

THE CHRIST DAY.

OME-BRINGING and home-loving and home happiness are the bright features of the Christ day throughout the metes and bounds of Christendom. Callous is the heart, and dead to all impressions of light and gladness, which is not quickened to gentleness and unselfishness upon the natal day of Him who taught the broadest humanity and the most disinterested love. Had Dickens written only of Christmas, he should occupy a commanding place in the affection of humanity because of the cheery scenes he pictured and the cheery halos he cast about this day of all days in the year. The very pathos, which at times seemed a part of himself, when he wrote, quickened and brightened under the light of that day until it was nearly divested of all its sadness.

The tragedy of Calvary was years after the birth scene at Bethlehem. The God-child had need to grow up to man's estate and wrap about Him the mantle of infinite deity before He became a man of sorrows acquainted with grief. The Christ-day tells of the virgin mother and her glad smile of joy as she looked upon the face of her newly-born child. It recalls the cherubic song of the angels that startled the shepherds of Salem and the effulgent star that guided the wise men to the manger in which He lay. It brings out of the past the happy circumstances of those who were led into the Divine presence, bringing with them gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. So, too, clearer than when first uttered, because now better understood, is heard after the lapse of 2,000 years the Heavenly promise of peace, good will to men. Comes also the teaching of mercy, forgiveness and charity as substitute for the older law of eye for eye and tooth for tooth. When He came the dark night of cruelty and wrong and oppression rolled away, ushering in the gray dawn of an endless day of love for enemies and prayers for those that use their neighbors spitefully.

The example of the sages who came as gift-bearers is universally followed, and meet is it that it should be so, because the heart that gives in love has a sure promise of a blessing from the Lord. The inspiring motive of donatives is the love that thinks no evil against the recipient of the favor, and love is the dominant ruler of the heart that is good. The Christ taught nothing if He did not teach the infinite beauty of home life that is built upon love. The heart that loves and is cheerful gives freely, thus communicating pleasure to others in the reflection that they are not forgotten, and happiness to the donor in that he perceives he has communicated happiness. Love is contagious, as happiness is contagious, and blessed and three blessed is that household which welcomes Christians with ringing of bells and singing of glad songs, with laughter and merry voices, and that makes memorable the day by tokens of affection, whose value rests in the motive which prompted the giving of them.

Did He sorrow? Not for His sins or follies did He grieve. Did He sweat great drops of blood in His agony? Then was it that men might be freed from sin and be capable of appreciating and commemorating and imitating the infinite good of His nature. The face that was marred is now lit with the ineffable joy that comes of man's redemption, and from His great throne He regards all earth's children in love and smiles responsive to the gladness of those homes which make merry and bright the Christ-day, Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE WARNING.



Clara (in bed)—Come into bed, quick, Sally! Santa Claus ain't no fool. If he sees you a-walkin' aroun' with them legs, he'll know that stockin' don't belong to you!—Truth.

Had a Limit.
He could lift three hundred pounds,
Box for ten or twenty rounds;
He could sprint a wondrous distance without stopping;
But his triumphs found a check;
He came out a total wreck
When he finished up a tour of Christmas shopping.
—Washington Star.

The Man for the Hour.
"The loveliest fellow is going to visit me this Christmas. He's absolutely color blind."
"Is that why he is so lovely?"
"To be sure. Just think of it, he cannot tell the difference between holly and mistletoe berries and—and the house is full of holly."—Truth.

The Best He Could Promise.
"Papa," said Benny Bloobumper, "I want a big bass drum for Christmas."
"I'm afraid you can't have that," returned Mr. Bloobumper, "but you may have a big turkey drumstick."—Detroit Free Press.

Millinery
—and—
Fancy Work!
We have always shown an unusual beautiful line of goods during the holidays, and our stock this year is thoroughly up to date. Many new designs in Fancy Work and Sterling Silver Jewelry.
Mrs. J. MATHERS.

CHESTNUT'S
The Principal Holiday Shopping Mart in Freeland for More Than Ten Years.
Toys In Abundance!
Hundreds of Tree Ornaments.
We never had such a large stock as we are displaying this year. Two floors full, containing the latest and handsomest products of the Toy-maker's art.
The Largest Doll in Freeland given away free—one chance on every 25c purchase.

Specialties for the Holidays!
ROCHESTER LADIES' FINE SHOES
SOLE AGENT.
Boys' and Youths' Home-Made Grain and Kangaroo Calf Shoes.
Fine Slippers, largest and most complete stock of Rubbers ever brought to Freeland.
MEN'S AND BOYS' FELTS AND OVERS OF ALL QUALITY AND DESCRIPTION.
J. L. OWEN, MAIN STREET, BELOW CENTRE.

You May Need a Cape or Your Girl a Nice Coat?
If so we can well give you a good one. Or Cape as you can see in the country. We will treat you just as you would treat us. You just tell us what you want and we'll give you the best at the lowest price.
We do not force our inferior garments on you and charge a high price.
Millinery and Dressmaking
Mrs. R. Thompson,
Centre Street 2 Near South.

MERKTS' HOLIDAY BAZAAR
Centre Street, Above Main.
Everything imaginable for the children's stockings, and a great many things which will interest the older people. For the little ones we have
Toys and Tree Ornaments of every kind—all of them handsome and pleasing, many of them useful and lasting. Prices to suit the times. For young men we have
Pipes, Cigar Holders, Smoking Sets and other things, which make pleasing holiday gifts. For the older people, who spread the dinner table, we can furnish all the delicacies of the season.

WM. L. KEIPER,
Leading Jeweler (Established 1882.)
Centre Street Above Main.
Headquarters for Diamonds, Watches, Clocks
AND JEWELRY OF ALL KINDS.

The largest and finest line of
Watches, Clocks, Jewelry
AND SILVERWARE
at Reasonable Prices
AT BUTTERWICK'S
Corner of Front and Centre Streets.

WM. BIRKBECK
Hardware Novelties suitable for the holidays—a big assortment of useful things which make pleasing and beautiful presents.
A Great Stock of Skates.
BICYCLES AND ALL WHEEL GOODS.
Regular line of
STOVES, HEATERS, RANGES, ETC.
Steam Fitting, Tin Roofing and Spouting.
PLUMBING A SPECIALTY.

WHERE THE HOLIDAY SHOPPERS

GILLESPIE & CURRY GROCERS.
The choicest eatable for the holidays and all other days. Everything new. Lowest prices in town.
CENTRE ST., BELOW SOUTH.

AN EXCELLENT NEW YEAR GIFT!
A PRESENT TWICE A WEEK FOR A WHOLE YEAR FOR \$1.50.
A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE TRIBUNE.

S. WENNER & SONS,
Centre and Luzerne Streets.
The choicest line of Groceries kept constantly in stock. A big assortment of Dry Goods, which comprises many pieces in Dress Goods and Novelties, that could be turned into appropriate holiday gifts. Call and see for yourselves.
PRICES ALWAYS REASONABLE.

J. J. SWEENEY,
Gents' Furnisher.
NECKWEAR, UNDERWEAR, HOSIERY, HATS, CAPS, GLOVES, Etc.
Elegant Silk Handkerchiefs—Many Varieties—Suitable for Holiday Presents.

ROCKERS -- COUCHES
In the Grand Rush of Gift-Giving
Do not forget the old folks or your married friends. Santa Claus will take good care of the children, while the duty devolves upon you to remember your parents and aged relatives. Make this a Happy New Year for your father or mother, or perhaps an old friend, by presenting them with a big soft Rocker or a modern Couch. They will be pleased and will bless you. We are carrying an extra large stock this season and will guarantee every purchaser a bargain.
F. H. ALBERT.

A. RUDEWICK'S
General Store.
Numerous Bargains for the Holidays
In Clothing and Furniture.
FRESH GROCERIES OF ALL KINDS.
TURKEYS AND CHICKENS.
Birkbeck Street,
South Heberton.

WM. WILLIAMSON
offers to holiday buyers a choice selection of useful articles in Hardware. All sorts of presents for tradesmen. A big stock of Fancy Lamps, any one of which will be sure to please your married friends. Skates, Pocket Knives, for the boys.
FULL LINE OF STOVES, HEATERS AND GENERAL HARDWARE.
Washington and Front
STREETS.

Examine
Laubach's
Toys
and
Candy.

JAMES QUIGLEY
has a choice line of
Confectionery and Fruits.
Especially for the Holidays.

SMITH'S
91 CENTRE STREET.
Closing out entire stock of Clothing, Gents' Furnishing Goods, Boots and Shoes. We are going out of business. A great opportunity to buy gifts in Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Mufflers, etc. Everything sold below wholesale cost.
Auction Sale Every Saturday Night.