The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1922

CHRISTMAS TREASURES

I county my treasures o'er with care—
A little toy that baby knew,
A little sock of faded blue,
A little lock of golden hair.
Long years ago this Christmas time
My little one—my all to me—
Rat robed in white, upon my knee,
And heard the merry Christmas chime.

"Tell me, my little golden head,
If Santa Claus should come to-night,
What should he bring my baby bright,
What treasure for my boy?" I said.
And then he named the little toys,
While in his round and truthful eyes
There came a look of glad surprise
That spoke his trustful, childish joys.

And, as he lisped his evening prayer,
He asked the boon with baby grace,
And, toddling to the chimney place,
He hung his little stocking there.
That night, as lengthing shadows crept,
I saw the white-winged angels come
With music to our humble home,
And kiss my darling as he slept.

They must have heard that baby prayer,
For in the morn, with glowing face
He toddled to the chimney place
And found the little treasure there.
They came again one Christmastide,
That angel host, so fair and white,
And, singing all the Christmas night,
They lured my darling from my side.

A little sock, a little toy,
A little lock of golden hair,
The Christmas music in the air,
Awatching for my baby boy:
But if again that angel train
And golden head come back to me,
To bear me to eternity,
My watching will not be in vain.

—Eugene Field.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, December 25, 1902

The icy roads have kept the blacksmiths busy almost day and night this week.

The fees from the High School Department this year reached a little over $100.

While climbing between cars of a freight train last Wednesday evening Dr. McKeague slipped and in falling dislocated his shoulder. He had it promptly treated and was plucky enough to resume his professional duties at once and has been on the road almost night and day ever since.

Messrs. Beardmore & Co. and the Acton Tanning Co. again presented their employees with Christmas turkeys.

Mr. Robert Agnew, of Acton, was a busy man during the latter part of last week. He was putting up Christmas presents for his friends at a distance. Among those were included Dr. Howitt, Mr. A. E. Goodfellow and Ald. Hamilton, of Guelph, to whose addresses was delivered fifty pounds of anthracite coal, with neat little cards bearing the compliments of the donor.

A well arranged and highly creditable Christmas entertainment was given in the Disciples' Church on Tuesday evening. The programme consisted of choruses by the school, solos, duetts, recitations, instrumental numbers and addresses.

A merry Christmas entertainment was given in the town hall on Monday evening by St. Alban's Sunday School. The programme consisted of choruses, carols, dialogues, recitations and not least in interest to the scholars the distribution of Christmas presents. Rev. Mr. Brown was in charge and everything went off well.

Christmas Cantata in the Methodist Church, "Mine Host Santa Claus."

DIED

McLAM—In Acton, on December 18, 1902, Sarah Jane, daughter of the late Thomas McLam, aged 55 years.

WARREN—At the home of her parents, lot 29, Cedar Creek Farm, on Friday, December 19, 1902, Wilma Jessie, daughter of J. L. Warren, aged 8 years and 3 months.

GROWING CROOKED

A gentleman was visiting in a home on Long Island. While there he noticed a tree in the yard that had a peculiar crook in it. When he called the owner's attention to it, he received this explanation:

"Yes, I planted that tree, and when it was a year old, I went to New York and worked as a mechanic for a year or two, and when I came back I found they had allowed something to stand against the tree, and so it has always had that crook."

But trees are not the only things that grow crooked. Boys and girls are easily bent one way or the other when young. If we want to grow straight in body and in spirit—and who wants to grow any other way?—we must be careful what influences we allow to make impressions upon us. Many a person's wrong life to-day is explained the same as that crooked tree—it was not trained properly when young. Our early years determine whether we shall go out into the world weak or strong, crooked or straight.—Lutheran Young Folks.

Worms, however generated, are found in the digestive tracts, where they set up disturbances detrimental to the health of the child. There can be no comfort for the little ones until the hurtful intruders have been expelled. An excellent preparation for this purpose can be had in Miller's Worm Powders. They will immediately destroy the worms and correct the conditions that were favorable to their existence.

TO CLEAN THE SEWING MACHINE

When the sewing machine becomes clogged and gummy, it may be cleaned and made to run like a new one. Empty the small oiler, or, better still, take an extra one, and fill it with paraffin. Then remove the spool of thread and bobbin and thoroughly oil all the parts, not forgetting the treadle. Lift the head to see that the places beneath it get a share. Put on the oil generously.

Having done this, replace the band, sit down at the machine, and run it vigorously for about a minute so that the paraffin may reach and clean every part. Wipe every bit of machinery with a soft cloth to remove the paraffin. This should be done thoroughly. Next, carefully oil every part with some good machine oil. When done, rub all exposed parts with a clean cloth. Place a piece of cloth under the foot presser and stitch back and forth a few times in order to clean well before threading the needle and starting sewing.

IN TERMS HE UNDERSTOOD

An old sea captain was reproving his daughter for being out late in an automobile with that "lubber," as he called her beau.

"But father, we were becalmed," she explained. "You see, the wind died down in one of the tires and we had to wait till it sprang up again."

No More Asthma.—Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Asthma Remedy sounds the death knell of this trying trouble. It stops the awful choking and painful breathing. It guards against night attacks and gives renewed ability to sleep and rest the whole night long. Much is claimed for this remedy, but nothing but what can be demonstrated by a trial. If you suffer from asthma try it and convince yourself of its great value.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

A LESSON IN THRIFT AND PREPAREDNESS.—Luke 12: 16-31.

Golden Text.—"The life is more than the food, and the body than the raiment."—Luke 12: 23.

Historical Setting

Time—29 A. D.

Place.—Probably somewhere in Galilee.

Lesson Comments

Verse 16.—This parable was called forth by the request of our Lord that his brother be made to divide an inheritance with him. Nature dealt bountifully with this man, already rich.

Verse 17.—Self fills his thought. It did not occur to him that there were empty barns and bare cupboards where some of his products could find room.

Verse 18.—The ambitious plans sound well—only, if the man had more than he could make use of now, how much better off would he be for having his wealth stored in larger barns?

Verse 19.—It was not his real soul, but his animal nature, he was thinking of satisfying. Here was a programme of ease and self-gratification that was to stretch out through the years.

Verse 20.—Prudent, perhaps, according to the world's standards; foolish in the eyes of God. He was counting one thing into his assets which he did not own. That was years of life. The expression "required of thee" conveys the thought of rendering an accounting. The question was one the rich man could not answer.

Verse 21.—Here we have a contrast: The man who grasps his treasure only to have to drop it, and the one who is rich throughout eternity.

Verse 22.—Don't let thought of food and drink and raiment crowd out the more important matters.

Verse 23.—The life within this mortal frame is more than that which sustains the body.

Verse 24.—God feeds the birds, yet they are busy and prudent. They do their part and God does His.

Verse 25.—Not all anxiety or planning can add to the years of one's life.

Verse 26.—If you can not control those things mentioned, even in the least measure, why spend the time worrying over unimportant things?

Verse 27.—The lesson here is similar from that suggested in the twenty-fourth verse. God cares for the life of bird and flower and tree by providing for their needs.

Verse 28.—We are not to conclude that God will clothe and feed us if we fail to use our powers.

Verses 29, 30.—Surely there should be a difference between those who trust in God and those who do not.

Verse 31.—Here we have the summing up of the whole matter. "Seek ye first," Matthew puts it.

Illustrated Truth

It is the height of folly to leave God out of our calculations (v. 20.)

Illustration.—Last summer it was announced that, by a wonderful surgical operation, an aged man had been literally transformed into a youth. His body responded to all tests, and he was able to walk and run and play with the vigor of twenty. He had added to the measure of his life—it seemed. But after a few weeks of rejoicing in his youth, the thread of life snapped. He had not cheated nature, and had not lived beyond his allotted time.

Topics for Research and Discussion

I. Miscalculation (vs. 16-21). 1.—What problem disturbed the rich man? 2.—How might he have solved it? 3.—Is hoarding always wrong? 5.—What was this man's plan for enjoyment? 6.—Where did he miscalculate? 7.—What question remained unanswered?

II. Foolish Anxiety (vs. 22-31). 8.—What kind of anxiety is wrong? 9.—What lesson should we learn from the birds? 10.—What is said about lengthening life?

MADE HIS OWN DOLLARS

A Yankee, who coined his own dollars, was Josiah Sprinkle. Sprinkle lived during the early part of the Nineteenth Century, in one of the roughest parts of Kentucky. Og day he appeared in town with a buckskin bag full of silver dollars of his own make. Everybody accepted them upon the assurance of Sprinkle that they were all right except that they were not made by a United States mint. On one side of the coin was an owl, and on the other side a six-pointed star. The edges were smooth. The coins were considerably larger than the United States coin. Finally Government agents heard of the matter and went to investigate. Sprinkle was arrested and brought into court. But the dollars were proved to be pure silver, worth in fact a trifle more than one dollar each. Sprinkle was acquitted, and he continued to make the dollars until the time of his death. He had said that he had a silver mine in the West, but refused to divulge its location.

When Holloway's Corn Remover is applied to a corn it kills the roots and the calosity comes out without injury to the flesh.

THE ONLY ONE HE KNEW

Bobby was a little boy, but a big football enthusiast. Recently he began taking lessons in music, and the following conversation took place:

Music Teacher (pointing to a semi-quaver): "Bobby, what is the name of this note?"

No answer.

Music Teacher: "Now, Bobby, come along; you have had a whole week in which to learn the notes."

Still no answer.

Music Teacher (thinking to help the child): "Come along, think hard; semi—"

Bobby (brightly): "Semi-final!"

Wise mothers who know the virtues of Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator always have it at hand, because it proves its value.

WAR AGAINST THE HOUSE-FLY

Nobody loves the house-fly; its dirty feet have got it a bad name, and not even pacifists will lament that Aldershot Command Headquarters, England, has declared war against it.

Winter may seem the wrong season to begin a campaign, but the army tactics in this case are wise, for, though flies may not be then so much in evidence in the jam-pot and sugar-basin they lie concentrated and sluggish in their winter health resorts, and are more easy to outflank and destroy.

If the hibernating flies and their eggs are destroyed in winter we shall not have to face their troublesome guerrilla bands in summer and autumn.

The British Army could not be employed on a more profitable war, and we wish it a speedy victory.

GETTING SQUARE

"You don't mind if I leave my hat on, do you?" asked the sweet young thing of the short man in the seat behind her at the pictures.

"Not at all, miss! Not at all!" replied the little man. "I enjoy looking at bargains."—London Tit-Bits.

BANFF IN WINTER

Nature has made Banff, Alberta, one of the finest summer and winter resorts in the world. Heretofore most of the visitors came in the summer. Within the last few years large numbers have been attracted in winter when sports carnivals have been held with great success. The season 1922-1923 is likely to make a new record in the popularity of Banff as a winter sports centre.

Did you ever ski down a mile-long ski-slide in a pass in the Rocky Mountains? Did you ever swim in hot sulphur swimming pool and gather snow from the sides to snowball your companions? Did you ever meet a deer suddenly on a mountain road and find it unafraid? Did you ever walk on skates? Did you ever climb a mountain and slide all the way down its side on your snowshoes?

All these things you can do in winter at Banff—famous Canadian mountain resort, 4,634 feet above sea level in the clear bracing air of the Rocky Mountains.

One of the most unique attractions of Banff is the swimming in the hot pools. Sulphur Mountain is named for its remarkable health-giving springs of sulphur water. These gush out of the side of the mountain, and even in zero weather are so warm that they are delightful for swimming.

Ample opportunity is afforded for every variety of winter sport. Down on the river is a rink where one may practise figure-skating or watch some accomplished skaters waltzing to music. One of the best toboggan-runs comes down the side of Tunnel Mountain. Skiing is also a popular sport here and splendid opportunities are offered for jumps on the mountain slopes. The little mountain town is also famous for hockey and a number of fast teams have their home here among which those of the ladies are far from the least important.

There are walks with unique attractions around Banff. You may be coming down one of the beautifully graded roads, flanked by the slender trunks of the mountain pines and a deer will walk out of the woods just ahead of you and stand and gaze at you. This is because Banff is in a government park where it is against the law to shoot wild animals. Any day walking down the main street, you may meet a large mountain sheep. But he is no longer a wild one—he is the mascot of the mounted police stationed here. There is also the buffalo park to visit, and a glimpse of one of these magnificent animals is largely sought.

But the outstanding wonder of Banff is its mountains. Whatever winter sports you may delight in, you are always fringed by an amphi-theatre of mountains. Range upon range, and snow-covered peak beyond peak, they tower above one and stretch away into the distance. Against the snow on their sides the dark mountain pines stand out in sharp relief. In climbing one is tempted to stop often, for every new level brings into view fresh peaks, and hitherto unguessed valleys.

Banff is easy of access being on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, three and a half hours' journey from Calgary.

ON ROBINSON CRUSOE'S ISLE

A holiday on Robinson Crusoe's Island will be possible in the near future.

The charming little island of Juan Fernandez, where Alexander Selkirk spent four years of his life, and whose story led Defoe to write his famous masterpiece, is to be transformed into a holiday resort.

It belongs to the Chilian Government and can be reached by steamer from Valparaiso. The island is thirty-six square miles in extent, and is heavily wooded with splendid tree ferns, orange trees, myrtles, and sandal wood. It is mountainous, and full of ravines and torrents. Crowds of wild goats roam through the underwood, and myriads of humming birds chat among the ferns. The climate is said to be ideal.

At Cumberland Bay, where Selkirk landed, is the island's only hamlet, San Juan Bautista. A modern hotel is to be erected here, and a bi-weekly steamboat service is to be run.

Naturally, the great curiosities of the island are the places where Robinson Crusoe, according to the story, passed the best part of his life. First, there is the grotto where he made his dwelling; it is carpeted with ferns and climbing plants. All around it grows the pologony, a curious plant, from whose gigantic leaves he made his crockery—plates, dishes, soup tureens, and even washing basins and tanks. There is the little bay in which he used to moor his boat and the plateau on which he built his cabin.

For Catarrh.—It is one of the chief recommendations of Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil that it can be used internally with as much success as it can outwardly. Sufferers from catarrh will find that the Oil when used according to directions will give prompt relief. Many sufferers from this ailment have found relief in the Oil and have sent testimonials.

A FIRST PRIZE BIRD

An old lady, famous for her strain of turkeys, sold one to a neighbor named Brown.

But it proved particularly tough at the dinner, and as Brown had paid a stiff price for the bird, he fled to the vendor without delay.

"What do you mean by imposing such a turkey upon me—one of your oldest neighbors?" he inquired.

"Why, was anything wrong with it?"

"Wrong, madam? It wasn't good at all!"

"Well, it ought to have been," rejoined the dame. "It won first prize at the Guelph Poultry Show eleven years in succession!"

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WILL TEACH WOMEN ART OF SHOPPING

Most husbands and fathers would agree that women are natural born shoppers, and that they don't need to be taught—it's a gift.

The point is, however, that many of them do need to be taught intelligent buying so they can get the value of the dollars they spend.

For this reason, New York University has added a course in buying, and Miss Elizabeth Dyer has been made instructor.

Miss Dyer is a Vassar graduate, whose desire to do social service took her to a department store. Her educational work among the girl clerks and her experiences there gave her such a wide knowledge of selling that she decided to make retailing her career.

One of her tasks is to arrange for actual store experience in the big New York department stores for students of the University.

Time has Tested It.—Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil has been on the market upwards of fifty years and in that time it has proved a blessing to thousands. It is in high favor throughout Canada and its excellence has carried its fame beyond the seas. If it were double the price it would be a cheap liniment.

HOW PAY PRONOUNCED IT

A debate at which certain literary folk were expounding their opinions was dry and academic, until two of the learned ones crossed swords concerning the word "neither."

"Excuse me," said one, "but I am surprised to find you pronouncing the word as though it was spelt 'nepther.'"

"My dear sir," retorted the other, warmly, "'neither' is correct. I thought you would have known that it was not pronounced 'naither.'"

"Well, let us put it to the chairman," said the first speaker, turning to that gentleman, who happened to be a portly Irishman. "Which is correct, sir, 'neither' or 'nyther'?"

The Irishman rubbed his brow thoughtfully. Then he replied: "Nay-ther."

SATURDAY'S KNIGHT

Pestor (looking up from his newspaper)—I say, Jim, what is the Order of the Bath?

Nestor (embracing the opportunity)—Well, as I've experienced it, it's first the water's too hot, then it's too cold; then you're short a towel; then you step on the soap, and finally the telephone bell rings.—Life.

IMPRESSIONS OF COMPOSERS BY SCHOOL CHILDREN

In a certain public school a teacher had worked faithfully to stimulate interest among the young pupils in the lives of the world's famous musicians. In response to a written examination held recently some of the children turned in the following illuminating biographical. These are genuine reactions on the part of the children, and, aside from their humor for grown-ups, they serve to indicate what impresses the average child mind.

"Bach was born in 1685. He had three wives and 21 children. Then he died. He was a great man."

"Handel was born in 1685. When he got blind he couldn't see. He never married and the last years of his life were full of peace. When he was a little feller he used to play in the dark with his nightgown on. Gee, he was a queer guy!"

"Haydn was born in 1632. His first name was Joseph. Beethoven took lessons off him for 18 cents, but threw books at him. Joseph married the daughter of a wigmaker. His pictures were taken with them on. He wrote nice music. He died."

"Liszt had long hair and a wart on his nose. His pictures are awful, but he was world renowned. He wrote a rhapsody which has bugle calls and galloping horses in it. He had many lovers. One was the mother of his daughter. He was a peeress I think. At last he died."

"Beethoven was born in 1770. He was a fighter. He had long hair and a fierce face. He marked all over his wall and got mad at every one. His father was dead so there was nobody to punish him. I can play his 'Farewell to the Piano.' He died deaf and mad."

THAT "TOM FOOL SHOW"

There are few more impressive ceremonies in the world than the State opening of a British Parliament, and when a Labor M. P. described it the other day as a "Tom Fool Show" it is merely because he saw only the ritual and the externals and failed to grasp their significance. The Woolsack with its scarlet covering may be a mere tinselled extravagance in a deliberative council, but it takes on a new meaning when it is remembered that it was placed in the House by King Edward III, to remind the barons of England of the importance of the wool trade. Every scroll in the heraldic parchment, every strange lineament in the brilliant uniforms and apportionment, even the order of precedence in this procession reflects some page of English history and he who runs may read. Only those who have not understood the long struggle of the British people for liberty can mistake the dignified ritual of the British Parliament for a "Tom Fool Show."

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

The Wise Men came from fields afar,
Were guided by a shining star
With beams so bright.

The Christ Child lay in robes of white,
His guardian angels were in sight
That Christmas morn.

There in the manger lay the Child:
Jesus, the Perfect, meek and mild;
Now King above.

"Peace on earth, good-will to men."
Hark! Angel voices ring again
This Christmas Day.

—Ruth Bandall.

IN COMPETENT HANDS

"I will admit I haven't always lived as I should, but I do love your daughter sincerely, and if ever I should make her unhappy, I hope I will be made to suffer for it."

"Don't let that worry you; she'll attend to that."—London Tit-Bits.

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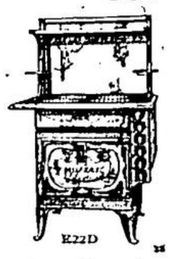

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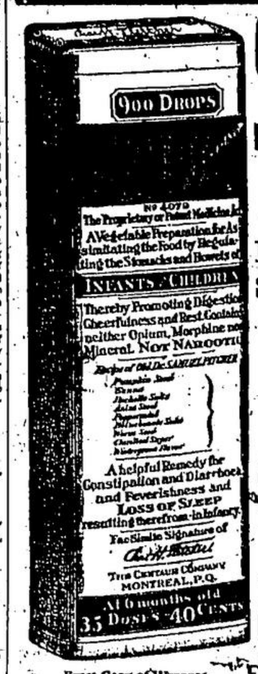

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No. 39	8.39 p.m.
No. 25 Sunday	10.20 a.m.

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No. 26	7.08 a.m.
No. 30	11.18 a.m.
No. 34	2.35 p.m.
No. 36	6.17 p.m.
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