Social and Personal

By MRS. J. P. CALDWELL

A bright and blessed Christmas Day,
With echoes of the angels' song,
And peace that cannot pass away,
And holy gladness, calm and strong,
And sweet heart carols, flowing free!
This is my Christmas wish to thee!
—Frances Ridley Havergal.

The Christmas Story.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all tese things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.—Luke 11:8-20.

The Peace of Christmas.

When the Child of Nazareth was born, the sun, according to the Bosnian legend, "leaped in the heavens, and the stars around it danced. A peace came over mountain and forest. Even the rotten stump stood straight and healthy on the green hillside. The grass was beflowered with open blossoms, incense sweet as myrrh pervaded upland and forest, birds sang on the mountain top, and all gave thanks to the great God."

It is naught but an old folktale, but it has truth hidden at its heart, for a strange, subtle force, a spirit of genial good-will, a new-born kindness, seem to animate child and man alike when the world pays its tribute to the "heaven-sent youngling," as the poet Drummond calls the infant Christ."

When the Three Wise Men rode from the East into the West on that "first, best Christmas night," they bore on their saddle-bows three casket filled with gold and frankincense and myrrh, to be laid at the feet of the manger-cradled Babe of Bethdehem. Beginning with this old, old joudney, the spirit of giving crept into the world's heart. As the Magi came bearing gifts, so do we also; gifts that relieve want, gifts that are sweet and fragrant with friendship, gifts that breathe love, gifts that mean service, gifts inspired still by the star that shone over the City of David nearly two thousand years ago.

Then hang the green coronet of the Christmas tree with glittering baubles and jewels of flame; heap offerings on its emerald branches; bring the Yule log to the firing; deck the house with holly and mistletoe,

"And all the bells on earth shall ring
On Christmas day in the morning."
—Kate Douglas Wiggins.

A XMAS ROMANCE.

"Love's Old Sweet Song" should be one of the numbers on the program to be sung by the Commonwealth Male Quartette, of Boston, at the Y. M. C. A. tomorrow night. There is a reason, and this is it:

Yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock Mr. Arthur H. Carpenter, a member of the quartette, was married in this city, to Miss Anna M. Collins, of Boston. The ceremony was performed at the manse of the First A. R. P. church, Rev. Geo. W. Hanna officiating. Of course it was the end of an old love story.

Mr. Carpenter was South en tour. He and fiance "wanted to spend Xmas together," they said in explanation, and arranged to meet in Charlotte. The result of the meeting was that they will spend not only this Xmas, but all other Christmases together. The bride is a most engaging young woman, pretty and attractive.

The groom is one of the most popular members of the quartette.

VISITORS FROM GEORGIA.

Misses Annie May and Nan Loman, of Calhoun, Ga., arrived last night to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Redfern.

LEAVE IN THE MORNING FOR CONCORD.

Mr and Mrs. C. C. Hook will have a family gathering at their attractive home on East Morehead street this evening, when the children will have their Christmas tree. Tomorrow morning Mr. and Mrs. Hook and children and Mrs. Rosa McDonald go to Concord to spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. George Patterson.

MRS. WATTERSON COMING, TOO.

It will interest the ladies of the city to know that Colonel Watterson will be accompanied by Mrs. Watterson on this occasion of his visit to Charlotte Saturday next. Cordial greeting will be extended her, as well as her distinguished husband.

THE CHRIST CHILD.

"For unto us a child is born, a son is given," that is the foundation of Christmas. Other days,—St. Patrick, Fourth of July, Yom Kippur, mean more or less to a varying number, but Christmas belongs to evry one who believes in babies. That includes everybody.

The good tidings of great joy, the assurance of peace on earth and good will to men all center in the coming of the Christmas Child. He is the constant reminder that the little people, and not our adult selves as we sometimes mistakenly suppose, are the world's chief citizens. We grown-ups of each generation live in the dark ages, but the chilren march ever forward toward the morning. The iron gates of tomorrow, through which we cannot pass, will some day open wide at the touch of their soft hands. " 'Who is greatest in the kingdom of Heaven?' And He called to Him a litle child, and set him in the midst of them."

The first Christmas saw shepherds leaving their flocks in the field and wise men coming from afar to kneel before a peasant woman and her Baby. From that day forth, now almost two thousand years, to see that God Who came as a Child still comes as a Child, and that to revere and cherish Mother and Babe is to worship Him, has been the Royal Secret of Christmas. In proportion as men and institutions have worked this spirit into the fabric of daily life, Christmas belongs to them.—Curtis H. Watermore in Royal Arcanum Bulletin.

XMAS AT DAVIDSON.

Mrs. W. R. Stowe, of Belmont, spent the day in the city en route to Davidson, where she will spend the Christmas holidays with her mother.

TEACHERS' HOLIDAY.

Mr. Frank Graham, who has been teaching in the Raleigh Graded Schools for the past year, is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Graham. Mr. George Graham, who has been teaching at Manchester, near Fayetteville, arrived in the city last night. He will spend about two weeks here with his parents.

We live in deeds, not in years; in thoughts, not in breaths; in feelings, not in figures on the dial; we should count time by heart throbs. He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.—Bailey.

THE PRETTIEST TREE OF ALL.

There will be many pretty Xmas trees in the city, but none will exceed in beauty and fairyland effect that which Miss Barbara Wadsworth Smith, the lovely little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Smith, of North Church street, had yesterday morning.

The tree completely filled one corner of the room. It was beautifully ornamented, there being no design in tinsel decoration not thought of by little Miss Barbara's mother. The illumination was left to Mr. Smith, and nothing could have exceeded the beauty of it. Hidden in the cedar were myraids of tiny incandescent lights. Of course his royal highness, Santa Claus, pressed the button, for he was there, right by the tree, on top of a big chimney which he was in the act of descending. As he put his finger on the button and instantly the tree was illuminated as with an electric wave.

The effect was enchanting. No corner in Queen Titenia's realm was ever more beautiful. And dear old generous Santa did not stop with this good act. He had a pack full of beautiful gifts for the host of little friends who were guests of little Miss Smith. The gifts were dainty souvenirs of the merry morn.

Then there were just lots of good Xmas things to eat, and they were charmingly served.

TO VISIT DAUGHTER.

Mr. S. L. Cootes, of Harrisburg, Va., arrived last night to visit his daughter, Mrs. Edgar Price, at 431 Elizabeth avenue.

VISITING AT MR. KIRKPATRICK'S.

Mrs. J. L. Rankin and daughter, Miss Eloise Rankin, of Birmingham, Ala., are visiting Mrs. Rankin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker Kirkpatrick, in Sharon.

OFF TO ATLANTA.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Elliott and children have gone to Atlanta to spend Xmas.

XMAS IN ROCK HILL.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Kimbrell will spend Xmas in Rock Hill, S. C.

MISS JAMISON'S ROOM.

Miss Jamison, of the fifth grade in the South School, gave her children a happy day Friday. She gave the children candy which she made, and distributed in the progress of a merry game. Miss Jamison is one of the most popular teachers in the city schools.

MR. AND MRS. THEIS ENTERTAIN.

Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Theis were charmingly at home last night at a family re-union, and a few outside friends. The decorations were elaborate and the Christmas dinner was of this kind, in its lavishness, that characterized the feasts of the old

MISS PICKLER A VISITOR HERE.

Miss Mamie Pickler, of Chester, S. C., was the guest yesterday of Misses Inez and Willie Weddington, who will accompany Miss Pickler to Salisbury tomorrow to visit relatives.

LIBRARY NOTES.

OLD ENGLISH CHRITMAS CAROL

As Joseph was a-waukin',
He heard an angel sing,
"This night shall be the birthnight
Of Christ our heavenly King.

"His birth-bed shall be neither
In housen nor in hall,
Nor in the place of paradise,
But in the oxen's stall.

"He neither shall be rocked
In silver nor in gold,
But in the wooden manger
That lieth in the mould.

"He neither shall be clothed
In purple nor in pall,
But in the fair, white linen
That usen babies all."

As Joseph was a-waukin',
Thus did the angel sing,
And Mary's son at midnight
Was born to be our King.

Then be you glad, good people,
At this time of the year;
And light you up your candles,
For His star it shineth clear.

.. .. ..

To all borrowers and firends of the Charlotte public library; to all librarians and friends of libraries in North Carolina; and, to all lovers of good books: Greetings, and all good wishes for joy and peace on the one thousand nine hundred and eleventh birthday of the Christ.

.. .. ..

Although William Dean Howells, who has just returned to this country from Spain, is said to have done "practically no work on this pleasure trip," it is difficult to believe that so fine an opportunity for a new travel book by the author of "London films" and "Certain delightful English towns" will be lost. Mr. Howells visited Spain in his youth thoroughly explored Seville and Madrid, and it is likely that the recollection of his early experiences enrich with a fine mellow background whatever he has now made of new discoveries.

.. .. ..

The library will be closed all day to-morrow. The hours on New Year's Day will be from three to six P. M.

.. .. ..

Mary Roberts Rinehart, although she has an elegantly furnished library in her home, does very little of her writing there. She has a study in one of the largest office buildings in Pittsburgh, where she spends a certain number of working hours each day. When at home her attention is bestowed entirely upon her husband and three boys.

.. .. ..

Jeffery Farnol is at present at work on a new novel, "The history of na amateur gentleman." As soon as he completes it, he expects to pay a visit to this country. His last book "The money moon" bids fair to be almost as popular as his first book, "The broad highway."

MRS. TARVER ARRIVES.

Mrs. J. B. Tarver arrived last night to spend Christmas and some time after with her daughter, Mrs. H. M. Wade.

MISSES DOGGETT HOME.

Misses Lucille and Sara Doggett are home to spend Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. O .Doggett, at tehir home in Dilworth during the Christmas holidays.

DR. FERRELL COMES.

Dr. J. A. Ferrell of Raleigh, arrived yesterday to join his family who are at Mr. B. F. Withers' on East avenue.

WHERE THERE IS NO CHRISTMAS.

The little men and women of Japan don't know anything about Christmas and Santa Claus, but they have ever so many other holidays which are just as delightful for them. The only trouble is that these holidays belong to the children all alone, and, so, instead of having a family Christmas tree, with father and mother and brothers and cousins and aunts, these Japanese children do their celebrating all by themselves. The little women have what is called the "Dolls' Festival," which occurs on the third day of the third month. All the dolls each little woman owns are taken from their boxes, where they have been carefully kept, and are set on a stand, together with all their dresses and toy furniture. The little Japanese maiden then makes them offerings of rice cakes and sweets, which they probably enjoys as much as American dollies enjoy their tea parties.

But the Japanese dollies don't have any other good times all the rest of the year—no rides to the parks in doll carriages, nobody to make dresses for them on rainy afternoons, and no little mother to put them to bed at night. When the "Dolls' Festival" is over, back they have to go into their boxes, to be kept until the next year. Two of these holiday dolls are given to every baby girl when she is born, and she keeps them to hand down to her own little daughters. So there is often a large collection of dolls in every family, and it is because they are so precious that it won't do to play with them every day.

FAMILY GATHERING.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Irvin's Xmas will be made merry and glad by the home-coming of their sons, one one son's bride. Mr. Gilmer C. Irvin, of Washington, Mr. Ted Irvin and bride of Richmond, and Dr. H. C. Irvin, of Roanoke Rapids, all of who come tonight.

At Christmastide, oh, be thou tender, true;
Thy friends make glad, and all thy foes forgive;
With its sweet light begin to live anew,
Ungrudging give, and, giving, much receive.
—A. Judson Rich.

Miss Sarah Rudisill is home from Winthrop College for Christmas.

LADIES' TAKE NOTICE!

I Wish to Call Your Attention to My

Special Sale of Skirts

which continues only until Jan. 2nd, 1912, $3.00, $4.00 and $5.00 per yard goods, complete skirt for $11.50, any style you desire. Also this is the time you should take advantage of my great semi-annual sale, and have your suits and automobile coats made at a great reduction in price or one-third off the regular price. These suits are of the latest designs, consisting of imported goods in all shades and colors. Don't miss this great opportunity, but call and make an early selection before the best styles are sold. Workmanship and fit guaranteed. This o'clock.

JACOB HARRIS LADIES' TAILOR AND IMPORTER
14 N. Church St., Phone 1582-J

CONTRACT FOR PUMPING STATION IS AWARDED

The board of water commissioners has awarded the contract for the building of the pumping station at the river and the intake to Mr. John Haas. The contract represents a sum something less than $20,000.

The station will be erected at the old Sample mill, on the river. This award will be heard with interest throughout the city. The bidding for this contract has been on the order of "many being called, but few chosen."

A number of bids have been submitted at several meetings of the board, but the bids were adjudged by the board as being too high. The board has awarded the contract after deliberation and patient waiting for the figures to come within the amount the board was agreed upon.

Music At The Association Today

Following is the musical programme to be rendered by the Commonwealth Male Quartette of Boston, Mass., at the Young Men's Christian Association this afternoon at 5 o'clock. In addition there will be the usual service of song.

"Sing, Oh eHavens"—By Perkins.
"Sunset,"—by Van De Water.
Tenor Solo—"Oh Holy Night," by Adams, sung by Mr. A. L. Hipson.
"Rock of Ages"—a special arrangement for the Commonwealth quartette.

The speakers for the two meetings to be held at the same hour in different parts of the building are the Rev. Dr. Gilbert T. Rowe, at Hanna Hall, to men, and Rev. Mr. D. H. Rolston, to boys, in the lobby of the boys' department.

All men are invited to be present.

Mr. Price Resigns From Printing Co.

The directors of the Charlotte Printing Co. met yesterday afternoon. Mr. H. B. Chamberlaine was elected secretary and treasurer, Vice Mr. W. E. Price resigned. Mr. Price sold his stock to Mr. Chamberlaine. The condition of the company was reported as being excellent.

Christmas Tree At St. Peters Hospital

The nurses at St. Peter's hospital celebrated Xmas in happy style last night. They had a great big tree, which had a generous load of gifts. Not only the nurses, but the patients who were able, were present, and there was a Santa Claus who brought remembrances to all. The rooms were tastily decorated and the affair so happy a one that even the sick enjoyed it.

Christmas Tree at the Presbyterian Hospital

The nurses at the Presbyterian hospital had a Christmas tree and exchange of gifts last night. The tree was erected in the parlor. There were 425 presents on the tree, and six boxes of oranges, and other fruit in abundance. All the patients able to leave their beds joined in the tree merriment.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS GIVEN BY ROYALTY.

Although many people nowadays affect to despise the good old custom of given presents at Christmas time, the members of the royal family of England show no sympathy with the new likely to be a leading feature of the royal Christmas, for both the King and Queen are great upholders of the custom, and their Majesties are kept busy for several weeks before the festive season making a careful selection of the Christmas presents from the many novelities sent for their inspection by the tradespeople of London and Windsor. These are brought to Buckingham palace and arranged for inspection on tables in the reception rooms, which resembles nothing so much as smart bazars by the time all the goods are laid out, all marked in plain figures that leave no doubt as to their exact prices.

The King and Queen, the Prince and Princes of Wales and most of the members of the royal family make the majority of their purchases in this manner, although some of the younger royalties are to be sent in the West End shops buying their Christmas gifts like the rest of the world.

Dr. Emory Alexander and friend, Dr. Deaver, the noted surgeon, will arrive here this morning from Philadelphia to spend Xmas with Dr. Alexander's father, Hon. S. B. Alexander, at his home on West Trade street.

Carolina Agency Co. Leads All Others

Carolina Agency Company, consisting of W. E. Price, R. D. Moore and F. C. Helms, general agent for the Continental Casualty Company for the central Carolinas, won the Christmas prize check offered by that company for the most business written in November.

To Be Cashier at Telephone Exchange

Mr. Edgar B. Grier, who was formerly with the Ed. Mellon Company, will after the first of the year go to the Southern Bell Telephone Company, to take the position of cashier, succeeding Mr. Jo Wiggins, promoted to the position of teller. Mr. Grier will make good at the telephone exchange, as he does everywhere.

—Mr. Chas. F. F. Dalton arrived home last night for Xmas.

With heartfelt appreciation for the biggest business in our history, we thank our many friends, and wish them one and all the full happiness of the season.

LUDIN FUFRNITURE COMPANY.

CHRISTMAS GREETING

We Wish You a Merry Xmas and Thank You for the Liberal Patronage Accorded Our Store.

This Store Will Be Closed Monday

During the Week Wonderful Bargains Will Be Offered Throughout Our Store. Those Who Failed to Purchase Their Presents, Will Save Money to Pay Us a Visit.

Visit Our Jewelry Department

Little-Long Co.