

Said the old black man to the old whit

man:
"Hit's fawty yeahs to-night
Sense you gin to me this piece er lan',
An' the pootyes' gal in sight.

'You gin us, ersides, dem papahs, too, Dat sot us bon' ones free, An' Nan an' me sung 'Hally, Hally Loo Lak er song er jubilee.''

"Well, what if I did?" said the old gray

white,
"Didn't both belong to me?
And didn't I have, by law, the right
To set my niggahs free?
'And, what is more," said the old white
man.

"Lawd bless you, marster, blessin's fell As fas' as drops er rain; Yes, every soun' was a silver bell, Till God called Nan ergain.

'But we wuz all de slaves you had, An' sense you b'en so po' I'se felt dat we wuz actin' bad To wish for freedom so."

'No more! no more!" said the old white

'And, more than all, am I not blest, While waiting for the call? I gave you Freedom, God's bequest, Intended for us all."



It was Christmas eve and the Dod-etts sat by the fire discussing the prob-bility that they would receive pres-nts of greater value than they had ent to their poor relatives; and as ood as they had sent to their rich

'gh, what a night it is," said Mrs. gett, "but it is just as well, for we I have no callers, and I'm really not b be seen"

o be seen."

You certainly are not;" candidly
wered Mr. Dodgett, "it's a mystery
t you have done with all the money
have gotten for dress. Now, I can
howhere for lack of a decent dress

Charitable, that remark," grunted husband.

"Charitable, that remark," grunted her hugband.
"Ye-es," she replied, absently, "by the way, dear, Mr. Blanque has given his wife another sealskin. I shall have to cut her, for I can't visit her any longer in my old wrap. It's one comfort, though, that he selected it himself; something is surely wrong with it." Looking anxiously at her husband, she saw a half smile on his face.
"It's a cold night for that poor wretch to be out half elad," be said. "I'll see if he is gone," she returned, and both left the room by different doors.
Soon they were both back with half pleased, half shame-faced looks.
"It's Christmas eve, after all," said he.

'Yes, we should be charitable to-day

"1es, we should be chartened to dill of all days."

"M'hm; I gave that poor wretch my dress suit which was too shabby to wear. I had to hunt for it, too; it

And I gave him your old overcoat;

"And I gave him your old overcoat; it—"

"Which overcoat?"

"The black one; you—"

"You did, eh? Well, you were too smart for once! In the pocket of that coat was concealed the money I had saved to buy a sealskin for your Christmas gift. Say, why did you hide my dress suit in your wardrobe?"

Both had risen, looking very pale.
"You got that dress suit from my wardrobe, did you? Well, it was a new one I had gotten for your Christmas gift, Silas Dodgett!"

Two minutes later Mrs. Dodgett was in strong hysterics on the hearth rug, while the maddest man in town was vainly searching for a tramp with a new dress suit and an old overcoat.

His Name Is Legion.

His Name Is Legion.

For a Christmas present now
I am saving up;
That's why wrinkles line my brow
And sorrow fills my cup.



Christmas not only commemorates the birth of Christ, who gave His life as a ransom for a sinful world, but typifies the ineffable gift of God, who 'so loved the world that He gave His only begother Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Paul tells us that salvation "is the gift of God," from whom, as James says, is "every good and perfect gift." Paul also declares in writing to the Ephesians that when Christ ascended upon high He "led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men."

What are some of these gifts which are thus typified and intended to be commemorated by the custom of giftgiving in Christmas-tide? "Peace on earth, good will to men," is the boon it brings to mankind as a whole.

The coming of Christ was the manifestation of God to men. There is no full revelation of God anywhere save in His incarnated Son. He is the fullness of the God-head bodily. Christ was the ideal man, called by eminence "the Son of Man." In Him we mark the fulfillment of all human cupabilities. By Him is reconciliation of sinful man and an offended God. Faith in Christ crucified—the gift of infinity to man—is the secret of salvation from the consequences of sin. The gift of everlasting life is to be had for the taking.

Christmas, as a commemoration of the birth of Christ, without reference to His sacrificial atonement, would be meaningless. True, He taught grand lessons of love and duty, and of self-sacrifice for the good of others, but the sublime climax of all these teachings was His sufferings and death on the cross on account of the sins of mankind. This has been aprly called the tragedy of the world—a tragedy in which every human soul has an interest, because it provides for human wants—a balm in Glicad, a fountain for uncleanness, redemption from sin, and a joy forever.

These personal and spiritual gifts are not the only advantages that have been conferred upon mankind by the coming of Him whose birth is celebrated at Christmas. The world as a whole has had an uplift in direct

When Help Was Needed.
th, do come and help!" gasped a
who ran up to a policeman; "there
awful fight going on in our street!"
Yho's lighting?"
ty father and another man."
fow long have they been at it?"
th, half an hour."



bered occasionally with some tanguard demonstration of affection.

Christmas was at hand, and Caleb was in the throes of a job of guessing what to get for Debby. "There's so tarnal much nonsense bout Christmas presents," said he, "that a feller don't know what to git." But he held to his established rule that it should be "somethin useful and onextravagant." But what Debby needed most, that was the perplexing question.

Debby needed most, that was the perplexing question.

Caleb was to take Debby to the "Christ mas doin's" at the village church, where there was to be a tree for the young folks, and he thought it would be the proper caper to hang his present on the tree with the others, and have it hander out publicly, to show that he was u and doing with the rest of them. An so it came to pass that among the goothings hanging on the tree was a seale cavelone marked. "Merry Christmas t



is it, Debby? Open it and let us see!'

n."

i fowthwith conducted Debby home, where she bade him a "good night, Mr. Crimmins," it him to sneak off to his own with a sort of "wish I hadn't" rankling in his system, match was broken off short then match was broken off short then



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II. TREVASKIS, PHOTOGRAPHER,

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Secretary Olney is getting high commendation for his masterly answer to Lord Salisbury, which is justly regarded as the best interpretation of the Monroe doctrine ever printed, one which should be used as a text book in every school. It has placed him at one bound in the front rank of American statesmen, and has also caused his name to be frequently mentioned as the next Democratic candidate for president.

Rumors have already reached Wash-

cratic candidate for president.

Rumors have already reached Washington of the intention of English financiers to frighten the administration by attempting to bring on a money panic by unloading American securities held by them. This causes no uneasines here; such action would be more costly to the British than a war.

Whatever may be the opinion of people as to the president's past acts it is universally believed that his Monroe doctrine message will be known in history as the second declaration of independence.

Senator Hill has introduced a bill repeal the law which prohibits ex-co federates from holding commissions the army and navy, and will push vigorously after the holiday recess. S.

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Washington, December 20, 1895.
Such a wave of enthusiastic partiotism as has greeted President Cleveland's message notifying Great Britain that the Monroe doctrine is not a historical myth, but a tangible policy which the United States is prepared to maintain by force of arms, has not been seen by the present generation. The White House has been flooded with messages by wire and mail from all sections of the country, containing congratulations and offers of volunteers by thousands. To show that no bluff was being made a bill has been introduced in both houses of congress appropriating \$100,000,000 for strengthening the military armament. European nations must learn to not make light of the Monroe doctrine, and if it takes a war to teach John Bull the lesson congress it satisfied to let it to come. It is about time that his bulle-Advertise your wants in the TRIBUNE. It pays every time.

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