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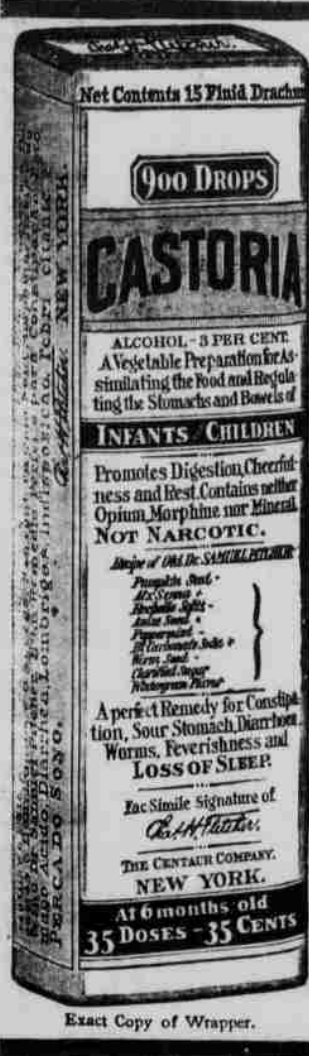
A NEWSPAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

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VOL. LI.

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NO. 32



CASTORIA
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THE KEEPING OF CHRISTMAS.

The Day of All Days Dear to the Heart of a Christian.

The one day of all the days of the year which should be dear to the heart of a Christian, is the day which has been set apart to commemorate the birth of Christ; and, it should be kept in a spirit consistent with the character and person of Him whose natal day we celebrate. To take into consideration who Jesus is and what He came into the world to do, will make us realize that the sacredness with which we invest His birthday, falls far short of what it ought to be. Of course, we do not know the exact day on which our Lord was born; but Christians, by common consent, have set apart December 25th, to commemorate that wonderful event, and as the day has been set apart, its observance ought to correspond with the facts which the day sets forth. The day bears witness that Christ came into the world. It commemorates an historical event, an event around which the hope of the world centers—the fact of the incarnation, the Word made flesh, is the foundation of Christianity, the momentous event in the world's history. Without it we could not have known what God was like. The atonement would have been impossible, man would have had no assurance of salvation. The sweet, joyous spirit which pervades everything at this Christmas season, is but a crystallized expression of that sweet, joyous, pure spirit which the Christ brought into human life when He took humanity into the Godhead. The incarnation is real, the Christ is a real, living, loving Person. The Gospels portray this Person. His life on earth was not separate from any time or race. It reaches back into the far distant past, and it extends to all the ages yet to come, and to the generations yet unborn. God's greatest and richest gift to the world is the gift of His Son—in the incarnation. Do we realize that enough to be grateful for it? And should not our observance of Christmas Day reflect what we believe about Christ? Those who do not know Christ will not be sure of His Deity until we convince them by reverence and adoration for His Person. Does not our manner of keeping that day indicate to the worldling what Christ is to the Christian? What would a heathen man think of the Christian's God if he should see some of the observances of the day set apart to commemorate His Advent into the world? Thank God that the day is passing when men considered it a proper thing to get drunk on Christmas. We all know that for many years the express companies have been worked to their limit in handling liquor during the Christmas season. The lack of reverence for the blessed Saviour let men grind out of their careless indifference a proverb: "Christmas comes but once a year, if I get drunk you needn't care."

DADDY KNOWS.

Let us dry our tears now, laddie,
Let us put aside our woes;
Let us go and talk to daddy,
For I'm sure that daddy knows.
Let us take him what we've broken,
Be it heart or hope or toy,
And the tale may bide unspoken,
For he used to be a boy.

He has been through all the sorrows
Of a lad at nine or ten;
He has seen the dawn of morrows
When the sun shone bright again;
His own heart has been near breaking,
Oh, more times than I can tell,
And has often known the aching
That a boy's heart knows so well.

I am sure he well remembers,
In his calendar of days,
When the boy-heart was December's,
Though the sun and flowers were May's.
He has lived a boy's life, laddie,
And he knows just how it goes;
Let us go and talk to daddy,
For I'm sure that daddy knows.

Let us tell him all about it,
How the sting of it is there,
And I have not any doubt it
Will be easier to bear;
For he's trodden every byway,
He has fathomed every joy,
He has traveled every highway
In the wide world of a boy.

He will put aside the worries
That his day may follow through,
For the great heart of him hurries
At the call of help from you,
He will help us mend the broken
Heart of ours or hope or toy,
And the tale may bide unspoken—
For he used to be a boy.

HE IS THEIR HERO.

One Of Life's Jewels.

No matter how insipid he is, in ability and in appearance; no matter how frail his form, and how devoid of beauty his face, while other men loom up by his side as towers of strength and models of sightliness; never mind if his trousers are out of crease, or how men pity him, or sometimes sneer at him, he is a hero in the eyes of the little tot or little tot, who rush to greet him when the day's work is over. They are the ones who look beyond the opinion of the public or don't care what others may think of their "papa." He is their hero—and this is as it should be. It is one of the blessings from on high, that childhood may be happy and that the father, even though he toils from early to late and his mind feels the burden of the care of the family, while his heart may be heavy because he can't give his loved ones what he would like to give them, may not be denied all sunshine.

It is solace to the poor man and it should be more appreciated, perhaps, by the rich. It is one of the charms of life, holding many a fellow to the course.

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Batchelor Bros.

DISAPPOINTMENT.

Joy's a flower that blooms to be blighted
Hope's a star, that rises but to set,
Our "castles of air" soon vanishes away
In sadness we pine with regret.
'Tis folly to cling to the pleasures of earth
That pass, with each fleeting day,
But fix our faith on the "star of hope"
That will always brighten our way.

Truth the emblem, of all that's pure
Love clings, when hope has flown,
We whisper to the budding flower
Of joys, now long since gone.
We watch the tide, and try to stem
It's rugged current deep,
It's strength our feeble hands o'er come
We sadly watch, and weep.

Life's pathway oft is one we choose
Could we the future, see,
Mistakes that sometimes wreck this life
From such we'd gladly flee.
Weak human nature throughout the earth
Has realized full well,
That lives of joy are cast aside
While they in sin, still dwell.

A beautiful ship unfurls her sail
To cross the briny sea,
In ocean storm, is soon engulfed
Some dear one, is lost to me.
A lovely rose soon casts it's leaves
A withered stem remains,
Unfading joy, earth does not yield
Only Heaven, gives lasting gains.

—J. B. T., Weldon, N. C.



Has Jones ever run over any body in his flivver?
No. His car isn't big enough to kill anybody.

Are you going to enlist?
No, but I'm going to get married.

Why, what is the matter, Mabel, you look like you didn't have a friend?
That is it exactly. I have about as many friends as an alarm clock.

She—Who gave you the black eye?
He—Nobody. I had to fight hard for it.

"Why in the world did you name your baby Bill?"
"Because he came on the first of the month."

"That record seems to scratch. What's the name of it?"
"Turkey in the Straw."
"No wonder it scratches."

Janet—Dear Marie is so economical!
Lucile—Well, I should say! Why, she'd give up her honeymoon trip so that her husband could save up for her alimony.

Her Father—Can you support my daughter in the style to which she has been accustomed?
Lover—No-o, sir.
Her Father—Then take her, young man. I was afraid you thought you could.

Maria—So Lucindy and Jim married in haste. Am dey repenting at leisure?
Samantha—Jim is. Lucy's makin' in washin'.

Many a man who hands you good advice does not know it is good or he would have used it himself.

THE BANK OF WELDON
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Halifax County Depository,
Town of Weldon Depository.

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A Savings Department is maintained for the benefit of all who desire to deposit in a Savings Bank. In this Department interest is allowed as follows:
For Deposits allowed to remain three months or longer, 2 per cent. Six months or longer, 3 per cent. Twelve months or longer, 4 per cent.
Any information will be furnished on application to the President or Cashier.

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DIRECTORS—W. R. Smith, W. E. Daniel, J. O. Drake, W. M. Cohen, R. T. Daniel, J. L. Shepherd, W. A. Pierce, D. B. Zollieffer, J. W. Sledge.

PEANUT BAGS.

For the good of the Peanut Industry, it has been determined by the members of this association, that it will be necessary to request the farmers to pack their peanuts in new 68 inch and 70 inch 8 ounce burlap bags, and when peanuts are packed in bags different from the above, a deduction will be made on the following basis:

Cotton bags, a deduction will be made 10c each.
Second hand bags a deduction will be made 10c each
New 7 1-2 ounce bags 68 or 70 inches a deduction will be made of 5c each.

In view of the fact that some dealers in the past have delivered 7 1-2 ounce bags on contracts for 8 ounce bags, we would advise you to see that each bale of 500-68 inch 8 ounce bags you receive weigh 472 1-2 pounds, and each bale of 500-70 inch 8 ounce bags weigh 486 1-2 pounds, exclusive of the wrapping and cordage. If they run short of the above weight, you are receiving 7 1-2 ounce bags instead of 8 ounce bags.

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THE BANK OF HALIFAX
HALIFAX N. C.
N. L. Stedman, P. C. Gregory, F. H. Gregory
President Vice-President Cashier

mas day? Will you tell them that the gift from Santa Claus is really a gift from the Christ Child? Perhaps, then, they will "Throw the heavy house door wide, that He may enter in:

"Oh, I must stay awake tonight
When up to bed I go;
I want to hear those footsteps light
When Christ comes through the snow.

My candle twinkles like a star
Upon the window sill;
It shines to guide Him from afar,
As He comes down the hill.

And O, to see Him by my side,
This guest from Heaven win;
I'll throw the heavy house door wide
That He may enter in.

Come, little Lord, come up the stair
And you shall have my bed;
Upon its pillow soft and white
Lay down your darling head.

O Jesus, you were once a boy
And laughed and romped like me;
Now choose the very nicest toy
From all the things you see.

Come, then, dear little guest from Heaven,
Come gift from God above;
One thing I'll ask this Christmas Eve
To share your heart of love.
N. C. DUNCAN.
Christmas Tide 1916.

May we all be worthy, on this Christmas day to kneel, with the shepherds, and worship the Christ Child.

And will you, dear reader, read this sweet little poem, by Kate Louise Brown, to the little children that cluster about you on Christmas

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