

REMARKABLE CHRISTMAS CRIB AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL



One of the most interesting Christmas scenes seen in this city will be a feature of the Yuletide effects at St. Patrick's Cathedral, State street, east of Second. An interesting article on the Christmas crib and its history has been given the Telegraph by Father T. B. Johnson, one of the assistant rectors under Mgr. M. M. Flanagan, Rector. The article reads as follows:

"The origin of the Christmas crib according to tradition, our Saviour was laid after His birth, was probably the receptacle in which food was served to domestic animals. From quite an early date in our era Christians generally believed that, on the first Christmas night, an ass and an ox shared with the Holy Family the shelter of the stable. Bethlehem was considerably influenced, perhaps by the text of the Prophet Isaías (4, 3): 'The ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib.'

The little town of Bethlehem, about six miles from Jerusalem, is built upon two hills and stands nearly 2,400 feet above the level of the sea. It is in the more eastern of those hills that is still to be seen the grotto where Jesus was born. As to the authenticity of the place our earliest witness is the famous Christian apologist, Justin Martyr, who, in his 'Dialogue with Trypho,' written about 132-135 A. D., informs us that 'when the Child was born in Bethlehem, since Joseph could not find a lodging, he took up his quarters in a certain cave near the village' (c. 78). Thus within four decades after the death of the last of the Apostles, St. John, it would appear from the employment by this writer of the expression 'a certain cave' that the actual cave was then well known to the Christians of the Holy Land. That this conjecture is well founded is confirmed by the testimony of the greatest church writers of the third century, Origen. In his well-known work against the pagan philosopher Celsus, Origen alludes to the grotto in the following terms: 'If any one desires to satisfy himself, without appealing either to the prophecy of Micheas, or to the history of Christ, as written by His disciples, that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, let him know that, in ac-

cord with the Gospel narrative, at Bethlehem is shown the grotto where He first saw the light, and the manger in the cave where He was wrapped in swaddling clothes. And this sight is greatly talked of in surrounding places, even among the enemies of the faith; it being said that in this cave was born that Jesus who is worshipped and revered by the Christians' (Contra Celsum, i, 51). So that, according to Origen, about the year 248, when his book against Celsus was written, the cave and the manger of Bethlehem were familiar landmarks of Christianity in Jerusalem and the vicinity.

The next important date in the history of the grotto of the Nativity is that of its enlargement by the pious mother of Constantine the Great, the Empress St. Helena. After her conversion to Christianity the empress took the keenest interest in the places most closely associated with the earthly life of Christ. It was Helena who first converted the grotto into a chapel, adorning it with precious marbles and costly ornaments, while at the same time her son, Constantine, erected over the grotto a great basilica, which, with modifications, remains to the present day.

It was probably in the seventh century that the relics preserved in the Church of St. Mary Major as portions of the manger of Bethlehem were first brought to Rome, although the relics were regarded with the greatest veneration, the idea of reproducing something in the nature of a fac simile of the scene of the Nativity appears to have originated with the lovable Saint of Assisi, in the thirteenth century. It was constructed by a friend of St. Francis, named Giovanni Velita, and consisted of a grotto, showing in miniature the scene of the adoration of the Magi, the adoration of the Mother and foster-father, and of the shepherds of Bethlehem.

The success of the Greco experiment was instantaneous, and Christmas cribs were within a few years found in Franciscan as well as other churches in every country of Europe.

On the first Christmas Day, at the pontifical high mass (5:30 a. m.) in St. Patrick's Cathedral, the people of Harrisburg will have an opportunity of seeing an example of the latest type of Christmas crib, containing some special features that were not impossible before the nineteenth century. The crib ordered for the Cathedral will consist of a grotto which, when erected, will be six feet high, eleven broad and five feet deep. Twenty-four figures will be shown, including, by a pardonable anachronism, the Wise Men from the East, as well as the Holy Family and the shepherds. The grotto will be lighted by concealed electric lights, which will throw a soft light on the various figures in the cave beneath."

Socialists Want War Pushed to Bitter End

Paris, Dec. 21.—The Socialists of Paris and of this district met in private session yesterday, and it was reported that, although unanimously that France should pursue the war so as to render the defeat of imperialism in Germany more effective, the resolution put it, and peace more durable.

German Successes Due to Munitions Preponderance

London, Dec. 21.—"The successes of the Germans have been due almost entirely to the mechanical preponderance they achieved at the beginning of the war," said David Lloyd-George, Minister of Munitions to-day. "Their advances east, west and south alike were due to this mechanical superiority, and their failure to drive them back in the west, and their advance in the east was due to the tardiness with which the allies developed their mechanical resources.

"But the superiority of the Central Powers in these respects will be brought to an end at the earliest possible moment."

Referring to the lesson learned from the military use of machine guns by the Germans, Mr. Lloyd-George said: "Here was a place where if we stinted material we squandered life."

Declare An Attack on Salonicci Inevitable

Saloniki, Dec. 29, via Paris, Dec. 21.—The highest Greek military authorities declare it to be their belief that an Austro-German attack on Saloniki is inevitable. The Greek general staff will quit Saloniki to-morrow.

"Too Late Dogged Allies Every Step" Says Paper

London, Dec. 21.—The speech by David Lloyd-George, minister of munitions, in the house of commons last night, furnished a fresh opportunity for the Times and the Daily Mail to attack the government. In an editorial this morning the Daily Mail says:

"The speech contains the gravest indictment yet drawn against the government. 'To late' is written in large letters of fire upon the government records. Too late in aiding in Belgium, too late to save Serbia; too late in the Dardanelles; too late with munitions. Every step has dogged the allies' every step."

The Times says editorially:

"It is a melancholy and humiliating story in which the words 'slow' and 'late' recur with painful frequency."

Last Minute Gift Suggestions From Goldsmith's



12-inch Mahogany Candlesticks, \$1.50 pr.



Mahogany Bud Vases \$1.25 pair

Only 25 pairs on sale.
They are 12 inches high with glass water container.
The season's most attractive gift article.



Has She
a Desk?

The most extensive showing of Ladies' Desks we've ever made—and that's equivalent to "the largest in Harrisburg"; all styles, including the much favored "Spinet" type (as illustrated).

Oak and Mahogany, \$12.00 to \$75.00



Brass Candlesticks
With Globes
\$2.50

Regular selling price, \$2.50
Ornamental as well as useful. Stand 14 inches high.

This will be an appreciated gift.



"Basketcraft" Jardinières
and Scrap Baskets
\$1.00 to \$3.00

Artistic in design; strongly made of Willow in Verd Green finish. All sizes and shapes.

Open evenings. Deliveries up to 10 o'clock, Friday evening.

GOLDSMITH'S
For Good Furniture
Walnut to Locust above Second.

Will Your Home Present That Cheerful and Real Home-Like Appearance on Christmas Morning?

A NEW PIECE OF FURNITURE OR A NEW RUG may help a great deal to make your house what it really ought to be on Christmas Day. Our large stock of furniture and our liberal credit system are at your service right now to help you.

Gift suggestions

Rockers
Dressers
Hall Racks
Chiffoniers
Ladies' Desks
Gentlemen's Desks
Brass Beds

Iron Beds
Dining Chairs
Couches
Davenport
Lounging Chairs
Parlor Tables
Library Tables

Pedestals
Tabourettes
Costumers
Extension Tables
Parlor Suits
Bed Room Suits
Dining Room Suits

Living Room Suits
Tea Wagons
Serving Tables
Buffets
China Closets
Smoker Sets

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Brown & Company

1217-1219 North Third Street

General French Bidding Adieu to Army in France Prophesies Early Victory

By Associated Press
London, Dec. 21.—Field Marshal Sir John French Saturday issued the following order of the day before leaving the army on the western front:

"In relinquishing command of the British army in France I wish to express to the officers, the noncommissioned officers and men, with whom I have been so honoured during the last sixteen months, my heartfelt sorrow in parting with them before the campaign in which we have been so long engaged together has been brought to a victorious conclusion."

"I have, however, the firmest conviction that such a glorious ending to their splendid and heroic efforts is not far distant, and shall watch their progress toward this final goal with intense interest, but in the most confident hope."

"The success so far attained has been due to the indomitable spirit and dogged tenacity which knows no despair, and the heroic courage so abundantly displayed by the rank and file of the splendid army, which it will ever remain the pride and glory of my

life to have commanded during over sixteen months of incessant fighting."

"The regulars and the territorials of the old army and the new army have ever shown these magnificent qualities in equal degree. From my heart I thank them all."

"At this sad moment of parting my heart goes out to those who have received life-long injuries from wounds, and I think with sorrow of that great and glorious host of my beloved comrades who have made the greatest sacrifice of all by laying down their lives for their country."

"In saying good-by to the British army in France I ask them once again to accept this expression of my deepest gratitude and heartfelt devotion toward them and my earnest good wishes for a glorious future, which I feel to be assured."

J. D. P. FRENCH,
Field Marshal Commander-in-Chief,
British Army in France.

Suggests "Honor War Tax" to Balance Next Budget

By Associated Press
Berlin, via London, Dec. 21.—The Socialist resolution proposing an extraordinary defense tax imposed in 1915 was advocated in the Reichstag to-day by Dr. Eduard David, the Socialist leader, who suggested that this be called "the honor war tax."

We Have Just Finished Unpacking The Last of the Christmas Victrolas

So great is the demand and so limited the supply, that no one may safely put off choosing the Christmas Victrola any longer.

By actual count—with all reserve stock unpacked—we have but fifty-eight more Victrolas to offer.

Fortunately, each style is represented, so we can still give you unlimited choice, if you come in early enough—TODAY. Settle as best suits you—cash, charge account, or

Club Terms---No Interest

VICTROLA IV	\$15.00	VICTROLA X	\$75.00
Six 10-inch Double-face Records	4.50	Records, your selection.....	5.00
Total cost,	\$19.50	Total cost,	\$80.00
Pay \$5 down, \$3 monthly.		Pay \$5 down, \$5 monthly.	
VICTROLA VI	\$25.00	VICTROLA XI	\$100.00
Six 10-inch Double-face Records	4.50	Records, your selection.....	6.00
Total cost,	\$29.50	Total cost,	\$106.00
Pay \$5 down, \$3 monthly.		Pay \$6 down, \$6 monthly.	
VICTROLA VIII	\$40.00	VICTROLA XIV	\$150.00
Six 10-inch Double-face Records	4.50	Records, your selection.....	8.00
Total cost,	\$44.50	Total cost,	\$158.00
Pay \$5 down, \$4 monthly.		Pay \$8 down, \$8 monthly.	
VICTROLA IX	\$50.00	VICTROLA XVI	\$200.00
Six 10-inch Double-face Records	4.50	Records, your selection.....	10.00
Total cost,	\$54.50	Total cost,	\$210.00
Pay \$5 down, \$4 monthly.		Pay \$10 down, \$10 monthly.	

Edison Disc's—\$100, \$150, \$200, \$250

Only a few of each style. Club terms with interest added.

J. H. Troup Music House

Troup Building 15 South Market Square