

NORTH SHORE NEWS-LETTER

W. BURGESS, Editor

Published Every Saturday at Highland Park, Ill.

Sheridan Road Publishing Co.

Entered at the Post Office, Highland Park, Illinois as second class matter

Subscription \$1.50 a Year 5c per Copy

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1907

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

"I love to observe Christmas in quietude, humility, benevolence, charity, letting good will toward men, eloquent silence, prayer and praise express my conception of Truth appearing."

The splendor of this nativity of Christ reveals infinite meanings and gives manifold blessings. Material gifts and pastimes tend to obliterate the spiritual idea in consciousness, leaving one alone and without His glory."

The quotation given above is from an address of Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy, published in the Ladies Home Journal. It is an eloquent and timely word which cannot fail to arrest the too common error that giving is expressed only by the material value of the things given.

There is a manifest tendency toward a showy and wholly mercenary measurement of gifts at Christmas time. People of all classes are straining their resources and worrying their days and nights to make their plans for this purpose.

If we wanted to be humorous about it we might attempt to call up the many funny situations that appear in stores, on the streets or the cars,—in fact, everywhere—as men and women wear themselves out with calculations of the cost and character of the things they must provide for the long lists of their acquaintances.

But the really serious thing about it is that more and more the spiritual significance of the season is lost in the ostentatious and rivalry of the season's gift.

Mrs. Eddy is right: "Material gifts" do tend to obliterate the spiritual idea." Not that they should never be employed, but when they become a sort of barter of compliments they are wholly unworthy and utterly gross in their tendency.

Gifts should be expressions of friendship or love. A card may be all that occasion calls for to remind each other that we are not forgotten. A book may express a desire on the part of the giver that the recipient should share the pleasure and profit of a favorite author.

Costly gifts are never justified unless they are the expression of great esteem or love. When Mary took a pound of the very costly ointment to anoint the feet of Jesus it was an expression of great love for one who had done so much for her. The

costliness of the gift did not represent its value—but it did show that Mary was willing to sacrifice and give the best her means could buy.

But when the widow woman gave her mite she gave more than all the others because she gave all she had.

We would not suppress the flow of good will expressed in gifts but it would be a great gain if they were always and only measured by love and friendship rather than be treated as complimentary exchange of presents.

Charles R. Jones of Evanston, chairman of the prohibition national committee, has sent a message to party comrades throughout the nation to push the advantage won in recent elections and organize for greater temperance victories.

His address is quite a lengthy one, mainly devoted to organization and he closes with the following appeal:

"If you, comrade, just where you are as you read this, will put your shoulder to this movement in your own community, write me to that effect by return mail and then 'get busy' to fire this opening gun in our presidential contest before you sleep tonight. Drop national headquarters, The Temple, Chicago, a card now.

"Yours earnestly for our great cause, Charles R. Jones, Chairman."

SEES HER FIRST STREET CAR.

Cape Girardeau, Mo. The present visit of Miss Elizabeth Kinder to this city is the first time she has been here in 60 years. Miss Kinder is 71 years old and has lived all her life at Gravel Hill, a small village west of here. Until she came here last week to have her eyes treated, she had never seen an electric street car, electric lights or any other modern conveniences. Miss Kinder lives with her two aged brothers in the house where they were all born. None of them has ever married.

WANTED

Persons to canvass for subscriptions for the North Shore News Letter, with its great free combination of the National Home Journal, The Farm News and Cosmopolitan Magazine in the following places.

HIGHLAND PARK
FORT SHERIDAN
HIGHWOOD
GLENCOE
WINNETKA
KENILWORTH
DEERFIELD

and the Country around about.

Apply North Shore News-Letter, 17 W. Laurel Avenue Highland Park.

Dr. Osler is of the opinion that half the nervous wrecks are caused by eating soup. The other half, we presume, are caused by being pushed into it.—Washington Post.

READ THIS THROUGH

IT IS A GREAT OFFER

To make a local paper of real value to a community the first necessity is a good paper.

The second is a subscription list which insures circulation and financial success.

The first we can and will take care of but must depend upon the public for the second. To secure a large list we are willing to make a sacrifice and in this week's issue we offer one of the most attractive and certainly one of the greatest offers ever made by a local paper, as a FREE GIFT TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS OLD AND NEW. This offer is fully explained in a page advertisement. Briefly—it is a full year's subscription to "The National Home Journal," and the "Farm News," and three months' subscription to the "Cosmopolitan Magazine," all free with a full year of "The North Shore News-Letter" for the price of the News-Letter alone, viz: \$1.50.

Our old friends will readily perceive that the object of this great offer is to secure new subscribers so that our list may be at least doubled in 1908.

But we are willing to include old subscribers also in this offer if they will pay any arrears of subscription and subscribe for one year in advance.

The next issue of our paper will complete the twentieth volume which means that it has been published for twenty years. During that time it has had an uphill journey and at hardly any period has it been a paying proposition.

The present publishers are now facing the fact that the paper must be put on a sound financial basis and that means doubling up our subscription list. We therefore ask all who are interested in maintaining a local paper to help, at this time, when we are making such a liberal effort to increase its power and usefulness.

A LARGER AND BETTER PAPER.

Some of our friends have frequently urged the publishing of a larger sheet. Let us say at once it would be much easier for us to publish a sheet more than double the size if we would take the common form of a country newspaper with a "patent inside." But this would only mean more paper but less value. We could not control the kind of matter given in the "patent" pages, either of reading or advertisements, and we prefer a small paper out of which we can keep objectionable matter rather than a blanket sheet that could not be acceptable in well regulated families.

A local paper, more than any other, needs to be cared for in these respects because it frequently lies around the house for a whole week while the big daily is put away or more often left on the cars.

At the same time we propose to increase the size of the page and publish regularly an eight page paper of the larger size, about 16½x10½, with an extra four pages occasionally as may be required at special times and occasions.

CANVASSERS WANTED.

Now will you help us? We can employ a few young men or ladies at a fair remuneration to canvass this grand offer in the various cities and towns for several miles around.

THE EDITOR & PUBLISHERS,

NORTH SHORE NEWS-LETTER,

17 W. Laurel Ave., Highland Park.

Sir Robert Ball had delivered a lecture on "Sun Spots and Solar Chemistry," says the Chicago News. A young lady who met him expressed her regret at having missed the lecture. "Well," he said, "I don't know as you'd have been particularly interested. It was all about sun spots." "Why," she replied, "It would have interested me exceedingly. I have been a martyr to freckles all my life."

The American traveller in Germany

was pushed with unnecessary roughness. "See here," he said, turning on the offender, "you stop jostling me." He had hardly expected his words to be understood, but the young man drew himself up haughtily, and said, with a slight German accent, "I am at your service sir, at any time and place." "Well, now, that's something like," said the traveller, hooking his arm into the haughty young man's. "You carry this grip of mine, and take me to a good hotel. You're just the man I've been looking for and didn't know how to find."