry Gunsallus, merchant. Michael Kerstetter, carpenter ... W. E. Frank, laborer ... Jeremiah Shutt, laborer.... .Bellefonte Charles Corl, farmer..... ... Harris George E. Ishler, butcher. Wm. Twigg, laborer Jas. M. Ross, farmer... Harris Geo. M. Brown, blacksmith. William Stover, carpenter. Jacob E. Snyder, dentist. Philip S. Dale, farmerCollege W. E. Fisher, farmer Boggs R. R. Richards, farmer .. Huston Norman Holt, merchant... .Philipsburg John W. Collins, minerRush C. T. Harshberger, liveryman. .Milesburg J. G. Irwin, gentleman .College D. O. Hazel, laborerSpring F. S. Musser, teamster. ..Gregg S. M. Brown, laborerGregg Bellefonte Edward Haupt, manager .. Reuben Harter, farmerPenn .Rush ...Union

H. L. Barger, laborer Snow Shoe. -Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

.. Boggs

.. Benner

.. Boggs

E. M. Huyett, lumberman.

George Austin, teamster.....

J. Kyle McFarlane, farmer...

Samuel Vonada teamster

J. C. Barnhart, farmer ...

BETHLEHEM.

Can this be Bethlehem? That was the exclamation of us all as we tried to ride through the narrow alleys, over broken flagstones, amid decay and ruin. I could think of no other comparison but an old pond in a piece of New England backwoods, where the mud is black and deep below and the hemlocks thick and sombre above. Yet out of that deep, black mire come annually to the surface of the water, with every spring, the purest, sweetest, whitest largest pond lilies to be seen in the Hampshire Highlands. Coal black tar makes white paint. Mud makes lovely, snow white lilies. Bethlehem introduced

the Christ. The worn rocks where the tread of sandaled or bare feet has rubbed out long ruts same. A special committee was appointed from a foot to three feet deep strikes the imagination with a shock. How long have human feet ascended these steep and rocky paths? How many water carriers from David's coveted well, how many headloaded market women, how many torch-bearing wedding parties, how many shrieking funeral processions, how many warriors, maidens, children, mules and dogs have contributed their imperceptible share to the abrasions which now seem so deep? The old mud and stone houses broken in on the sides or "caved in" from the roof, where only one dark room out of six can now be inhabited, are all monitors of the ages telling of slow decay, of want, wars, devastations, taxation, tyranny, as well as of quiet lives dragging out whole genera-

tion in permeating monotony.

Yet it was here in this stable, under this gloomy old church, that the Christ child appeared. A lily amid filth, an electric gleam at midnight, an angel of beauty with a background of demons.

While we were stopping in Jerusalem some of our party went out nearly every day to Bethlehem and clambered about its steep, narrow, rocky streets, finding fresh and romantic situations and queer relics each day. There is no ride in Palestine, unless, possibly, we should not include the drive along the white beach of the Sea of Galilee, which can exceed in loveliness the trip over the six miles of good road from Jerusalem to Bethlehem now. Each moment the views change, as the road ascends the crown of a mountain or approaches the edge of a cliff, and deep ravines, cottage homes, shelving rocks, caves, sections of ancient masonry, forests of olives in the valleys, distant ranges of historic mountains, all appear and disappear as in a

...Harris grand dream. Bethlehem, when Christ was born, must have been a city of importance and the headquarters of a Roman tax collector. That officer then lived in luxury, and his mansion must have been large and built about a lovely garden. The new idea advanced by the archaeologists that Bethlehem was one of the "Library Cities" of ancient Syria, ranking with Hebron and Gaza, is not yet proven by the newly discovered inscriptions and cylinders. But it was an important outpost for the defense of Salem (Jeru-salem) as long ago as the time of Melchisedeck. Dean Stanley labored with the problem and gathered interesting data, I was told at Bethlehem, which showed clearly that the village was quite a different place then from what it is now. Then the vineyards covered each terrace and the fruit trees deeply shaded each

ravine and valley and groves covered the hilltops. The town was regularly built, and many of the streets ran under coal arches, and tunnels now filled in ran under some of the squares. The hotel, or khan, must have ..Bellefonte Frank Goss, bicycle repairer......Philipsburg been very large, built about an open for the inn and the rest for the stables. The superstitions of the ages have misled many writers and handed down in tradition

many absurd statements about it. But that Bethlehem is the actual place of Christ's birth, and that the Church of the Nativity is on the actual location of the inn there can be no reasonable doubt. I was so fortunate as to meet at Bethlehem a dear, saintly old monk from Mar Saba, whose acquaintance we had made at the Cliff Monastery near the Dead Sea, who took me about in a fatherly way and vivid-ly pictured the scene in Christ's day. He described it in such glowing words that I never think of Bethlehem now without involuntarily imagining it as he portrayed it. At Bethlehem, as in all those historic places in the East, one needs to keep as indifferent as possible to the present annoyances and live in the past. The old monk had mastered the problem. He moved among the thoughtless travelers, blessed the beggars, nodded to the water-carriers, greeted the mule drivers and answered questions with a far away look and tone which was a study in psychology. He walked in the present but lived in the past. He described the flat roofs, the latticed windows, the overhanging balconies, the dark front gateways, the lovely enclosed back gardens, the bazaar and the deep well in the little square, just as he seemed to see them twenty centuries back. The sleeveless, barefooted shepherds, the noisy maidens about the well, the busy water carriers from the inn, the veiled wives of the wealthy riding up the hill, the Roman soldiers with gleaming helmets, the old skeiks of the plains, the camels from Edom, the merchandise caravans camping in the valley, all seemed to live again for him. The arrival of Joseph and Mary from Nazareth that evening, the crowded condition of the inn, the taking out into the fields of some of the animals that Mary might have the room in the stable for shelter, the birth, the Child's first baby cry, the coming of the shepherds, the worship of the magi, were all to him living scenes.

So while Bethlehem to-day is a small village built on the ruins of past ages and its people are poor vine dressers or beggars, yet the travelers who can school himself into historic day-dreams, will be inspired at Bethlehem to review the truthful events ...Philipsburg of a most strange and potent past. There bloomed the Divine Lily which has made all our domestic peace, our advanced civilization and our religious hope a possibility. -By Rev. Russell H. Conwell

> A KEEN CLEAR BRAIN .- Your best feelings, your social position or business success depend largely on the perfect action of your stomach and liver. Dr. King's New Life Pills give increased strength, a keen, clear brain, high ambition. A 25 cent box will make you feel like a new being. Sold by F. Potts Green, druggist.

-The Florida Alligator was out foraging for his Christmas dinner, but the .. Ferguson little pickaninny swimming in the bayou .Centre Hall was utterly unconscious of it. "Yum,Miles yum!" remarked the alligator; "I think I'll help myself to a little dark meat, with-

out dressing. To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on every box. 25c.