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"Is The Church Failing?"

"Is the church failing" is a question that is frequently asked, and is really giving some concern to church people. Perhaps no other people care.

There are, of course, a few people who are actually at war with the church and are always fighting it and all it stands for. Yet that is not the point of danger. The open enemy is not so bad. It is the sleeping indifferent—that fellow that is hardly forer scarcely against you—that is neglecting the church.

Strangely, it seems that man does not require perfection except in the church. He is willing to endure trouble with his pleasure car, to pass up a bad picture tonight and rush back tomorrow night. But the church must be perfect or it is deserted and left cold. When the people of a community so desert the church that less than four per cent attend church on a bright Sunday night, when the bright stars of the Christmas season

CHRISTMAS BEING CROWDED OUT OF NEWSPAPERS

It can't be so long before Santa Claus and Christmas will have to take a back seat in the columns of the new papers and let crimes, scandal, and wrecks go in front. This class of news is becoming so prevalent that something will have to yield space. Of course there is such a thing as leaving a few scandals, wrecks, and crimes go by unnoticed. Then there is one other alternative, we will have to be more careful and avoid such happenings.

But to Old Santa we pledge ourselves to the last letter.

OUR GREETING

While this little greeting is being printed many hundreds of times, we want each of our readers to know that we are placing behind it enough sincere wishes for every one of them to have the most enjoyable Christmas ever.

In spite of the fact that greetings to a paper are seldom sent, we wish to mention our most sincere appreciation for the good wishes sent us by a few friends. We assure each of

THIN, NERVOUS

Virginia Lady Tells of Taking Cardui and Says She Has Since Recovered Perfect Health.

Lynchburg, Va.—"I have taken Cardui several times for a run-down condition and have found it perfectly splendid," says Mrs. Lee T. Marsh, 715 First Street, this city.

"About ten years ago," she explains, "I became so weak I could not go about. I looked like a skeleton and... was dreadfully worried about myself. A friend suggested Cardui and I decided to try it."

"I kept up the medicine until I had taken six bottles. It regulated and built me up. I improved greatly. Last year we drove up here through the country from Florida. I was exposed to the weather and must have taken cold, for I became ill... I got run-down, lost flesh, could not sleep and had no appetite at all. I was so nervous that I did not know what to do."

"I thought of Cardui. I began to take it regularly and it was not long before I began to feel better. I took six bottles, one after another, and at the finish of the last one was perfectly well again. Since then I have steadily gained in weight and all winter have been in perfect health."

Sold by all druggists. NC-172



Things To Think About

By JAMES D. TAYLOR

CHEERFULNESS

Recently I met an old gentleman on the train who had a most wonderful personality. On this crowded through train were many passengers who were very tired and weary with long travel. Some apparently had not slept well the night before, and to others it seemed the food served on the train was not to their liking. All of us were looking very gloomy when in walked this kind old man.

He first went into the smoker, where sat many of my fellow passengers who appeared to be bored with everything in general. It took the kind old man just a few minutes to change the expression on our faces. With his good pleasing personality he just drew us to him. Gloom disappeared and in came cheerfulness.

Too soon he left us and went back to his seat in the Pullman. Across from him a man and his wife and two small children were seated. It was very evident that they were not enjoying themselves. The man and wife seemed to be in disagreement about every subject discussed. One could plainly see they were feeling pretty bad. The children were very irritable.

The kind and loving old gentleman, in his own good way, started a conversation, and as I expected soon had the father and mother calling each other "dear" and "honey," and in the best of spirits. The two small children fell completely in love with the old man and soon the two were also smiling and in a happy mood. They again were gleeful and playful and interesting as only children are when happy.

Probably our friend will never know just how much good he did during his short ride with us. He came among passengers who were blue and discontented. Perhaps some of them were returning from an unsuccessful business trip. Some probably knew

that bad news awaited them at the end of the trip. Others were just tired and weary when the cheerful man entered and changed the picture of gloom to that of cheerfulness and good will. He brought happiness, and happiness always leads to good will among people.

And this means everything. That's why Christmas means so much. It brings good cheer. Since time began, many holidays have been created, others discontinued or seldom thought of. But Christmas for 1900 years has meant something and will always mean more to men and women than any other day. The reason is so obvious. On this day a child was born, and He was called Jesus. He brought cheer and happiness. Once each year people are made glad by giving gifts and bringing a joy that is not experienced on any other day. Christmas Day is so different. I am sure the reason it is so beautiful and so good is because Jesus seems to be nearer when there is more "peace on earth and good will toward men."

It's more'n strange—we wish for Christmas about 345 days of the 365, and use the remaining ones saying we are glad it's over.

One present given in the right spirit offers more pleasure to the giver than a dozen through a selfish cause.

"CHRISTMAS"

By Marina Roberson
Of all the old festivals we can not recall one that awakens such strong and heart-felt associations as that of Christmas. There seems to be a solemn and sacred feeling that lifts the spirit to a more elevated enjoyment. The church services are very tender and inspiring at this season of the year. They dwell on the same beautiful story of Jesus and His love, which never grows old.

Too, this has been made the time for the assembling of family connections, and drawing closer those bands of kindred hearts. Many boys and girls, who have wandered forth in life, once more gather around the old paternal hearth, and there recall loving affections of childhood. Each countenance is bright with smiles when that great morning breaks farth. Really, there is something charm-

ing in this season of the year. At other times, we seek pleasure from the beauty of Nature, when we can hear the sweet songs of birds, the murmur of the rill and various things that attract us. But in the depths of winter we no longer wish to ramble abroad, for the dreariness of the landscape, and the short gloomy days check our desire for adventure. We then feel the charm of each other's

society, and are brought more closely together by dependence on each other for enjoyment. Writers have said that happiness was reflective like the light of heaven. Surely, every face that is bright with smiles and glowing enjoyment transmits happiness to others, as a mirror reflects rays of light. This is the time for regenerated feelings, and a flame of charity in

our hearts. It recalls that great morning, when low in a manger, our dear Saviour was born. There was no one to receive or believe Him except the angels and wise men. Now the story of His Glory has spread far and wide. He is our Comforter, and dearest Friend in sadness or in happiness. And if we follow Him, He will never forsake us. This is why we celebrate His birthday as we do.

Santa's On His Way

AND HE IS BRINGING JEWELRY FROM BELL'S



Santa is on his way to select your present, but you must help him or he may select the wrong article. He has made this store his headquarters for 67 years, and knows that whatever he gets here will be right in price, as well as in quality and that our guarantee stands back of everything we sell.

Jewelry for every occasion and for every member of the family. Come in and help Santa select what you want most. Here is a partial list of our offerings for Christmas:

- Diamonds
- Rings
- Earrings
- Neck Chains
- Brooches
- Vanities
- Bar Pins
- Silver Buckles
- Cuff Links
- Scarf Pins
- Silverware
- Pearls
- Bracelets
- Necklaces
- Ivory Pyralin
- Lockets
- Mesh Bags
- Belt Buckles
- Watch Chains
- Watches
- Cigarette Cases

A New Shipment of Attractive Artificial Flowers and Decorated Candles. Don't Forget Our Wrist Watch Special, \$10.00

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Washington, N. C.

Gold Store



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E. L. Ward, Store Manager

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CHRISTMAS NECESSITIES AT ROCK BOTTOM PRICES

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- CHOCOLATE DROPS pound, 25c
- FRENCH MIXTURE CREAMS pound, 25c
- ASSORTED CHOCOLATES 3 pounds, 95c
- MARSHMALLOWS, lb. 35c

NUTS

- ALMONDS, pound 31c
- WALNUTS, pound 37c
- BRAZIL NUTS, pound 20c
- MIXED NUTS, pound 29c
- COCONUTS, EACH, EXTRA QUALITY 12 1-2c and 15c

- TUB BUTTER pound, 61c
- Lard, Old Glory, lb. 11½c

- Loose Coconut, pound 25c
- Baker's Coconut, can 17c
- Baker's Chocolate 10c and 21c
- Baker's Cocoa 10c and 20c
- Hypolite, 1 pint 25c
- Jell-O, all flavors 10c
- Jellies 10c and 15c
- Gelatine, Chalmer's 15c
- Red Wing Jam 27c
- Sugar, pound 10c

- RAISIN, SEEDED AND SEEDLESS, package 12 1-2c
- ROYAL ANNE CHERRIES bottle, 42c
- NATIONAL FRUIT CAKE 5 lbs., \$3.75
- CRANBERRY SAUCE, OCEAN SPRAY 25c

- Raisins, lb. . 19c
- Dates, pk. . 22c
- Figs, pk. . 10c

Cranberries, Lettuce, and Celery—Plenty of Country Eggs, Fresh

WE WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY AND MERRY CHRISTMAS

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For Any Information, Write

NEWELL G. BARTLETT, SECRETARY-MANAGER
Kinston, N. C.

Enjoy the Holidays Attend this Big Exposition