

**The Wise Men
And the Star.**
How Did They Know They Should
Follow It?

THEIR INQUIRY OF HEROD
They must Have Been Readers
of the Prophecies in the
Scriptures of the
Hebrews.

How did the Wise Men know
to follow the Star?

The answer perhaps may be
found in the question they asked
of the cruel and crafty Herod:

"Where is He that is born
King of the Jews? For we have
seen His star in the east, and are
come to worship Him."

The ancient wise men of the
Oriental countries were astrologers.
That is, children, they
were star-students. You read
the electric letters of storr signs
at night and they spell things to
you. A royal writer, who had
once tended sheep on star-lit
Judean hillsides, long afterward
wrote:

"The heavens declare the glory
of God."

That is what God's electric letters
in the midnight sky spelled
to David.

The greatest "glory of God"
was His own Son.

When He was born God sent a
star to beckon Wisdom to wor-
ship beside His manger-cradle, as
a beacon light summons a storm-
tossed ship to the safety of a
harbor.

But when the Wise Men saw a

new and strange star in the
skies, that no star-books had
ever told about before, how did
these good men know that it
meant for them to mount their
camels and ride across the desert?

They must have had, amongst
all the great books in their libra-
ries, The Sacred Scriptures of
the Hebrews. In the book of
Numbers they had read:

"There shall come a Star out
of Jacob and a Sceptre shall
rise out of Israel."

The Star spoke of glory and
the Scepter of royalty. They
coupled with this prophecy of a
glorious king another prophecy,
which said that He should be
born a little Baby, somewhere in
the country of the Jews; for they

must also have read in the book
of Isaiah: "For unto you a child
is born * * * and the govern-
ment shall be upon His shoulder."
* * * And of the increase of His
government and peace there
shall be no end, upon the throne
of David."

Putting all these things to-
gether, the Wise Men concluded
that the time had come when
this royal Person would appear
in the world.

Notice in the question they
asked Herod the word "born,"
the expression "King of the
Jews," and the word "star." Are
not these clues which show how
the Wise Men came to know the
significance of the wonderful
star? If they had not read the
Prophecies, they would not have
understood the Star, and would
have missed the King!

These prophecies came literally
true, as every other prophecy in
the Book either has or will come
true. The Wise Men had the
Old Testament prophecies. We
today have the Old Testament
and the New Testament also,

and in the latter is a place where
prophecy and a star are spoken
of together. In the second letter
of Peter, it reads:

"We have also a more sure word
of prophecy: whereunto, ye do
well that ye take heed, as unto a
light that shineth in a dark
place, until the day dawn, and
the Day-Star arise in your
hearts."

This is just a newspaper
Christmas sermonette suggested
by the beautiful story of the
Star.

Nine Have No Corkscrews.

Nine United States Senators,
says a Washington Dispatch to
The Baltimore Sun, will either
have to do without corkscrews or
buy them out of their pockets
unless something is done by
Charles G. Bennett, secretary of
the Senate. Mr. Bennett's annual
report of the property in the
Senate stationary room, in his
charge, contains this item:

"Eighty-three corkscrews,
\$20.36."

There are 92 Senators. About
a year ago Mr. Bennett got mad
because the newspapers said
things about the way Senators
were getting everything from
rolltop desks to sewing machines
on their "stationary" accounts.
All of a sudden he ordered ev-
erything out of the stationary
room but stationery—and cork-
screws.

The Prudent Man Foreseeth.

The evil and provides his fami-
ly with a jar of Vick's Croup &
Pneumonia Salve and nips these
dangerous troubles in the bud.
Best Remedy ever offered the
public and money back if not de-
lighted. 25, 50 & \$1.00 jars.

Gaiety at Gunpowder.
Correspondence of the Democrat.

Gunpowder, Dec. 20.—Our
school will suspend Thursday un-
til after the holidays. Miss
Hendley, the teacher, will spend
Christmas at her home near Le-
noir.

B. P. Sherrill is having his
house finished. He started quite
extensive improvements on his
dwelling house during the sum-
mer, but suspended work until
last week. Mr. N. H. Lowrance,
of Hickory, has the "work in
charge."

There is to be an entertain-
ment in G. W. Sherrill's store
building advertised as the Sher-
rill Private School, on Monday
night, Dec. 27, at 7:30. Some
clever artists are billed, and a
nice time is anticipated. A small
admission will be charged.

We are expecting Santa Claus
to visit us as usual on next Fri-
day night.

There will be preaching at
Rocky Mount on the first Sunday
in January at three o'clock by
the pastor, Rev. Mr. Holloway.

Mr. Roby Teague and family,
from Watauga county, have
moved into Mr. John Brinkley's
house and will farm for him.

The best pill is DeWitt's Little
Early Risers—the safe, easy, pleasant
and sure little liver pills. DeWitt's Car-
bolized Witch Hazel Salve is the origi-
nal. Good for cuts, burns or bruises,
and especially for piles. Sold by C.
M. Shuford and W. S. Martin.

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- Double Barrelled Hammer Guns
from \$8.00 to \$12.50.
- Double Barrelled Hammerless Guns
from \$13.00 to \$20.00.

All are standard makes
of Guns and are guar-
anteed to be as repre-
sented.

If you will ever need a Gun, now is the
time to buy. See our line before buying.

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**Shuford
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When you think of remembering your gen-
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appreciate most of all, for you know men are
extremely practical beings, and presents that are
useful and practical appeal to them.

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| Bath Robes, 3.50 to 7.00 | Tie and Hose sets, 1.00 |
| Lounging Robes 5.00 to 15. | Suspenders, 25c to 1.50 |
| Mufflers, 60c to 2.50 | Handkerchiefs, 5c to 50c |
| Hand Bags, 3.00 to 17.50 | Guaranteed Hosiery 1.50 box |
| Suit Cases, 2.00 to 12.50 | Tie Rings, leather, 1.00 |
| Neckwear, 25c to 1.00 | |

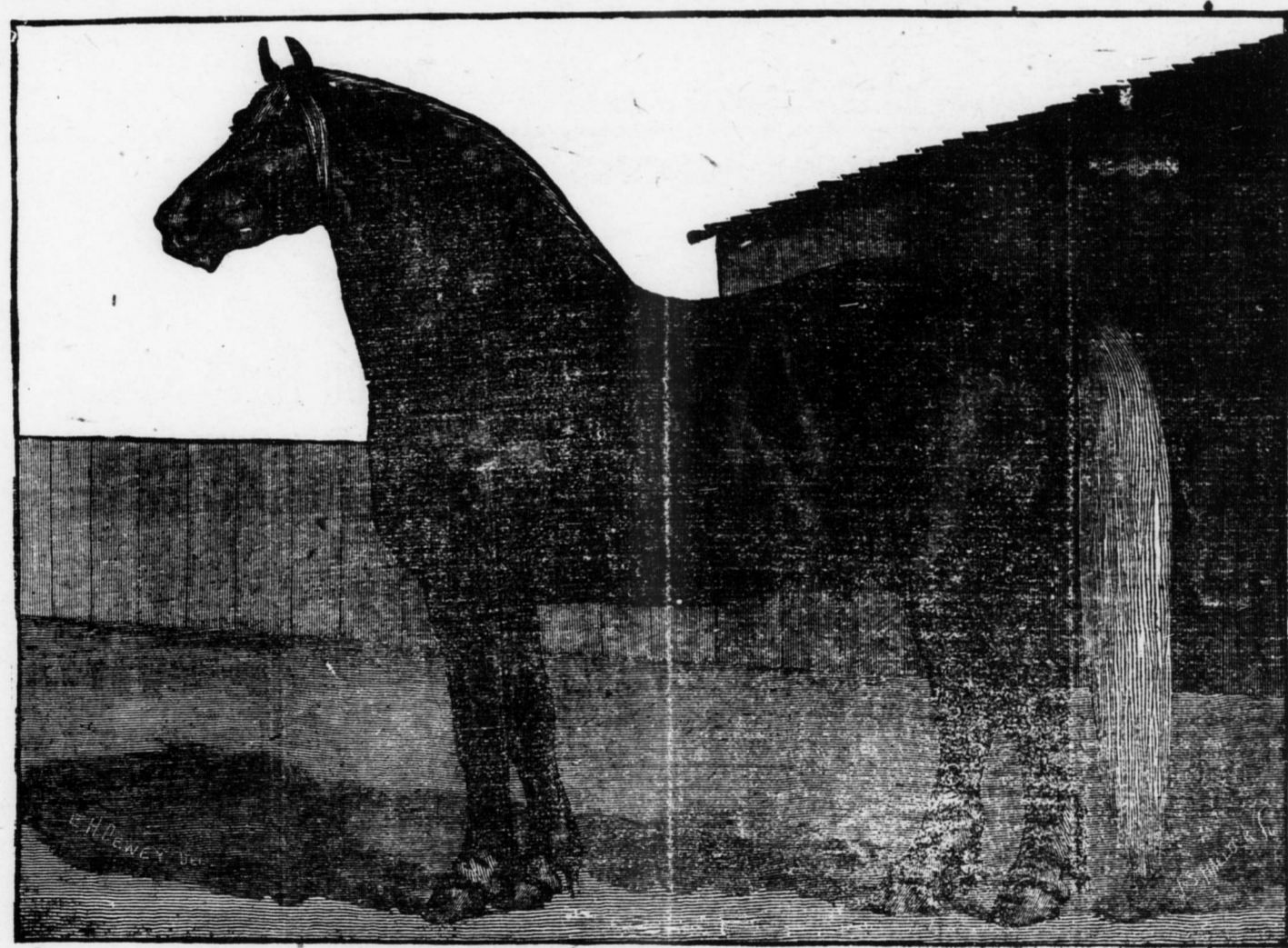
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Good Farm Horses and Mares, Good Pairs of Mules, and a lot of
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ness. Come in and see what we have—we can suit you.

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