

Living, shall forfeit fair renown,  
And, doubly dying, shall go down  
To the vile dust, from whence he sprung,  
Unwept, unhonor'd, and unsung.

— Sir Walter Scott.

#### 1. Preparation.

Informal discussion of patriotism should introduce this poem to the class. Reasons why one should love his native land and sacrifices which persons make because of love of country may be recalled. Reference to "Oh, Canada" and other poems expressing patriotism will be of service here.

#### 2. Presentation.

The pupils should read this poem silently to grasp the poet's meaning.

#### 3. Analysis.

This poem is short and the meaning is so plain

that it may be taken up in class discussion without further study by the pupils.

What is meant by "foreign strand?" Talk of the ancient custom of Minstrels wandering about singing songs of heroes. What is meant by the line "for him no Minstrel raptures swell." Who can give the meaning of the next five lines in a short sentence? Meaning of pelf? concentrated? forfeit? renown? Why does the author say "doubly dying?" What does he mean? Do you think the author uses "vile dust" here to show what he thought of such a man? Give the meaning of the last three lines in a sentence.

Have one of the students give Scott's message in this poem in his own words.

#### 4. Oral Reading and Memorizing.

The poem should be read with considerable conviction and the latter half with fine scorn of the ungrateful man. Pupils should memorize.

## CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS FOR SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS

The Christmas festival holding so great significance for us of Christian lands deserves a dignified observance. Each teacher owes to her pupils the obligation of teaching them some of the more familiar and best loved Christmas carols, as, "It Came upon a Midnight Clear," "Oh Come All Ye Faithful," "Holy Night," "Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem," and others. The poems included in this issue have been chosen with considerable care. Many of them are worthy of remembering, others are light and humorous and may be used to sustain the interest of the programme.

A unique and interesting entertainment may be arranged by a teacher of Grades VII. or VIII. on the Christmas customs in other countries. Early in November the teacher may assign to individual members the customs of certain foreign countries. These investigations should be reported and discussed in class so that each pupil understands them. Then the pupils, under the supervision of the teacher, may write a little Christmas play to give as their class programme. A Christmas Fairy, or some other wonder-worker, may be employed to waft the guests from their homes to visit a group of Canadian children on Christmas Eve. Representative Christmas songs may be woven into the plot to give variety. The costumes of the countries will add much to the pleasure of the actors and to the beauty of the spectacle. Such an exercise as this will yield information, and valuable training in English, and develop literary appreciation.

Informal programmes for individual rooms may be satisfactorily worked out by the use of some well known Christmas story, as Van Dyke's "Other Wise

Man." The variety of Christmas legends and stories yields a fruitful source of material. Stories may be assigned to individuals to prepare and tell to the group. This is valuable exercise for the story-teller and provides entertainment for the audience. One or two such stories may be included in a general programme of carols and recitations.

A humorous number can be worked up from "the Ruggles" in Kate Douglas Wiggin's *Birds' Christmas Carol*. Mrs. Ruggles training her children in manners, if dramatized, is exceedingly funny. The dinner party, also, makes a delightful second scene. One or two of O. H. Hewey's stories lend themselves to easy dramatization and are delightfully entertaining. Two such are, "The Gift of the Magi," and "The Cop and The Anthem."

#### CHRISTMAS EVERYWHERE

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!  
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine.  
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine.  
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white.  
Christmas where cornflakes lie sunny and bright!

Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,  
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,  
Christmas where peace, like a dove in his flight,  
Broods o'er brave men in the thick of the fight,  
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight.

For the Christ-Child who comes is the Master of all;  
No palace too great and no cottage too small.

—Phillips Brooks.