THE GOLD LEAF.

HENDERSON, N. C.

THURSDAY, DEC. 28, 1899.

WASHINGTON.

Washington died an hundred years ago Fo-day! How lightly forth the sentence And passes current upon thoughtless lips. And yet how wrongfully! for 'tis not so. Washington dead! Ten thousand times He lives, as never hero lived before In the hearts of any people. More and

His memory is cherished; larger grow The tribute honors paid to his dear name. So pure, and true, and sweet, his life at So just, and clear, and strong and with-

His public like; and lastly, like the dome Athwart Potomac skies, full-rounded, fair. His life as soldier-statesman, past compare.

Grant that no royal blood obscures the Of that old yeomanry that gave him birth Nor any line of proud and buried worth With tawdry titles brought him doubtful Nay! He gave to the world a new domain. A land inviolate of toyalty; Where, never modest truth shall crook the

To pampered pride, nor patriot love be Where highest honors are the meed of all Who highly strive; not by prescriptive Where blest Religion's voice doth fully And fears nor priest, nor king, nor worldling's snite And so, to-day, like you tall shaft he

Man's noblest gift to man; and he is ours EDWARD MARSHLL MOTT.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, 1 8x LUCAS COUNTY. Frank J. Cheney makes outh that he i the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Che ney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, county and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of one hundred dollars for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use o Hall's Catarrh Cure. FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886. A. W. GLEASON.

[SEAL.] Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and act- directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimo nials, free.

The Joy of Christmas.

Hall's Family Pills are the best



1-9 Sold by druggists, 75c.

ture of Christmas resality. Wherever Christ is known and revered, in however rude a manner or it nowever limited s legree, the Christ joy and Christmas cheer and Christmas

un selfishness are found. As the light of the Christmas sun gradually encircles our globe, so will the Christmas carol welcome His rising, and as his rays alile gild the palace and the hut, so will the sweet influences of Christmas steal into the thoughts and hearts of men | Artemon of the Chatelet will fill the of every station. This is the only joy which is cosmopolitan. Each nationality celebrates its own peculiar heroes, deliverances and achievements; this day the world brings its homage to the feet of a babe, and king and peasant, sage and clown, conqueror and conquored, the noble and the base, the jeweled peeress and the maid servant behind the mill, clasp hands over the cradle memories of Bethlehem. Would that the Christmas spirit could be prolonged, and not for one day only, but for all days and all time, that Christ might dwell among men! Speaking of this joy of Christmas the London Christian Lip

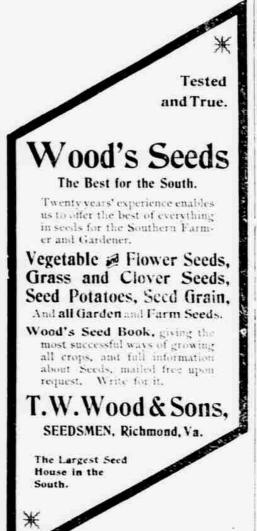
says:

"The joy of Christmas derives an browledge especial charm from the knowledge of the fact of its being joy that is widespread. It is the reverse of selfish joy. It is part of the happiness of the season that everybody bethinks himself whether he can do something to add to other people's happiness, and the kindly thought mostly issues in kindly deed. In one of her happiest poems Mary Howitt exclaims: "Away with the pleasure that is not par

There is no enjoyment by one only ta'en: I love in my mirth to see gladness a vaker On lips and in eyes that reflect it again." "In similar strains another poet

"Nature, in zeal for human amity. Denies, or damps, an uninvited joy.

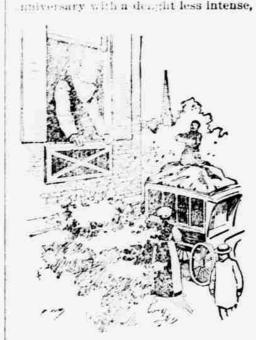
"It is just because the joy ... Christmas is known and felt to be the joy of multitudes, and not merely a select few, that it yields so sweet a zest to every generous mind. Whatever we may be the rest of the year. our Christmastide mood converts us all, for the time, in feeling at least, into philanthropists, and makes us all, conscionsly or unconscionsly, believers, too, in the philanthrophy of God."—Exchange



KEEP your blood pure and your black coat for Pierret and a flowered morning gown," said the manager penhealthy condition by taking Hood's sively.

"Jeanne, you will give nuts, red apples and dried plums to Gelynotte and Moreau to fill the sabots of the little Et in secula seculorum," murmured M. le Cure, who then resumed the reading of his breviary, which had been interrupted by the numberless preparations for the fete of the following day. He bent his spectacles anew over the book, closing his ears in vain to the payous outbursts which rang throughout the place on this the eve of the day so blessed. Joy filled the air and troubled his meditations. He could at prevent his puternal heart from ariog in the innocent pleasures of flock over which he had watched and to which he had ministered for ove than 20 years.

This year, for the first time in his Efe, the cure was to celebrate the holy



a heart less light, than usual. Care irritated and troubled his serene benevolence and checked his compassion for others, his forgiveness of wrongdoing. Play actors were installed opposite the rectory, at the Hotel du Dauphin, at the other side of the square. What a trial it had been for him! For ten days they had been there. Soulaire had cerned as though seized with a fever. At each corner of the street many colored posters were to be seen, and in from of them groups of people gathered, commenting upon the spectacle of the previous night or that heralded for as a rule, were deserted at 9 o'clock, were thronged until after midnight. From end to end of the little town the merits of the respective players were

A roll of drums was heard beneath he window, and M. Lamier sprang to his feet. The masal voice of Father Onesime, the public crier and gamekeeper, was heard distinctly calling aloud in the same tone as the worthy man ordinarily invited the citizens to till the white worms or to muzzle their

"Hochary Troupe, Soulaire Theatre Grain Marketi, this evening. For the first time the great success, 'The Abbe Constantin,' comedy by Ludovic Halevy of the Academie Francaise. M. role of the Abbe Constantin. Mlle. Valerie, from the theaters of Brest and Algeria, will appear as Bettina. The

usual price of admission." A roll of wheels announced the arrival of the diligence, which halted at the hotel opposite, and the passengers alighted with a great deal of noise, the women precipitating themselves from the interior like a cloud of wasps, deaf-

"Late, as usual, Matthew. Where is my new muff? Matthew, where is Totor's mechanical horse?" And Matthew, with his fat face flashed and framed in the ear laps of his cap, dived down into the hood of the imperial, which was inflated like a

balloon, and withdrew packages and "Come. Matthew, the abbe's new eassock," said Jeanne. "Matthew, have you my cassock?" suddenly cried from a window in the Hotel du Dauphin a man who displayed a face covered with soap, a napkin

around his neck and a shaving brush The driver introduced his arm anew into the hood and after a careful search drew forth two parcels of un-

"Here is something for you, Mile. Jeanne. And here, M. Artemon, is all that was given me for M. Hochary's company." And from the top of the diligence he held out a long, narrow card box to the comedian, who leaned forward to receive it. In its aerial transit the cover, which had been badly tied on, fell to the ground, and a wig of yellow hair was caught by Artemon on the wing, like a flag float-

"Bettina's wig!" exclaimed the excited actor. "Bettina's wig and not my cassock, the cassock of the Abbe Constantin. Where the devil have you

"On my word of honor, I have nothing else," asserted Matthew, displaying his empty hands.

llow! There has Hed despairingly to Jeanne, the had carned away with -) sure that you

inghity housekeeper disdainfully. Down the states M. Artemon flew. four steps at a time, and rushed into the greencoon, where the rest of the company were assembled. His hurried entrance filled them all with conster-

'My friends," he exclaimed tragically, "the posters must be changed or the performance postponed. I can not play the role of the Abbe Constantin tonight."

"Artemon," said a cavernous voice, "what is the meaning of this caprice? What of the box office money, the expenses of the programmes and the advertisements? You know as well as I do that we are at the end of our resources and that our last venture was a failure. Don't try your Mile. Mars on us, my good fellow. We play to-

night? "But can you not understand? I have not a cassock?" gasped the unhappy Artemon, letting his arms fall with dejection.

"Cannot a cassock be improvised with a black dress and a cloak of one of the ladies?" hazarded Hochary. "The ladies are much too short and slight," gronned Artemon, who rejoiced in an imposing corpulency. "As for me, I have only the Figure costume. Peruvian pantaloons and the

Sarsaparilla and you will be WELL. "For heaven's sake, ladies, aid us

with your suggestions! We must play

the piece at any cost." The situation was critical for the poor artists, whose present tour had been far from successful. The leading man then proposed to gallop at full speed to the neighboring city, but | The Abbe Constantin must not call this suggestion was not deemed prac-

"What is to be done? There is not one garb of the required kind among | filled with tears, and he reiterated his the properties of this accursed hole," repeated Hochary in an outburst of

Suddenly Artemon struck his forehead violently, and his entire bearing denoted a genuine inspiration. "Ah, my friends," he exclaimed, in voice full of emotion, "what a wild hope! So much the worse. I will attempt the adventure. It is our only hope of salvation."

In a few words he explained. "Come to my arms, my son!" exclaimed M. Hochary, extending his legs with enthusiasm. And Artemon ran off to finish his shaving, to don his black frock coat and then direct his steps to the cure's.

Happily for the actor, Jeanne was the chorus children who innocently tumes, who bowed their heads reopened the door of the rectory and introduced the visitor into the room where the good cure was terminating his devotions. At the sight of this apparition M. Lamier became fixed upon his seat like a statue. His good, rosy visage, usually so calm, was now flushed to the roots of his thin, white hair, and instinctively he clasped his book to his breast.

Meanwhile satan's instrument bowed deferentially. "No, M. le Cure," he said; "it is not alms we ask. Lend us simply your

"My cassock!" gasped the Abbe Lamier, astonished. "You wish my cassock?"

"The oldest and most wornout in your possession, one that you may have thrown aside," Artemon hastened to say. "I am to play tonight the role of the Abbe Constantin, and I cannot represent my character without conforming to its demands and carrying out its sacerdotal dignity."

M. Lamier sprang from his seat. "Do you think for a moment, monsieur," he said, overcome by surprise and anger, "to profane a gown that has served at worship and to make me the accomplice of these sinful amusements? Your ignorance respecting holy things and religion is your only excuse."

"Pardon me, M. le Cure," continued the actor, slightly embarrassed, but not the less determined. "It would not be the first time religion has lent its aid to the drama. Do you recall the celebrated mysteries of the middle ages? Moreover, I was educated in a seminary, and it was there I was led to adopt the vocation of actor in playing the role of Athalie for the fete of the superior." M. Lamier, without being disarmed, looked again at the actor with new interest. If this unhappy man had followed a bad calling, his point of departure had at least been good. His neart could not, therefore, be corroded throughout, and perhaps it would be possible to point out to him the error

"How comes it," said the abbe, with bitterness, "that you play on Christ-

"Alas, M. le Cure," replied Artemon, with simplicity, "we must eat on that night, as on any other!" M. Lamier was touched to the heart by this reply. "Poor fellow!" The soul of the good priest was filled with

the speaker anything. "But," he grouned, looking plaintively at Artemon, "can you not choose another piece rather than expose a servant of God to the risk of such a sacrilege and also to risk perverting the souls of those disposed to be fer-

"You see, M. le Cure, you have never attended the theater."

Artemon approached him confiden-

"But-well, certainly not," replied the abbe, startled by the very idea. "It is for that very reason that you regard it as a place of evil. Why, the theater is the school of morals which seconds those of the church. Our dramas are simply sermons put into action. There is no piece in which virtue is not lauded and vice and hypocrisy scourged. Ah. it is a noble work, that of the comedian, in the eyes of those

who understand it!" "What a pity this Artemon is not a preacher." thought M. Lamier, fascinated. "His large face, closely shaved, with its cheeks like a Dominican, would look very well in a pulpit, and his insinuating voice and speaking gestures would be very effective for

"Among us, I dare to say, there are many good fellows," continued Artemon. "United households, good mothers of families, good citizens, abound

He proceeded to cite examples. Mlle. Valerie, a child of the stage, who was the support of her parents; M. and Mme. Hocharay, models of conjugal tenderness-one and all held their hearts in their hands and never refused a service or kindness to a comrade, never refused to do a good work, a good ac-

"Is an actor ever to be seen on the culprit's stool except for debt?" said the comedian, bringing his warm panegyric to a close. "It is true we are, for the most part, roving grasshoppers, and grasshoppers have not any more chance today than they had in La

Fontaine's time.' The words were spoken with discouragement, owing to the immovability of the cure. As he spoke the actor arose and brushed his hat with gloomy

"Well," he sighed, "we alone shall The Immense Patronage Which We Have Had for Years and That Largely Without Dillmmers, world besides will be blithe and hap py. M. le Cure, pardon me for having taken up so much of your time."

He turned toward the door. The old priest aroused himself. "Jeanne," he called in a loud voice, full of the exaltation of triumphant charity, "bring me at once my new cas-"Ah, M. le Cure!" exclaimed the actor,

overcome by the unexpected success and pressing the priest's hands with ef. And if they cannot get the Tobacco at the Home Market they will hire men to buy it on other As Jeanne entered with the cassock upon her arm in great folds the priest

rebuked her for loitering. "Now bring me my shoes with the silver buckles. Run quickly! Why, a snail would go as fast. Is it not so, M. Actor? And a hat also-you must

"Are you going to lend your clothes to the theater, M. le Cure-your new cassock-you, who will hold mass at midnight"-

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continuance of the same, we are.

have a hat." "What?" said Jeanne, shuddering,

"Truly, I do not ask so much," protested Artemon, confused, while the cure laid the cassock on his arm. "An old cassock would serve my purpose. I beg that you will not deprive your-

"What are you thinking?" replied M. Lamier. "Beneath the robes my cassock will not be seen, while yours will be, so to say, under fire, and if the rents were viewed it would be a pity. forth ridicule." "How can we ever prove our gratitude?" said the actor, his eyes actually

thanks until he had crossed the threshold of the door. "My dear fellow," said the cure in a trembling voice, fearing to appear to place a price upon his kindness, "go as quickly as possible, accomplish what you have to do and return when the performance is over to attend the

midnight mass. The good God will

thus be satisfied with you, and I also."

On this evening Artemon fairly vi-

brated with emotions, surpassing him-

self in his acting. When, before the gloriously illuminated altar, the good pastor extended his arms lovingly above the crowd kneeling before him, he trembled with joy to perceive, at the lower end of the lateral aisle, among the workmen and absent putting the last touches on the laborers, a group of men and women church decorations, and it was one of with weary faces and varied cos-



"WHAT? ARE YOU GOING TO LEND YOUR CLOTHES TO THE THEATER?" spectfully under the benediction. The poor people had also arranged a little surprise for their benefactor, and the weak but expressive voice of Valerle sang with warmth the "Christmas of Adam," accompanied by a harmonium. Whatever may have been their past, or whatsoever the future might have in store for them, for that hour at least a ray of God's grace had filled their souls, recalling the sweet and holy remembrances of their childhood. "Peace on earth and good will toward men! Hosanna in the highest?" The Abbe Lamier, in an ecstasy of whenever the dog felt a craving for mercy and love, raised his dazzled eyes toward the vanited roof and seemed to see at this sacred moment,

Galilee, surrounded by the miserable and worthless, and whose feet the sinful woman had wiped with her golden hair.-San Francisco Call. Think of a first-class, up-to-date magazine for only \$1.00 a year. That is what McClure's Magazine is and it's only one dollar a year or ten cents a copy. Cheap, isn't it? You'll think so when you see it. Send and get a

among the quivering wings of the an-

gels and the sparkle of the stars, the

luminous smile of the Saviour who

walked upon the roads of Samaria and

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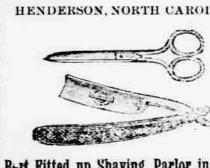
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