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THE STAR OF HOPE

Immortal hope, it lures us on,
It is the soul's bright evening star;
Its lucid light, streams in the night,
And beckons to us from afar.

It gleams and bids us not to fear,
And guides us o'er storm-beaten way,
Its power destroys all haunting care,
Cheers sombre eve with silver ray.

We falter—many fears assail,
But hope shines on with lustrous beam,
In promise of some future joy,
It glows in radiance supreme.

It is the crown of life. It will
Supply the soul with ardent zeal,
And in its great, life giving rays,
A thrill divine doth o'er us steal.
—Caroline Eleanor Wilkinson.

WAY BACK IN LIBERAL FILES

FORTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of Dec. 22nd, 1898
Rev. George McCulloch who has been a faithful pastor in the Methodist church here for the past two and a half years, has received a call from the Newmarket congregation. Mr. McCulloch will accept subject to the approval of the Stationing Committee.

The following curlers were on Saturday evening selected to play in the President vs. Vice-President match: President, W. T. Storey, W. H. Pugsley, J. Palmer, F. McConaghy, W. A. Sanderson, C. McConaghy, A. E. Coombs, A. Moodie, J. Casely, T. Newton, J. W. Forhan, W. Hulse. Vice-President, P. G. Savage, M. Boyle, J. H. Sanderson, H. A. Nicholls, T. F. McMahon, G. McDonald, A. J. Hume, W. R. Proctor, W. Munshaw, H. F. Hopper, D. Boyle, F. J. Johnston.

Mrs. Soules, mother of the late George Soules of this Village, died at the home of her son-in-law, Mr. B. Williams, 2nd Con. King, on Tuesday morning. Deceased was interred in the Richmond Hill Cemetery Wednesday afternoon.

The Richmond Hill Hockey Club has begun practice with increased membership and great hopes of success for this season. Matches have been arranged with Harbord Collegiate, The Meteors and the Athletics of Toronto. Tickets of membership can be procured from the committee, players' ticket 40c., non-players 25c., the same admitting to all matches.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of Dec. 17th, 1908
Mr. H. A. Nicholls reports the sale of eight acres on Centre Street East belonging to Mr. John Palmer to Mr. John Sheardown. The price is eight hundred dollars.

Mr. W. Robinson has moved into his new store and dwelling house in Maple. This new building and the office of the Standard Bank make a great improvement to the Village.

The Women's Guild of St. Mary's Church feel grateful for the patronage they received Wednesday afternoon and evening of last week at their Christmas Sale and Entertainment. The proceeds amounted to \$80.00.

The Masonic Hall, was more than crowded last evening, the occasion being the annual concert of the Richmond Hill High School. Short congratulatory addresses were given by the chairman, Mr. G. McDonald, the Principal, Mr. E. R. Witheril, and Rev. A. P. Brace. Several choruses were rendered by the school students. The greater part of the programme was given by Mr. Will J. White and Miss Wright, both of Toronto, much of it being of a humorous nature and much enjoyed. A pleasant feature of the evening was the presence of a large contingent from Aurora, principally students and ex-students of our sister High School. An enjoyable program closed with the National Anthem.

East Simcoe may be the riding through which Lt.-Col. George A. Drew, new Ontario Conservative Leader, will enter the Legislature. This seat is being given a great deal of consideration. It is held by Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests in the Ferguson and Henry Governments.

We like the Christmas card custom. It is an easy, simple and comparatively inexpensive method to remember one's friends at the Yuletide season. What more pleasant way can there be to spend part of Christmas Day than in looking over the greetings and recalling the happy associations enjoyed with the senders? As someone has said, "There is nothing I know of which does so much for so little as a Christmas card."

It isn't necessary to ask a man whether he believes in arming for defence. If he has his life, home and car insured, he does.

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General News & Views

A Merry Christmas To All.

As usual there will be the last minute rush of Christmas shopping.

A last minute suggestion which is sure to please — give a gift subscription to the home paper, The Liberal.

It looks as if Santa is going to leave "an acclamation" in the stocking of local municipal councils.

Have you made your donation to the Richmond Hill Community Basket Fund. There is still time to send it to Mr. A. J. Hume, village clerk.

These are short days—short sunlight, short money, and short skirts.

The dull pupils may learn slowly but they often come out as well as the brilliant ones who forget fast.

The modern world is rather keen on acquiring knowledge, particularly if the information is not correct.

The people who drive their cars in the middle of the road sometimes find themselves in the middle of the ditch.

Even at that, the young man with the ambition and the determination to go ahead, has a distinct advantage over the lethargic youth who, Micawber-like, is always waiting for something to turn up.

Barrie Board of Education is "cracking down" on students of Barrie Collegiate institute who are unable to complete their secondary school education in six years' time, and expect to receive free tuition in their seventh and subsequent years. It was made clear at Monday evening's December meeting of the Board that such long-term students would be expected to pay for their tuition.

A warning regarding Christmas fire hazards has been issued by the Ontario Fire Marshal. Many inflammable materials are used in decorations in houses and stores. Some kinds of toys also easily take fire. There is, too, danger from electricity and candles. If people will keep the possibility of fire always in mind and take precautions from fire during the Christmas season will be greatly reduced.

THE OLD HOME

From far and near we journeyed
To reach home once more,
And live beneath its welcome roof
One Christmas, as of yore.

We gathered 'round the fireside
As in the long ago,
And heard the bells ring out their
chimes,
At midnight in the snow.

Beneath that roof our hearts were
light,
For each was bright and gay;
Glad hands were clasped in welcome
And gifts bestowed that day.

How fast the years have sped dears
Since you and I were young;
But, oh, the years seem days, dear
When love, round heart is strung.

The very streets have histories,
The trees their stories tell;
Their branches breathe a secret
To ears that hear them well.

And half the burden of a life
Is dropped upon the way;
The soul is tuned in unison
With thoughts that come today.

Oh! May those thoughts forever dwell
Within our bosoms true;
May hope, and love, and constancy
Upon our pathway strew.

The peace, which in the old home
Made us our youth renew,
And sing the songs and tell the tales
Of which we hear too few.

At midnight Mass the knee we bent
In reverence to adore
The Infant, born at Bethlehem
Upon a stable floor.

We heard the bells ring Gloria,
We breathed a fervent prayer
To Jesus that He might protect
And keep us in His care.

For those of us who passed beyond
The vale of sighs and tears,
We whispered Miserere
To Him who sees and hears,

We asked the Babe of Bethlehem
That we might all unite
And live in peace and harmony
To meet next Christmas night.
—K. M. O'Loughlin.



We take this opportunity to express our appreciation of your generous patronage during the past year and wish you all

A Merry Christmas and A Happy and Prosperous New Year

JIM YOUNG

Young's Service Station

A Message of the Season's Good Cheer

To all our friends, to those whom we have been privileged to serve, to all good folks in Richmond Hill and surrounding district, we extend the Season's Greetings, and wish you the best this gladsome season offers.

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And all the Season's Cheer,
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Throughout the coming year.

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Merry Christmas

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