

BETHLEHEM, MARKS THE NEW BOUNDARY LINE IN HUMAN HISTORY.

By Rev. W. Harrison, Charlottetown. A well informed traveler tells us that midway down the Simpson Pass the tourist passes to read upon a stone by the wayside the single word "Italia." The Alpine pines cling to the mountain sides between whose steep the rough way winds. The snows cover the peaks and the brooks are frozen to the precipices. The traveler wraps his cloak about him against the frost that reigns undisputed upon those ancient thrones of ice-bound rock. But at the point where that stone with the word "Italia" stands, he passes a boundary line. From there the way begins into another world. Soon almost every step makes plainer how great has been the change from Switzerland to Italy. The brooks unbound, leap laughing and making their own sweet music over the cliffs. The snows have melted from the path. The air grows warm and fragrant. The regiments of hard pine no longer struggle in broken lines up the mountain side. The leaves of the Olive trees glisten in the sunshine. The vines follow the wayside. The very sky seems near and kind. And below, in the verdant, Lake Magiore, before him, as he rests at evening time he knows that the entrance into a new world was marked by the word "Italia" upon that stone at the summit of the pass.

So in a much higher sense humanity has crossed a new boundary line between two eras up to Bethlehem was one way growing bleaker and more barren and colder as the human race hastened on. Down from Bethlehem has been another and sunnier, happier time. The one civilization was as Switzerland shut in among its icy Alps; the other is as the genial and fruitful plain. The coming of the Christ-Child meant a difference, such as no other child's has ever made. That birth marked the entrance into the sphere of sense and time of one who had existed from Eternity and involved more important consequences to the human race than any other birth has ever done, of all who looked, that first Christmas night on the Babe of Bethlehem, there was not one—not Herod, nor the wise men, nor the shepherds, nor Joseph nor even Mary herself nor any mortal on any single spot of the old, old world,—who so much as dreamed of all that he was to bring to pass. It is no romance but sober fact when we say that when Mary's Son was born volume one in the world's strange tumultuous history was closed and volume two was opened. Something happened that holy and forever memorable night while men the wide world around were sleeping and only a few shepherds were watching which ushered in a new era in the world's thrilling and unceasing pilgrimage. The old passed away and the new period began and only the angels knew what a revolution had been wrought by the quiet, amazing power of God.

The wonder of that day after the Advent has grown with majestic movement of all subsequent years, and Christianity has been and will continue to be an increasing miracle of the Lord's presence and power on our sorrowing and needy earth. Every time we write the figures "1911" we bear witness to the fact that, for us at least, there are but two great divisions in the world's wonderful story: The world B. C. and the world A. D.; and the boundary line runs by the manger—cradle of Bethlehem. We must remember that the world's change of the world's history is a fact that is brilliant but definitive and vanishing dreams. It is a fact in many ways realized and accomplished in the most tangible and appealing form. Men sometimes say: "We cannot walk in the air. We must step to our conclusions upon solid facts."

"These Christian conclusions are devoutly to be desired; but we can go no further than we can find firm footing from fact to fact of experience. In the fact of a changed world and that world grandly, surely changed by the coming of Christ into its history and manifold affairs, we have a fact just as certain as the battle of Waterloo or the Island of St. Helena or the dawn of day. One of the most recreative forces which came with the advent of Jesus was the new revelation of God. Man never saw God in Christ as man never saw God before. The one word which declares and unfolds God is Christ. God is essentially and eternally Christlike. Thus God the infinite and unconditional projects Himself in Christ into His own creation and manifests itself as never before to finite intelligence, and what this has meant to the human race is still means it is well-nigh impossible to express. It has proved and potential influence in ancient and modern life. Before this great historical manifestation of God, agnosticism, atheism, deism, and the whole brood of heathenisms must pass away. This is the revelation which is yet to possess the thoughts and faith of humanity and rule a redeemed universe by its gracious and unwavering power Christ brought and made wonderfully clear a new revelation of man.

The Gospel of the Incarnation means not only the coming down of God but the lifting up of man. Man, not this man or that man but in the course of time man everywhere. Our common human nature is stamped with a new value, clothed with new meaning and dignity, because God has become man. Nineteen hundred years ago this conception must have sounded in the ears of that world and especially in the ears of man.

the heathen masters of that world as an insufferable and grossly absurd exaggeration. Think of the actual condition of the overwhelming majority of the human race when this new and glorious evangel was first proclaimed.

In the City of Rome during the first century of the Christian era the historian Mosen tells us that 900,000 were slaves. Think of it; three out of every five men and women whom St. Paul passed on the streets of the Imperial City, were slaves with less rights in the eyes of the law than your dog. The same was true of Athens. Let us look for a moment or two at the actual conditions which prevailed in Rome when she was the mistress of the world and we shall find scenes after scene of the most revolting brutalities not perpetuated in some dark corner of that metropolitan city but spectacles in inhumanity in the broad daylight and exhibitions of hellish cruelty carried out and enjoyed by the aristocracy of that ancient time. "Young gladiators had a boon companion who had never seen a man endure the agonies of death and to gratify his curiosity, the young patrician ordered a strong slave to be brought and butchered before them."

Pollio, had an Aquarium of Lamprays and one day found out that they preferred human flesh to anything else and he had young slaves whose flesh was tender, frequently cut up into thin slices as a delicacy for his favorite fish. Cato, the elder, made his money by raising and working slaves chained in gangs and they were cattle. Many of these Roman princes and patricians owned ten thousand slaves and more than one had twenty thousand. It was to entertain the well-to-do idlers of Rome that amphitheatres were built where until the thousands fought human blood and the coliseum echoed and re-echoed to the cries and groans of wounded and dying men.

Julius Caesar furnished from his prisoners of war three hundred and twenty pairs of gladiators. Titus got up a carnival of human carnage which lasted for more than one hundred days. Trajan celebrated a victory by exhibiting five thousand in mortal combat. A Domitian excelled himself and discovered a new sensation for those degraded and bloody days by arranging a battle between dwarfs and women. And the horrible climax of brutal refinement was reached when the first people of Rome gathered together at these human shambles, aesthetically to study the lines and curves drawn by the death agony upon the faces of the fallen. These are samples of a civilization which glutted with blood fed with slaughter and amused with death the people." But the new Power came, and Jesus Christ is that Power and the vital determining factor, the fact behind all other facts is the new doctrine of the worth of man which came into the world that first Christmas morning.

It would be a matter of comparative ease to show how the commanding modern philanthropies, the great enlargement of human freedom, the agencies which are co-operating in never before for the uplifting of all races find their origin and sustaining inspirations in the Divine impulse which descended into human history when Jesus appeared among men.

At this distance and with our familiarity with the Completed Gospel it is difficult to understand the hopeless world before He came and the stupendous changes for the better. He had not failed to secure. We breathe a different air, we cherish loftier hopes and aims and live in a world whose mental and moral, social and religious climates has been changed by the Christianity of the Son of God.

We cannot by any culture or desperate effort of any kind work out of our blood and brain of these 2,000 years of Christian teaching and impulse and it is an act of folly to attempt to ignore or renounce the century-long influence which they have had upon us. The mind, the conditions, the aspirations of the world before Christ is not by any measurement we may choose the mind, the condition, the custom of today. No! We must not forget the new boundary line running by the manger—cradle of Bethlehem, nor the world as Christ found it, and the world as Christ has made and is still making it.

The late Gail Hamilton once said: "It requires no learning to see that if the Spirit of Christ and everything which has come from it into the life of the world could suddenly and completely burned out of the memory and consciousness and record of man society would be a chaos."

POOR RECOMMENDATION.

A young Scotchman living in London married a beautiful and talented Englishwoman, of whom he was justly proud. Not long after his marriage he went to Scotland on a flying trip to see an old bachelor uncle. "Well, Tammas, ye have gotten a wife," said the old gentleman, "now what can she do, lad?" "Do!" echoed "Tammas." "Yes, do," repeated his uncle firmly. "Can she sew on your buttons an' make your porritch an' your scones?" "Oh, no, she doesn't know how to do those things," said Tammas. "But she has the loveliest voice that ever you heard. She's a grand singer." "Hoot, mon!" cried his uncle, indignantly. "Oould you see get a canary in Lunnon?"—Youth's Commonwealth and especially in the ears of man.

CHARLOTTETOWN AND QUEEN'S COUNTY

It pays to buy in this Province.

Percy Mutch, Earncliffe, was in the city yesterday. He reports the roads in a very rough condition.

Kenneth McLean, City, the young man who was injured in the accident on Saturday night, is doing very well. The broken collar bone, which had been temporarily bandaged at the time, has been reset and the patient is now doing nicely.

Cowan McKinnon, Vernon River, has been served with a summons for a first offence against the prohibition act. Inspector Jenkins is prosecuting and the case will come up before Stipendiary Magistrate Shaw in this city this morning.

The many friends of Mrs. (Capt.) Malcolm McEachern, (nee Jessie Macdonald), who, as may be remembered, entered the Vancouver, B. C., General Hospital on the 29th ult., to undergo a surgical operation, will be glad to learn that, in a letter received by her father, Jas. McDonald, late of H. M. Customs, the Superintendent states that she has done very well and is progressing favorably.

The Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, Charlottetown, held their annual meeting on Tuesday night. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Pres.—W. N. Riggs; Vice Pres.—H. Fitzgerald; Chairman—John O'Neill; Secy.—J. H. Monaghan; Treas.—L. L. McInnis; Warden—Joseph Power; Reporter—R. Meikle; Messenger—Joseph Praught; Inside Guard—Geo. Ingraham; Outside Guard—J. Raymond Praught; Past President—M. McLeod; The branch has had a most successful year, adding thirteen members to the membership roll and closing with a credit balance of \$60. The officers' reports, as submitted, were satisfactory and were adopted.

An Ottawa correspondent writes:—Among the successful candidates in the recent civil service examinations for clerkships in the second division of the inside service, held at Ottawa in November, was William R. Todd, of Bradalbane, P.E.I. Mr. Todd came to Ottawa last May, as clerk in the Census Department, and has since held an important position on the Census Staff. Skillful and painstaking in his work, and genial and obliging in his manner, he has made many friends in the Capital, as was evidenced by the numerous congratulations he received on his success. His many friends on the Island will be pleased to learn of his promotion. Hugh McCallum, who heads the second division list, is also a P. E. Islander, and has, for some time, been employed in the Post Office Department. There are several other natives of the Garden Province in important positions in the Capital. Though exiles, we do not forget the land of our birth, and wherever we meet, we always have a thought and a word for our Island. What other island is there? To the Guardian and its many readers we extend best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

The New London North Farmers' Institute held a most interesting meeting in Long River Hall on Saturday evening, December 16th, the Vice-President, J. Bradford Millman, presiding. The subject before the meeting was that suggested by the Department of Agriculture for the month of December, viz., The Poultry Industry. Many phases of the question were discussed—Poultry houses, breeds, feeding, marketing of pullets, marketing of eggs, noising, etc. The opening address by Elphinstone Hovatt was well received by the audience. Mr. Hovatt has for some time been improving his poultry. He favored the Barred Plymouth Rock as the best general purpose hen, and emphasized the need of keeping grit in poultry houses at all times, and the necessity of putting only strictly fresh eggs on the market. The address by John R. Marks was the actual experience of one who has taken more than usual interest in poultry raising for a number of years, and was listened to with deep interest by all present. He attended the meeting by special request, not being a member, but at the close of the meeting expressed his desire to become a member of the Institute. Others taking part in the discussion were the vice-president, John Bernard, J. N. Evans, Wm. Johnstone and the Secretary. Many questions were asked Mr. Hovatt and Mr. Marks during their addresses, which brought out most interesting information. The meeting was adjourned till Friday evening, the 22nd, when it is hoped a larger number, both of members and visitors, will be present to discuss this important branch of agriculture. The bulletins issued by the Department of Agriculture were much appreciated and of great assistance to the speakers.

The School that has won the confidence of the people." Union Commercial College. 8-31dtf.

Miss Edith Huntly, teacher of the Earncliffe School, paid a flying visit to her parents in Charlottetown, returning yesterday morning.

Cephas Munn, Winsloe Road, who was one of the principal sheep exhibitors at the recent Amherst Winter Fair, won seventeen prizes: five firsts, five seconds, two thirds, four fourths and one sixth, besides taking first and second in the black test with the keenest of competition. Mr. Munn has well deserved the many congratulations received on his success.

The firm of Prowse Bros. & Co., Ltd., city, have greatly improved the appearance of the interior of their store by night by providing increased lighting throughout the entire store. The old Keros Lights have been replaced by the powerful tungstens now placed throughout the various departments and to those who have been familiar with the old system the great improvement made by the installation of the new lamps will be at once apparent. These lamps are of the tungsten variety and range in power from 200 c.p. to 400 c.p., both giving an extremely bright and radiant light. Their many customers will appreciate the firm's evident concern for their convenience and the assistance afforded in making their purchases. Another feature of the new lights is the abolition of the odor which almost invariably accompanies the keros lights. The firm are to be congratulated on the marked improvement effected by their latest change.

CITY TAXES—A list of names for unpaid city taxes will be advertised in a few days—Parties that have not paid will please take notice. 11-28dtf.

The Earl Grey will leave Charlottetown at 7.30 in the morning. Returning will leave Picout at 2 p.m., making round trips daily until further notice. The C. G. S. Minto will leave Summerside at 7.30 a.m. and Tormentine at 2.30 p.m., making daily round trips until further notice. 11-21d3t.

BROWNIE



Cameras \$2.00 to \$10.00 Johnson & Johnson

Hundreds of Boxes of Chocolates

await your inspection at our store. Our assortment of Neillon's, Moir's and Ivanhoe Chocolates is not surpassed in the City. Prices to suit any purse. 25 cents to \$5.25. Delivered free to any part of the City on Christmas Day or Saturday evening. It's to your advantage to see our stock if you want chocolates. Johnson & Johnson

Gift for Him

The gift HE really wants is right here. We have made a close study of what men need and like during the Holiday season and we are sure you will find the right gift here at the right price. Here are a few suggestions. Box of cigars, Cased pipe, Safety razor, Boxed Shaving brush, Set of military brushes, Camera, Case of smoking tobacco, Shaving outfit, Hand mirror.

No need of singing the praises of our Bakery Goods when all over town you can hear them praised by those who use our Green Bread, Cakes, etc. They are pure, wholesome and nutritious. Stewart's Bakery 163 Kent Street

The 2 Macs 149 Great George Street.

Advertisement for Moore & McLeod featuring a man in a suit and the text: 'We Call Special Attention Today to Our Page Ad on Page 6 Give Him a Smart Coat Sweater THE CHANCES ARE he has been looking in our window at those beauties from time to time and wishing that he had one. They are so comfortable—so cozily warm, and withal so stylishly neat that every man would like one. Prices—you can get him one at 75c, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.58, 1.95, 2.35, 3.15, 4.50. and a range of prices between, Boys coat sweaters at 50c to 2.35.'

THE RIGHT WAY TO READ.

James Bryce, in his agreeable "Principles and Maxims for the Reading of Books," gives this bit of advice: "One should read in a critical that is to say, a searching, testing spirit. One ought, no doubt, to be respectful to the author of the book if he happens to be a well-informed man; but respect is not the same thing as submission." That word "well-informed" makes us think Mr. Bryce must be speaking of books that aim to give information, to supply facts, or to show the relation between facts. Books that do this, or that try to change the reader's mind, may of course safely be read in a searching, testing, critical spirit. But how about books that stir the feelings or set a lighted match to the imagination? Is it not true that reading such books in a critical spirit is almost the same as not reading them at all? That the only way to read them is to be temporarily submissive? Take a particularly happy and greatly enjoying reader like Hugo von Hofmannsthal, and listen to his account of the right way to read a poem by Goethe or Stefan George. He does not think he has read such a poem, he tells us, until he has lived it. Clearly he reads in almost a fury of submission. Living much among books he gets one of his acutest pleasures by surrendering himself for the time being to his author. Later, when he has cooled down, Herr Von Hofmannsthal can criticize with the best of them as his prose essays show. Anybody who looks back across the reading year and picks out the fiction and the poetry that have really counted in his life, will find that in most cases he read them in his least critical spirit. They laid their spell upon him so strongly that his critical faculty was inhibited. Nor, if he is wise, will he be sorry that he once read them in this way.—New York Globe.

WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

The Washington monument at the National capital, highest of stone structures and designed by its builders to stand as long as the pyramids, is suffering from a disintegration that, while not immediately fatal, will materially shorten its life, says John S. Mosby, Jr., in the December Popular Mechanics magazine. This great shaft, 555 feet in height, consists of 15 feet thick at the base. These walls are made up of an outer facing of marble blocks and a four foot inner wall made of granite and other hard stone. Between these two walls there is a filling of heterogeneous stone, held together by cement. This describes the first 198 feet, which is the part now affected. This part was built continuously from the beginning of the structure. Then for years the construction halted at that height. It is the interior filling between these walls that is now, through the deadly effect of heat and cold and dryness and dampness attacking it alternately, beginning to disintegrate and ooze out between the joints of the outer wall and the crevices made by the action of the elements.

SHOCK FOR THE CHURCH.

The Church of England should be shocked by the revelations of the bishop of Lincoln. He says that when the licensing bill was before the house of lords, the bishops received letters from the great brewery firms in which the writers reminded the clergyman of the financial assistance rendered to the church. One bishop was told that but for the brewers' money his bishopric would never have been

STEAK.

(From the 'National Provisioner.') According to the new addition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the word 'steak' is apparently derived from Icelandic 'steik', used in the same sense as the English word, 'which meant properly roasted meat, from steikja, to roast; that is, placed on a stick before the fire (compare Swedish, stek, Danish, stek, roast meat.)' The same authority says: 'A "porterhouse" steak is a choice cut of steak, from the loin, so named, apparently, first in New York, from a well known "porter house," and eating house where chops, steaks, etc., and porter or stout were served, at which these steaks were a speciality. "A steak grilled between two other steaks, which are not served after the cooking is finished, is also sometimes called a "porterhouse" steak.' Not in these days of high cost meat would such a practice as the latter be very generally followed, however.

A PROGRESSIVE.

When a man gets the notion in his head that he is the only honest man in the world he soon becomes a great nuisance.—Atchison (Kan.) Globe.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

The Canadian Pacific is the Short Direct Route Charlottetown to Montreal, the trip being made in twenty-four hours. Close connections are made for all points beyond, and changes and transfers are avoided. New electric light sleepers on the C. P. R. Halifax Montreal run, and this road has the best dining car service. This is the only line operating compartment cars—Montreal and Ottawa to Toronto, and Montreal and Toronto to Vancouver, J. K. Ross, the local C. P. R. agent, can supply all information. drif

Give her a nice Sweater Coat you will find the finest range in town ready for you here, 2.35 to 5.00 each.—Moore & McLeod 12-20dtf.

All fancy goods in the Christmas bazaar are being cleared out at heavy discounts. All goods worth to 33c on sale at 19c. All goods worth to 65c on sale at 39c. Come on in to-day and secure a pretty gift for a song. Moore & McLeod 12-20dtf

You are invited to see my display of plants suitable for the Christmas season. I have a choice lot of Primroses in alshades, also Cyclamen, Jerusalem Cherries, Ferns, Palms, etc.—Jas. Tait, jr. Brighton, phone 269 12-13dtf

A man never gets too many ties, and he'll certainly be pleased with your offering if it is chosen from the beautiful lines we are showing if you want something entirely new in neckwear for Gifts come in. Boxed 40c to \$1.25. "Bruce's" 12-15dtf

A beautiful accordion pleat tie with hose to match, put up in a special box would make a nice gift for Him. We are showing a fine assortment of these goods at \$1.25, and \$1.50 per set.—Bruce's 12-20dtf.

Order your cut flowers early. I will have Roses, Carnations, Lily of the Valley, Roman Hyacinths, Narcissus, etc., etc.—Jas. Tait, jr. Florist, Brighton, phone 269. 12-13dtf

Advertisement for Haszard & Moore featuring the text: 'Sure to be Happy: All will be happy Christmas Morning those who secure presents bought from us, those who buy them from us and we who sell them to you Everybody pleased With our fine Display We're very busy. Just time to wish you all a Happy Xmas. Haszard & Moore dtf.'

Advertisement for MOIR'S CHOCOLATES: 'MOIR'S CHOCOLATES Are the kind you should buy for your XMAS GIFTS. They are the finest made and are most attractively boxed. You should call and see our very excellent display. The MacKinnon Drug Co. Cor. Gt. Geo. and Kent Street'