

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

BY LOUIS J. STELLMAN

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O Christ Child, who first saw the light of day
As, naked in your poverty, you lay,
Upon the manger bed of Bethlehem,
Look down on me this Christmastide, I pray.

THOUGH I have gifts that others vainly seek—
Gifts of the mind and flesh—I would bespeak
Of you one greater boon. I value not
These earthly treasures, for my heart is bleak.

E'EN as you lay upon your natal cot—
Unclad, unsheltered, destitute your lot—
Thus, cold and hungry, on my spirit's couch
A beggar child lies, though men see it not.

E'EN as, forsaken, in Gethsemane
Your heart sobbed out its first wild agony
Of shattered trust, in awful loneliness,
Thus does my own, O Christ, cry out in me.

AH, you who know, you that have felt the pain
Soul isolation brings, you who have lain
In tortured silence through the sleepless night
And faced the morning with a smile again,

SEND me one gift this festal day of thine—
A kindred spirit, so attuned to mine
That we may feast upon the food of love
And quench our thirst in understanding's wine.

Congress and the Independent Voter

THE present session of the Fifty-ninth congress is a sort of forlorn hope for many a supplanted legislator. For such a man it is the only remaining opportunity to convince his constituents, who have transferred their affections to another, that they have made a serious mistake, that the victim of their instability is a pretty fair legislator after all and safer than the experiment that will begin on March 4. It will be a season also for a number of those who have already made reputations for themselves to be up and doing in their preparation to weather the obscurity which is impending. The independent voter has shattered the dream of many an overconfident politician, among them some of those who escaped defeat by a margin so narrow that they have not yet ceased to shiver.

One of this class is the facetious J. Adam Bede of Minnesota, so suggestive of George Eliot's hero, "on account of the lack of resemblance." Bede was not lost, but he had the escape of his life. He won a tremendous fame in the house one day by declaring in the course of an argument against some river and harbor appropriation that the pilgrim fathers never would have landed on Plymouth rock if they hadn't been seasick. After that he thought he could spend his time to better advantage on the lecture platform than at the capitol. It was a congenial field, but the folks back in Duluth didn't like it. When they made the trip to Washington with the expectation of finding their brilliant representative at the station with outstretched arms to greet them, they were disgusted to learn that he was on the Chautauqua circuit.

Last fall an audacious young spell-binder from Duluth made a reckless attempt to secure Bede's seat, and although he didn't succeed it required a pretty lively hustle to save the day. Bede was summoned home with remarkable celerity, and it took all the oratorical blarney that he could summon to counteract the effect of his opponent's wit, which, it seems, was borrowed from a patent medicine almanac.

Not so fortunate was Joseph W. Babcock, of Wisconsin, a heavyweight in more senses than one. He it is who has been managing the affairs of the District of Columbia during congressional sessions and the affairs of his party at large the remainder of his time. That left him no room for the district he represented, and so the Third Wisconsin sent another man to represent it.

John F. Lacey of Iowa is another victim. This was a case of incompatibility pure and simple. Mr. Lacey had strong convictions in a certain well defined direction which was not that toward which the convictions of his constituents were directed. In the words of one of his apologists, "Lacey tried to stop the locomotive by standing on the track."

James W. Wadsworth of New York tried the same experiment and was wrecked. He was not afraid to take issue with President Roosevelt in the matter of the beef trust investigation, but his district had been reading "The Jungle." Charles M. Grosvenor, the veteran vote prognosticator, whose firm faith it was that the country could not do without him, was convinced of his error long before election day. He failed to secure a renomination.

The "narrowly escaped" element is represented more conspicuously than ever before. John Dalzell of Pennsylvania, who has never before had occasion to pay much attention to his public, found it necessary to change his tactics this year. Even "Uncle Pete" Hepburn of Iowa and James S. Sherman of New York, who had long assumed a modest proprietorship over their districts, were brought to a realization of the fact that these same districts were not created for their especial use.

There are others—many of them. There are a score of men in congress whose conduct during the present session will be tempered by the reflection that they are there only by a happy chance, and it will serve to make them more attentive to the duty of lawmaking. It is for this reason, if for no other, that the country may expect some excellent legislation.

WALTON WILLIAMS.

PROFESSIONAL TOOTH STAINER.

The trade of tooth stainer, followed in eastern Asia, is as old a calling as any. The natives prefer black teeth to the whiter kind, and the tooth stainer, with a little box of brushes and coloring matter, calls on his customers and stains their teeth. The process is not unlike that of blacking a boot, for a fine polish is given to the teeth. The pigment used is quite harmless.

NEW ZEALAND'S EXPOSITION AND RESOURCES.

CONSULAR Agent Frank Graham of Christchurch and Consul-General William A. Prickett of Auckland make excellent detailed reports on the New Zealand International exhibition, which opened Nov. 2, from which the following summary is made:

This exposition is the most important one ever held in Australia. It covers 14 acres, and the cost of the main buildings is estimated at \$500,000, though the entire expenditures before the opening were probably three times that sum. All nations were invited to exhibit, and it is much to be regretted that American manufacturers did not respond to the 1,000 copies of the official notice which were sent to representative firms in the United States. The Standard Oil company, through its New Zealand

representatives, is the only American concern with an exhibit.

This is all the more regretted when it is remembered that of the \$64,144,255 total imports into New Zealand last year, three-fourths of which are manufactured goods, \$7,438,000 worth came from the United States, thus showing the importance of this colony as a consumer of American goods. As a contrast, the handsome Canadian building, 22 by 152 feet, is a feature of the exhibition, Canada, whose contribution to the imports into this colony last year amounted to only \$559,000, apparently recognizes the importance of cultivating the New Zealand trade for the disposal of manufactured goods. In this they possess an advantage over the United States, inas-

much as goods, the produce and manufacture of Canada, are not subjected to the additional duty of 10 per cent which is charged on certain classes of goods not the produce or manufacture of Great Britain and her colonies.

The labor laws prevailing in New Zealand, with the short hours of labor and high wages ruling, renders it quite out of the question that the country can export manufactured goods in competition with older countries, or supply its own wants in this direction, for many years to come, and with the general and increasing prosperity of the community, by the great expansion during late years in the value of exports of wool, meat, butter, cheese, grain, kauri gum, flax,

gold, etc., this exhibition still offers a great opportunity for American manufacturers to exhibit their wares and send representatives to ascertain the wants and requirements of the New Zealand people.

The objects of the exhibition are educational in the arts, sciences and manufactures, and, while of educational value to the people of New Zealand, to bring under the notice of the world the advantages possessed by this country in its food-producing capacity, its mineral resources, climate, scenery, thermal wonders, fishing and prosperity generally, and as a country where the general standard of comfortable living of its people is perhaps higher than in any other part of the world.

Gold to the amount of \$25,000,000 has been taken from the earth in New Zealand during the past 50 years, and yet the surfaces of the gold-bearing deposits have comparatively been little worked. Great possibilities await further prospecting and mining combined with scientific methods. The coal mines of New Zealand produce excellent coal, and in close proximity are immense deposits of iron ore awaiting development.

New Zealand offers to the tourist a temperate climate and mountain, lake, road and river scenery unsurpassed. Its geysers, thermal springs and hot and cold lakes are natural wonders which are being visited by increasing numbers each year. No country offers greater attractions to sportsmen.

Mountain climbing, deer stalking, trout fishing and shooting are available to all. The charges are moderate for traveling and accommodation, and therefore touring in New Zealand is not necessarily confined to wealthy people.

THE BEST DOCTOR.

Rev. B. C. Horton, Sulphur Springs, Tex., writes, July 19th, 1902: "I have used in my family Ballard's Snow Liniment and Horsehold Syrup, and they have proved certainly satisfactory. The liniment is the best we have ever used for headache and pains. The cough syrup has been our doctor for the last eight years." Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept., 112 and 114 South Main Street.

BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS, 1906

THIS IS THE TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN THE BOTHERSOME QUESTION OF A SUITABLE CHRISTMAS GIFT COMES UP.

That gift is valued most which best symbolizes the good-will of the giver. The difficulty is to find something that will fitly represent the spirit of the holiday season and also possess a lasting value. Especially is this difficult when the price must be moderate. Wherefore, when Christmas-tide draws near, nearly all people who dwell in civilized communities are asking each other and themselves that ever perplexing question, "WHAT SHALL WE GIVE?" Here is one answer, which seems to meet many requirements: There is no gift which would be more acceptable and of more lasting benefit than a GOOD BOOK. HERE IS A PARTIAL LIST TO SELECT FROM:

NEW AND POPULAR BOOKS.

- American Girl, The, as seen portrayed, by Howard Chandler Christy, net, 2 50
- Anthony Overman, by Miriam Michelson, author of "In the Bishop's Carriage" 1 50
- Awakening of Helena Richie, The, by Margaret Deland, author of "Old Chester Tales," etc. 1 50
- Buchanan's Wife, by Justus Miles Forman, author of "Island of Enchantment," etc. 1 50
- Blindfolded, by Earle Ashley Walcott 1 50
- Breakers Ahead, by A. Maynard, author of "That Mainwaring affair," etc. 1 50
- Colonel of the Red Hussars, The, by John Reed Scott 1 50
- Coniston, by Winston Churchill, author of "Richard Carvel," etc. 1 50
- Caroline Lee, by Lillian Bell, author of "Hope Loring," etc. 1 50
- Call of the Blood, by Robert Hichens, author of "The Garden of Allah," "Confessions of a Detective," etc., by Alfred Henry Lewis, author of "Wolfville" 1 50
- Doomsday, by W. G. Stipphen, author of "Cardinal Rose," etc. 1 50
- Doctor, The, by Ralph Connor, author of "Black Rock," etc. Another Story of the Foothills 1 50
- Fighting Czar, The, by Robert W. Chambers, author of "The Hill," "Illustrations of Hagan," etc., by Justin Huntly McCarthy, author of "If I Were King," etc. 1 50
- In Pastures New, by George Ade, author of "Fables in Slang," etc. 1 25
- Japanese Blossom, A, by Onoto Watanna, author of "A Japanese Nightingale," net 2 00
- Jewel-Weed, by Alice Winter, author of "The Prize to the Hard," etc. 1 50
- Jane Cable, by George Barr McCutcheon, author of "Beverly of Graustark," etc. 1 50
- Katrina, by Roy Rolfe Gilson, author of "In the Morning Glow," etc. 1 50
- Knight of the Cumberland, A, by John Fox, Jr., author of "Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," etc. 1 00
- Long Labrador Trail, The, by Dillon Wallace 1 50
- Lion and the Mouse, Chas. Kelin, 1 50
- One Way Out, The, by Bettina Von Hutton, author of "Pam," etc. 1 50
- Puck of Pook's Hill, by Rudyard Kipling, author of "Soldiers Three," etc. 1 50
- R. Holmes and Company, by John Kendrick Bangs, author of "The Houseboat on the Styx," etc. 1 25
- Ring in the New, by Richard Whiting, author of "No. 5 John Street," etc. 1 50
- Robberies Co. Ltd., The, by Nelson Lloyd, author of "Six stars, etc." 1 50
- Rich Men's Children, by Geraldine Bonner, author of "The Pioneer," etc. 1 50
- Romance Island, by Zona Gale 1 50
- Song of Hiawatha, The, by Henry W. Longfellow (Harrison Fisher Edition), 3 00
- Saul of Tarsus, by Elizabeth Miller 1 50
- Sphinx's Lawyer, The, by Frank Danby, author of "Pigs in Clover," etc. 1 50

- Susan Clegg and Her Neighbors' Affairs, by Anne Warner, author of "Susan Clegg and Her Friend Mrs. Lathrop," etc. 1 00
- Subject of Isabel Carnaby, The, by Ellen Thorncroft 1 50
- Sailor of Fortune, A, by B. S. Osborn and Albert Bigelow Paine 1 50
- The \$300,000 Bequest and Other Stories, by Mark Twain 1 75
- Tides of Barnegat, The, by F. Hopkinson Smith, author of "Colonel Carter's Christmas," etc. 1 50
- White Fang, by Jack London, author of "The Call of the Wild," etc. 1 50
- Whispering Smith, by Frank H. Spearman, author of "Doctor Bryson," etc. 1 50
- Why the Robin's Breast is Red, by Emma Gellibrand, author of "J. Cole," net 75
- While the Heart Beats Young, by J. Whitcomb Riley 2 50

RECENT POPULAR FICTION.

- All for the Love of a Lady, by Elinor M. Lane, author of "Nancy Stair" 1 25
- Breath of the Gods, The, by Sidney McCall, author of "Truth Dexter" 1 50
- Cowardice Court, by George Barr McCutcheon, author of "Beverly Graustark" 1 50
- Conquest of Canaan, The, by Booth Tarkington, author of "The Gentleman from Indiana," etc. 1 50
- For the Soul of Rafael, by M. E. Ryan, author of "Told in the Hills," etc. 1 50
- Gambler, The, by Katherine Cecil Thurston, author of "The Masquerader," etc. 1 50
- House of Mirth, The, by Edith Wharton, author of "Valley of Decision," illustrated by A. B. Wenzel 1 50
- Lady Betty Across the Water, by C. N. and A. M. Williamson, authors of "Lightning Conductor" 1 50
- Lady Baltimore, by Owen Wister, author of "The Virginian" 1 50
- Lucy of the Stars, by Frederick Palmer, author of "The Vagabond," etc. 1 50
- My Friend the Chauffeur, by C. N. and A. M. Williamson, authors of "The Lightning Conductor" 1 50
- Nedra, by Geo. Barr McCutcheon, author of "Beverly of Graustark," etc., with full page illustrations in colors by Harrison Fisher 1 50
- Nicanor: Teller of Tales, by C. B. Taylor 1 50
- Patriots, by C. T. Brady, author of "The Southerners" 1 50
- Pigs is Pigs, by Ellis Parker Butler, illustrated 50
- Pass, The, by Stewart Edward White, author of "The Forest," etc. 1 25
- Rose of the River, by Kate Douglas Wiggin 1 25
- Starvecrow Farm, The, by Stanley J. Weyman, author of "A Gentleman of France," etc. 1 50
- Silas Strong, by I. Bacheller, author of "Eben Holden" 1 50
- Spoilers, by Rex E. Beach, author of "Pardners" 1 50
- Truth about Tolna, by B. Runkle, author of "Hemlet of Navarre" 1 50
- Woman in the Alcove, The, by Anna Katherine Green, author of "The Leavenworth Case," etc. 1 50

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- The Fortunes of Oliver Horn 1 50 F. A. Smith
- The Daughter of the Sioux 1 50 Gen. Charles King
- The Sherrods 1 50 George Barr McCutcheon
- Graustark 1 50 George Barr McCutcheon
- Castle Cranecrow 1 50 George Barr McCutcheon
- The Call of the Wild 1 50 Jack London
- The Man on the Box 1 50 Harold Mac Grath
- Hearts Courageous 1 50 H. E. Rives
- Marcella 1 50 Mrs. Humphry Ward
- Rupert of Hentzau 1 50 Mrs. Anthony Hope
- The History of David Grieve 1 50 Mrs. H. Ward
- The Honorable Peter Stirling 1 50 Ford
- The Forest Lovers 1 50 Hewlett
- The Gentleman from Indiana 1 50 B. Tarkington
- Janice Meredith 1 50 Paul L. Ford
- The Crisis 1 50 Winston Churchill
- The Prisoner of Zenda 1 50 Hope
- The Virginian 1 50 Owen Wister
- THE CELEBRITY 1 50 WINSTON CHURCHILL
- Chronicles of The Little Tot 1 50 Cooke 1 50
- Rimes to be Read 1 50 Cooke 1 50
- Love Songs of Childhood 1 50 Riley 1 25
- Riley Farm Rhymes 1 50 Riley 1 25
- Wheel of Life, The 1 50 Ellen Glasgow 1 50
- For the White Christ 1 50 Robert Ames Bennett 1 50
- Sagebrush Parson, The, 1 50 A. B. Ward 1 50
- Alton of Somasco 1 50 Harold Benloss 1 50
- Silas Strong 1 50 Irving Bacheller 1 50
- Garden of Allah 1 50 Robert Hichens 1 50
- Bob Hampton of Placer 1 50 Randall Parish 1 50
- Blue Eye 1 50 Olga Allen 1 25
- The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come 1 50 John Fox Jr. 1 50
- The Spoilers 1 50 Rex E. Beach 1 50
- Maker of History 1 50 E. Phillips Oppenheim 1 50
- Whispering Smith 1 50 Frank H. Spearman 1 50
- The Sage Brush Parson 1 50 A. B. Ward 1 50
- On the Field of Glory 1 50 Henryk Sienkiewicz 1 50
- Fenwick's Career 1 50 Mrs. Humphry Ward 1 50
- The Marriage of William Ashe 1 50 Mrs. Humphry Ward 1 50
- The Prodigal Son 1 50 Hall Caine 1 50
- Vergil's 1 50 Irving Bacheller 1 35
- The Seekers 1 50 Wilson 1 50
- Sir Mortimer 1 50 Mary Johnston 1 50
- The Return of Sherlock Holmes 1 50 Doyle 1 50
- Temporal Power 1 50 Corelli 1 50
- Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch 1 50 Hegon 1 00
- Lovey Mary 1 50 Hegon 1 00
- Sandy 1 50 Harland 1 50
- My Friend Prospero 1 50

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