DECEMBER 19, 1925

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

He little knew the gladness that his presence would have made, And the joy it would have given or

he never would have stayed; He didn't know how hungry had the

little mother grown Once again to see her baby and to claim him for her own. He didn't guess the meaning of his

visit Christmas Day Or he never would have written that he couldn't get away.

He couldn't see the fading of the

cheeks that once were pink, the silver in the tresses; and

he didn't stop to think How the years are passing swiftly,

and next Christmasit might be There would be no home to visit

and no parents dear to see; He didn't think about it-I'll not

say he didn't care, He was heedless and forgetful or he'd surely have been there.

Are you going home for Christmas?

Have you written you'll be there? Goins home to kiss the mother and

to show her that you care? Going home to greet the father in a way to make him glad ?

If you're not I hope there'll never come a time you'll wish you

had.

Just sit down and write a letter-it around us. will make their heartstrings

hum With a tune of perfect gladness-if you'll tell them that you'll

PEACE TO MEN OF GOODWILL

"Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth Peace to Men of Goodwill." So sang a multitude of the Heav-

enly Army, led by the Angel who was first sent to bring the good tidings of great joy to the few poor, lonely shepherds watching their flocks at night by Bethlchem, and so out into the whole world of more out into the whole world of men. And the Church of God at once took up the great words that fell out of the shining light into the darkness below, and joined in the hymn of praise and prayer that, in her heart and mouth, grew into that majestic manifestation which continues this opening chant of the Angelic Choir down to today. So this *Gloria*, as still said or sung at our altars, takes us all back to that midnight scene on the first Christense Free and scene on the first Christmas Eve and the Birthday of the Christ as Man amongst men. And what a hymn of Holiness it is as developed in its height and depth by the loving genius of our great masters in music, reaching up to its noblest truth and going back to its begin-

ning at Christmastide ! But, besides being a hymn from heaven, we find it is also a message to mankind. For, after extolling the glory of God, it goes on "And on earth Peace to men of Goodwill," thus, as ever, bringing together the Divine and the Human into one unity. And the Peace which is promised to men is to be based upon, and conditioned by, their goodwill towards God and to one another. What is this Peace? It provides. cannot be merely negative in the cessation of warfare, fighting between the peoples, or with each other. It must mean more than that; it must be something that is positive, that can be seen, and known, and felt. This great word, as used in a Divine Message, caa only be filled with the truth of the Spirit, and so come to be grasped by the soul and the mind of man. It can but be that Peace which flows as a gift from the Spirit of Cod into that other and God into that other and human goal into that other and human spirit which is in man. It is the Peace of Christ Himself, which he speaks of as "My Peace." This is an interior Peace : a Peace that passeth understanding, and shall world cannot give, and has not given to us, but which we may yet hope to gain, though it be but after not be taken away. death, as the full performance of But such Peace is not promised to the whole world, nor is it to be given to all mankind. "And on that first Christmas promise once made from Heaven to all "Men of Goodwill."-London Catholic Uniearth Peace to men of Goodwill. Those are the words: full of weight and warning. Without this * Goodverse. OUR BOYS AND GIRLS will no man can gain that Peace. Goodwill seems simply a word made up of two little words in com-mon daily use. Yet it is packed The Christ-Child lay on Mary's lap, with many meanings. The shep-herds, when the word fell out of the His hair was like a light. (O weary, weary was the world, sky upon their wondering ears, knew well enough what it meant But here is all aright.) The Christ-Child lay on Mary's and how it should be taken. For us today it may be that the main His hair was like a star. stress is on the will. The move-ment in the mind must be made by the will. Mere good wishes will not avail. The will must act as a faculty as a light for a state of the state faculty, as a living force. A true and real Goodwill then becomes a His Hair was like fire. and a vital thing, and not simply a negation by the absence of ill-will. And it must also he good as for the world's desire.) And it must also be good as flowing from tending to goodness. Such a Goodwill towards ourselves and others will become a living and a Living the there is the state of the sta loving bond, bringing about the fellowship of men in Christ. It is also the keystone of all high human -G. K. CHESTER

MEN GOING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS He little knew the sorrow that was in his vacant chair. He never guessed they'd miss him, or he'd surely have been there He couldn't see his mother or the lump that filled her throat, or the tears that started falling as she read his hasty note; and he couldn't see his father, sitting sorrowful and dumb, br he never would have written that he thought he couldn't come. bitter the the thread the throad the throad the throad the thread the thread the throad thread the throad the throad that he throad the throad thread the throad thread the throad the throad the throad thread thread thread the throad thread thread

ment. These are our natural out-ward manifestations of the Good-will that is welling up within us, and which we are eager to share with our friends and fellowmen and women. It is the time of home and hospitality: the gathering together of old and young, relatives and children and grandchildren, from far away and it may be after long as to give us his Only Begotten Son! That was God's Christmas gift to mankind. And how wonder-ful to think that Christ, the Son of God, so loved us that Christ, the Son of God, so loved us that He was born in a stable for us! He might have come, as God's gift to us, in regal splendor. But that would not satisfy nor show His love. You far away, and, it may be, after long years of separation. Once more know that love shows itself in sacri-fice. That is why we know that our they meet again, perhaps for the last time, but willing and eager to make much of this day of union in the old home of their happy childmother loves us so much. No one and carefree of weather. In this world makes such sacrifices Happy weeks may be

for us as our mother. And that is why we love our mother as we do. So Christ knew the best way to our hearts. After all He should, And the children! Christmas is, indeed, the Children's Day. As it is the Day of the Holy Child, so it should also be the Day of Happy Children. To bring about this hap-piness, it must be made full to over-flowing of love and laughter. In the sweet rising and ringing sounds for He made us. He came not only in suffering but as a little Child. What a marvellous combination! Suffering shows His love, and baby-

the sweet rising and ringing sounds of childish laughter, fearless, frank, and flooded with open gaiety, we shall hear and take to our hearts came to win our hearts He took the lovely form of an infant.

chattering children we shall witness the working out of our own Goodwill toward the little ones

lesson of thinking about others to make them happy. Before He came among us the world was very selfish. Everyone thought only of his own welfare. But after the Babe of Bethlehem came people began to think of others. See how God uses apparently little things to achieve great results. Only God would think of changing the heart of the world through a helpless babe in a manger. But that is God's way. Anyone can do big things with big help. But God does the greatest things with the most trivial means. He wants to show us too that we do The giving of presents at Christmas is really a ritual full of mean-ing in its origin, as, indeed, are all ritual observances. It is done to prove the goodwill of the givers as between them and those who get. Nowadays, the whole world is older in its ways; the world world is older more quickly than did the earlier generations: it is no longer merely a matter of respect between children

do that. So God's Christmas gift to us was by the harder bonds of duty and of discipline. Fathers and mothers who deal with their sons and daugh-

without giving some token in return. That is why you try to find out what a friend likes, so that you may send him a present, if he has sent you something. It is not paying back exactly. It is not understood in that way. But it is a

make the ties hold fast in every future trouble. And then there are the Poor: "The patient, passive poor," as Faber so well wrote of them : perhaps not so passive nowadays, but still possessing a patience that sometimes seems almost Divine. They need, and today more than ever, not only our help, but also our present to Jesus is that you have the very thing that He wants. You ever, not only our help, but also our goodwill. It is fast becoming a crucial question whether the giving of alms or the dispensing of charity satisfies the obligation of the rich to the poor. A more modern mor-ality would recognize the right of the poor to a fair share in the good things that the earth so plentifully

"Itis also an interesting fact," said Father Cloud, "that the first docu-ment in our possession to prove the use of the title 'university' is a deed GAFFTV of gift now in our library, which records the presentation in 1881 of copies of the Doomesday Booke and other books to St. Louis Uni-versity by the government of Great Desition I to be account to the book Britain. I take occasion to thank the British Government in the per-son of its Ambassador for that gift."

Ambassador Howard left Monday night for Columbia, Mo., where he on November 10 presented the State University with a stone from the Cathedral of St. Paul in London.

CALIFORNIA THIS WINTER

When winter comes let the cold blasts of winter blow you south to California where the weather is mild, the air invigorating and the breezes balmy, you can enjoy every kind of recreation careless of time Happy weeks may be

great resort hotels, either along the coast or inland. To these alluring winter resorts the Canadian Pacific Railway offers most excellent service, the most convenient and com-fortable route.

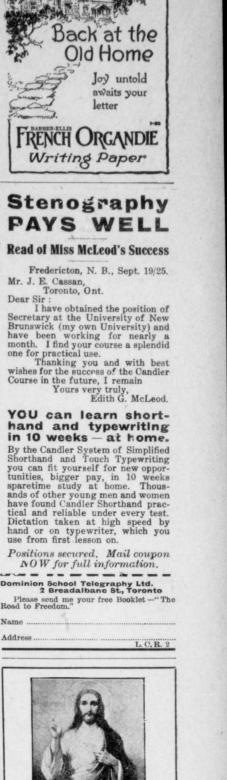
Let our representative plan your trip and arrange attractive itinerhood attracts our hearts. How we ary to California, across Canada, love children ! And since Christ through Vancouver and Victoria, B. C., Canada's gateway to the Orient. Canadian Rocky mountain







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SEVEN

1926 Almanac of the Sacred Heart

or childran laughter, learness, frank, and flooded with open gaiety, we shall hear and take to our hearts the finest carol ever sung for Christmas. It will fall upon our older, duller ears as the music of their fresh young joy, born by nature in freedom out of their golden time of unconscious, bub-bling happiness: careless of the future, gladsome, irresponsible. In this mirth and merriment of the chattering children we shall wit-

* *

He wants to show us too that we do not need to do great things to show our love for Him, but to do little things with great love. We can all and their parents. We have, per-haps, risen to a higher level, and now seek to bind the family together by silken bands of friendship and affection rather than by the harder bonds of duty and of

His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. And Christ's gift to us was Himself as a Babe. Now you know that you do not like to receive gifts ters as friends upon an openhearted basis of equality, will often find that the surest and the quickest way to gain their love and confi-dence. And all this goodwill shown between them will go to strengthen the living links of family life, and

return of love. Have you thought of making a present to Jesus? You do not have to think hard to find out what He likes. And no matter how poor you are, the fine thing about giving a

things that the earth so plentifully that He left His home in heaven for

THE CHRIST CHILD

-G. K. CHESTERTON

breast.

Heart,

You know He can never dwell in Christmas is a time when mema heart that has sin in it. For He ories crowd upon the mind, be they sweet or bitter, bright or gloomy. hates ain worse than you hate ser-pents. You would not want to live Still they bring back scenes out of our life, and the good prayer, in a place with vile reptiles, would vou? So no matter how much "Lord, keep my memory green," is one that old men and women often lesus loves you He can not bestow Himself on you, unless you make your heart an inviting abode for think or say. For this dwelling upon things that happened long ago Him. But you will do that I know. For you do not want Jesus to do so may come to be a consolation when the faculties are growing dim. A much for you without doing some-thing for Him in return. It will midnight Mass heard and seen on Christmas Eve with the wide eyed and open-eared wonder of childhood help greatly to make your heart desirable for Jesus, if for His sake may well may be remembered in you make happy some unfortunate person, who otherwise might have a old age, rising as a shining light out of the mistiness of far-off forgotten sad Christmas.-By Rev. Martin J. things. Such memories may help many toward that Peace which the Scott, S. J.

ANGLO-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

St. Louis, Mo.—Sir Esme Howard, the British Ambassador to the United States, spent Monday, November 9, in St. Louis as the guest of the local chapter of the English Speaking Union, of which Frank V. Hammar is president. Receptions were held for him at St. Louis University and Washington Louis University and Washington University, and in the evening he was honor guest at a banquet given by the Union at Coronado Hotel. At the banquet the Ambassador said in part : "If I believed Anglo-

American friendship would develop into a big, brutal, bullying power, I never should desire to see it take root. But because I believe that, in spite of some lapses which are unavoidable in view of human imperfections, the British-American ideal in life is just and square dealing, I shall continue to advocate a clear, frank, friendly understanding between our two countries as long as there is any breath in my body." At St. Louis University Sir Esme was welcomed by the president, the Rev. Charles H. Cloud, S. J., who in

his address expressed pleasure at being able to greet a Catholic as Ambassador from Great Britain.

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