GOING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Up and down the shop-lit streets
A parcel-laden throng
Exchange their "Merry Christmases"
And gaily pass along;
Oh! music's in each cheery voice,
Their laughter's clear and sweet,
The tinkling hum of tambourines
Sounds in their marching feet;
Cathedral chimes are pealing forth
Glad welcome for a King,
But none of these can match the tune
My heart is carolling.

It's "Going home for Christmas,"
In very simple strains
That somehow hold a magic
Lost to intricate refrains.
It's "Going home for Christmas,"
Through the starlight, and the snow,
To find a Christmas welcome
In a place I used to know.

The train goes whissing through the night,
Yet all too slow for me;
For all along the creeping miles
I'm thinking eagerly
Of a little house of welcome
Where Christmas fires glow,
Where Christmas candles shine afar
A wanderer's way to show.

It's "Going home for Christmas,"
The haunting old refrain;
Home where a thousand memories
Refresh the heart again.
It's "Going home for Christmas"
O angel choirs sing!
Hear this, my earthly carol,
For Christmas homecoming!

—Molly Bevan.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the Issue of The Free Press of —Thursday, December 25, 1912

Ideal Christmas weather after all. Good sleighing the past few days.

Christmas services will be held in St. Alban's Church this morning at 8.30 and 11 o'clock.

A neat new wire fence, with metal gates, has been built surrounding Lorne School and grounds.

Farmers have been busy teaming this week. Some two-cord loads of wood have been brought in on the sleighs.

The Christmas visitors express much admiration of our Hydro-Electric lighted streets.

Postmaster Matthews reports that his staff has had the heaviest week's work with the Christmas mails in the history of Acton Post Office.

The Baptist Sunday School entertainment was held Wednesday evening. The programme was enjoyable and given mostly by the children. A Christmas tree was laden with goodies and each scholar was presented with a Bible. A tea was served to the scholars.

Mr. D. Henderson, M. P., received a letter from Hon. R. Rodgers, Minister of Public Works, on Monday, notifying him that another grant of $15,000 had been issued in addition to the previous one of $10,000 for the erection of a public building at Acton. This will ensure a very fine Post Office and Customs House for Acton.

The High School "At Home" in the Town Hall last Friday evening was a most enjoyable function, with a re-union of students of the past three years. The programme was ably presented and comprised two tableaux, "An Indian Scene," and "The Colonial Girl"; two dialogues, "Advertising for a Servant," and "The Debating Society"; piano solos by Misses L. Williams, and N. Kenney; readings by N. Williams and A. O'Brien; solos by Miss M. Holmes and John L. Moore; chorus in costume, "The Cobbler and the Crow"; brief addresses by members of the Board. The promenades were also enjoyed and were followed by dainty refreshments and ices.

THE BLUES

What happens when a person gets "the blues?" Next time you have an attack of this ailment, if you ever have it, stop and analyze the symptoms. You will see that you have entirely forgotten that you have a lot of things for which to be thankful, a number of advantages which others do not possess, and that you are thinking only of your disadvantages and magnifying them into several times their true size. Why not turn squarely around and ignore the disadvantages, the little pestering blue devils, and take a square look at your advantages.

To have the children sound and healthy is the first care of a mother. They cannot be healthy if troubled with worms. Use Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator.

GEMS FROM LIFE'S SCRAP-BOOK

"Justice is truth in action."—Joubert.

"Justice without wisdom is impossible."—Froude.

"Moderation is the basis of justice."—George MacDonald.

"There is no virtue so truly great and god-like as justice."—Addison.

"Justice demands reformation of the sinner."—Mary Baker Eddy.

"Every place is safe to him who lives with justice."—Epictetus.

"All religion and all ethics are summed up in justice."—Conway.

NO LIAR!

He had been fishing, without any luck. So he went to the fish market, and called to the dealer

"Throw me five of those biggest trout."

"Throw 'em? What for?"

"I want to tell the family I cought 'em. I'm a rotten fisherman, but I'm no liar."

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

GOD'S GIFT TO MAN (Christmas Lesson)

Golden Text.—For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have eternal life. —John 3: 16.

Lesson Text.—Luke 2. 8-20. Study, also, Luke 2: 1-7; John 3: 16-21; Isa. 9: 6, 7.

Time.—December, B. C. 5. Place.—Bethlehem.

Exposition.—I. The New-Born King Despised by Men, 6, 7.

Seven hundred years before Micah had prophesied that He that was "to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting," was to come out of Bethlehem (Micah 5: 2). Note how many decrees and deeds of men entirely unconscious of God's purpose and prophecy, worked together to fulfil God's Word and carry out His eternal plan. The Saviour of the world, the Christ, the Lord, began in a stable the life He was to close upon the cross. There was "no room" for Him in the inn, there is "no room" for Him to-day in the hearts of most men, in the home, in business, in society, in politics. It was not that the inn was hostile, it was simply preoccupied. That is the trouble in men's hearts to-day: business, pleasure, money-getting, ambition, loved ones, take up all the room that is in the heart, and so there is "no room" for THE KING.

II. The New-Born King Honored by the Heavenly Host, 8-14.

The announcement of the advent of the King was made to shepherds. The shepherds proved their fitness to receive the announcement (v. 15). They were men of faith, with a deep appreciation of spiritual truth, in spite of their lowly position. They seem to have been waiting, longing, looking, for the coming of the Christ (v. 16). They were faithfully attending to their lowly duties when the revelation came. It was not pleasant work, but it was their work, and while at it the angels met them (comj. Ex. 3: 1, 2; Judges 6: 11, 12; 1 Kings 19: 19; Luke 18: 11). The glory that shone around them was the ancient Shekinah that betokened God's presence. The shepherds were "sore afraid" when they beheld this glory. The supernatural, by bringing God near, always fills the heart of sinful man with fear (Rev. 1: 17; Luke 5: 8; Isa. 6: 5). But the angelic message at once dispelled all fear. They came to announce salvation, not judgment. They began with one of God's most frequent messages to men, "fear not." It is evident that God longs for a fearless people. But the angels not only bade them "fear not," but brought forward the only real cure for fear, the Gospel. They brought "good tidings of great joy;" the coming of Jesus, the Saviour, Christ and Lord, is the best news this old sin-cursed and Satan-governed world ever heard. But many, even to this day, do not receive it as "good tidings of great joy." Do you? The Gospel the angel proclaimed was a Saviour BORN; but that Gospel has for us been developed in to a Saviour not only born but crucified for our sins, dead, buried, risen and coming again (1 Cor. 15: 1-4; Acts 1: 11). It was a strange place to be sent to see a king, a barn. And it was a strange sign to mark "a Saviour, which is Christ, the Lord"—"a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger." The world receives this wonderful proclamation to this day with indifference, but the heavenly army received it with exultant shouts of praise to God. Well they might! The word "suddenly" shows that they could hardly restrain themselves until the message was fully delivered. They all but interrupted their spokesman's proclamation with their glad chorus. There was to be a two-fold result of the Saviour's birth—"glory to God in the highest," "on earth peace among men of his good pleasure." Study out from the Bible who the men in whom God is well pleased are, and in what sense Jesus brings them peace (John 6: 29; Eph. 1: 6, 7; Romans 5: 1; John 14: 27; Phil. 4: 6, 7, etc.)

III. The New-Born King Welcomed by the Believing Few, 15-20).

The shepherds, though humble and illiterate, were wise men. They showed it by believing God's Word and going to see for themselves the glorious truth that had been proclaimed to them. Of the truth of what had been told them they had not a doubt. They spoke of it as "this thing (or word) which IS COME TO PASS." Wise and happy the man who, when God tells him anything, counts it done (Luke 1: 45; John 20: 29). They knew it was so because the Lord had made it known, that is faith (Heb. 11: 1, R. V. See context). They did not "go" to test the truth of the Word of God, but to "see" what they already fully believed. When God makes any great fact or truth known to us we should at once believe it and then "go and see this word which the Lord hath made known to us"—i. e., enter into it experimentally. Note the eagerness and wholeheartedness of these shepherd-saints, "they came with haste." Surely they will rise up in the judgment against our cold-hearted slowness in appropriating the fulness of blessing that God makes known to us. "They came with haste" to find the Christ, but to-day men will scarce come at all; and, if they do come, it is with such reluctance that they must be urged and reasoned with and pleaded with and almost pulled to the Saviour's feet. These shepherds were rare souls. They found it all just as God said it would be (v. 16; comp. v. 20, R. V.; cf. ch. 19: 32; Acts 27: 25). They told it out to others (v. 17). Highly privileged though they had been, they went right back to their humble occupation. They glorified and praised God as they went. What they glorified and praised God for is worthy of note.

IV.—The Shepherds Witnessing for the Christ They Had Found, 17-20.

They did not keep to themselves the good news. They told that "which was spoken to them." Christ was the whole subject of their testimony. Their testimony awakened little besides wonder with most. Mary "kept" in her heart and "pondered" all these wonderful revelations. That is the way to deal with God's Word. The shepherds were true and wise men. They did not lose their heads. They went back to their humble toil. But they went back in a new spirit, "glorifying and praising God." May our spirit be like theirs! May we, like the shepherds, believe implicitly, act promptly and wait for nothing when the path of duty is clear! So doing, we shall have a reward like that of the shepherds who saw, with believing eyes, the new-born Messiah. The journey that is begun in faith generally will end in praise.

SLATS' DIARY

BY ROSS FARQUHAR

Friday—well even if it did look like Cristmas wassent never coming this yr. why I guess if it will be here in nuthing happens a few days. pa says this is a going to be a Economcile Cristmas and that I shud ought to make my Crismas list very consirvative this Cristmas. well if I dont get nuthing Else I want a book by the name of "Gullibles Travles. Ma is confineing her desires to simple furs and etc. this yr.

Saterday — Ora Erks girl has slung him down for good I ges. Ma herd the way it happened was thisaway. Ora puposed to her last Sunday night and she Expected him all rite and then on Wenday nite after prare meeting why he puposed to her agen and it made her about ½ sor and so she quits him.

Sunday—Pa didden't go to chirch today on acct. of he was afraid Joe Hill and Ex More wood be there to and he rote a peace in the nose paper witch he wirks on and sed Joe Hill and Ex More win high honors in a egg laying contest last wk.

Munday—A cuzzen of pa witch lives over in Jefferson county bought a Airoplane a month ago and the people witch sold it to him told him it wood last him a lifetime, it last him Xactly as long as they sed it wood. pa will be home frum the Funeral tomorrow.

Teusday—Lem Hix told me today that his wife was very very ill and ma ast him was she dangerusly ill and he sed no she cuddent get out of bed yet.

Wensday—They was a slick fellow up at the dance in the lodge hall last nite. he went around to the felows and shone them a bottle and ast wood they like a bottle of nice Tea and he sold about seventeen bottles and they opened it and it Was Tea.

Thirsday—Ant Emmy herd a fellow on the Radio say that evry time the clock ticked dureing December 10 people wood take cold so she stopped the clock till New yrs. day.

HENRY FORD PRESENTS JACK MINER ITHW SET OF OLD SCHOOL BOOKS

During the past few years Mr. Henry Ford, the Detroit auto magnate, and Jack Miner, the Canadian Naturalist, have become very intimate and close friends. During recent years Mr. Ford has spent many an evening with Jack Miner in his humble home at Kingsville bird sactuary, and usually the conversation is all about their boyhood days when they went to school or when they used to attend the old-fashioned square dances.

One evening last spring they were discussing their old school books, and although Jack Miner never went to school but three months in his life, yet Henry Ford, being only a year or so older than Jack Miner, it was soon found that they had both studied out of the McGuffey readers. They both agreed that they would like to see a set of these old school books; so upon Mr. Ford's return to Detroit, he had his secretaries locate for him, in some museum, a copy of each issue of the old McGuffey readers. These books were taken to his Dearborn laboratories, where each page, including front cover and advertisements on back cover, were all photographed and plates made from same, and exact replicas were made.

As soon as a set was complete, which numbered four books, Henry Ford, autographed each book as follows: "From your friend, Henry Ford," and took them over to the Miner home, where he presented them to Jack Miner personally.

The most remarkable thing was to hear Jack Miner repeat several poems when the first line was read to him—poems he had never heard for over sixty years, but the words came to him after being given a start.

TEACHING MOTHER NATURE

"Queer, isn't it?"

"What?"

"The parts that nature puts into the human bodies that surgeons have discovered might just as well have been omitted."

SCIENTISTS AND A DESPISED MINERAL

Anhydrite, a mineral which is a natural relative of gypsum, found extensively in some parts of Canada, may soon become a much more valuable asset than it has hitherto been regarded. For some time scientists of the Canadian Government Department of Mines have been making intensive experiments with anyhydrite, with encouraging results. The research work has been directed largely toward ascertaining how to use anhydrite in the manufacture of commercial plasters, and now plasters from this mineral have been produced, which, it is disclosed following a series of exacting tests, compare favorably both in setting qualities, tensile strength and other factors with the better grades of gypsum plasters; in fact, the experiments so far made show the anhydrite plasters have greater density than those of gypsum, that they are easily worked, are strong and do not require calcination. So it comes about that the scientists have discovered that an incidental mineral regarded with disfavor by gypsum operators largely because of the expense involved in sorting it from the gypsum, on which it acts as an adulterant, promises to prove a decided asset.

JAMAICA'S FUTURE

One authority says that in Jamaica, excluding swamps and wooded land, there are 20,000,000 acres awaiting cultivation, while only 2,000,000 acres are now cultivated. The tropical British colony is also only fractionally developed from the point of view of population. It is a terminus for the Lady Rodney, Lady Somers, Cathcart, Caveller and other Canadian National steamers.

PROVING THE POINT

"Folks," said the colored minister, "de subjec' ob mah sermon dis evenin' am 'Liars.' How many in de congregation has done read de sixty-ninth chapter ob Matthew?"

Nearly every hand in the audience was raised immediately.

"Dat's right," said the preacher. "You is jes' de folks Ah wants to preach to. Thar ain't no such chapter."

KNOWS HER LOVERS

"Mother advised me to have the word 'obey' let out of our marriage service, but I wouldn't agree."

"That was nice of you darling."

"I said you could take a joke as well as any man."

PATIENCE PLUS

Sambo—Look heah, woman! You know you'all done marry me just foah mah gov'ment insurance.

Lisa—Ah knows dat, honey, but ain't Ah been willin' to let you-all die a natural death?

FAST TRAINS

A Scotchman was arguing with an Englishman and a Welshman about fast trains.

The Scotchman said: "I was in one where the telegraph poles looked like a garden fence."

"Well," said the Englishman, "once I was travelling so fast that the milestones looked like a churchyard."

And the Welshman said: "The train I was in was faster than that. We whizzed by a field of potatoes, then a field of leeks, then a butcher shop, and it looked like an Irish stew."

From NOVEMBER to MAY

Citizens of this community have to burn fuel. As fuel merchants we strive to provide heat units at reasonable cost. By selling for cash we are able to do business with less margin between cost price and delivered price. By selling for cash before we place it in your bin, we are only asking what the Postal system asks when they demand that you place a postage stamp on your letter before they undertake to deliver it, or the railway or bus who demand that you pay transportation charges in advance. The successful merchandisers of the day are the chain stores, who sell for cash and at a small margin. As we want to be classed as successful merchant, we are applying this principle to our business.

CASH PRICES FOR FUEL

	Per Ton	Per ½ Ton	Per ¼ Ton
NUT SIZE	$14.00	$7.25	$3.75
STOVE SIZE	14.25	7.40	3.85
PEA SIZE	11.00	5.75	3.00
NUT SIZE COKE	10.50	5.50	3.00
RANGE SIZE COKE	10.00	5.25	2.75
POCAHONTAS	10.00	5.25	2.75

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Did You Ever Stop To Think?

By EDSON R. WAITE, SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

George G. Myrover, Editor of the Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer, says:

"I have noticed that the spasmodic advertiser is seldom a successful merchant. It takes consistency to make advertising worth while.

"Too many merchants, especially in the smaller cities and towns, consider advertising an expense when, as a matter of fact, it is proven that Newspaper Advertising is an investment.

"There is no form of publicity that is more economical and direct in reaching the right spot at the right time than the Newspaper.

"A merchant must be consistent; a splurge is not productive of permanent results.

"It has been my observation that the live, wide-awake merchants, those who are successful, are always consistent users of newspaper space, and these merchants consider it an investment."

If You Expect to Sell You Must Advertise

TIME TABLES

AT ACTON

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Going East

Daily, except Sunday	10.07 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	6.12 p.m.
Sunday only	8.00 p.m.

The Chicago flier, that passes through here at 9.35, eastbound, stops at Georgetown at 9.44 p. m.

Going West

Daily, except Sunday	8.55 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	2.28 p.m.
Daily, except Sunday	7.00 p.m.
Sunday only	9.10 a.m.
Sunday only	10.28 p.m.

TRAVEL BY BUS

Eastbound

Daily, except Sunday	7.00 a.m.
Daily	9.35 a.m.
Daily	1.00 p.m.
Daily	4.25 p.m.
Daily	9.00 p.m.
Sundays and Holidays only	7.00 p.m.

Westbound

Daily	9.35 a.m.
Sundays and Holidays only	11.15 a.m.
Daily	1.15 p.m.
Daily	4.15 p.m.
Daily	7.15 p.m.
Daily	11.15 p.m.

STANDARD TIME

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