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CHRISTMAS.

By the Rev. L. Sinclair.
Jesus, the Son of God,
His glory to unfold,
Is born a lowly Virgin's child,
As prophets long foretold.

While in a manger laid,
His heavenly host on high,
Sing praises to the King of kings,
Who brings redemption nigh.

The shepherds come to see,
The infant undefiled,
Isaiah's God, who hides Himself
In Mary's holy Child.

The wise men of the East,
Led by His guiding star,
Arabia's gold, and precious gifts
Bring with them from afar.

Imperial Caesar sways
The sceptre of the land,
But the Messiah great in love,
All empires shall command.

His vast dominion shall
Extend from sea to sea,
All nations of the earth shall dwell,
In His salvation free.

The angel host is gone,
The night is dark and drear,
But Christ is born in Bethlehem,
The Saviour ever near.

Aspin, Ont., Nov., 1904.

HOW IT ALL HAPPENED.

Tommy had a cold. It was just a
wee bit of a cold, not enough to count,
brother Fred, said, but then Fred
didn't know anything about it, of
course.

"An' I can't bring in the kindling-
wood or feed the chickens or go to
school!" announced Tommy, jubilantly,
and then he coughed, such a funny,
made-up cough that Brother Fred
laughed, "Ho! ho!" and Sister Kate
laughed, "He! he!" and Mamma Stone
said, "Dear me! You're not a bit like
George Washington, are you?"

Tommy didn't know what it was all
about, and he said so, and then mamma
laughed, a bright, cheery laugh. "Do
you know who George Washington
was?" she said.

Tommy stood very straight and tall.
He put back his shoulders and let his
arms hang by his sides. He looked just
exactly as he did when he stood at the
head of his class at school. "George
Washington was a great general," he
said, quickly, "an' he was a soldier,
an' a President of the United States,
an' he was the 'Father of his country,'
sides lots of other things!"

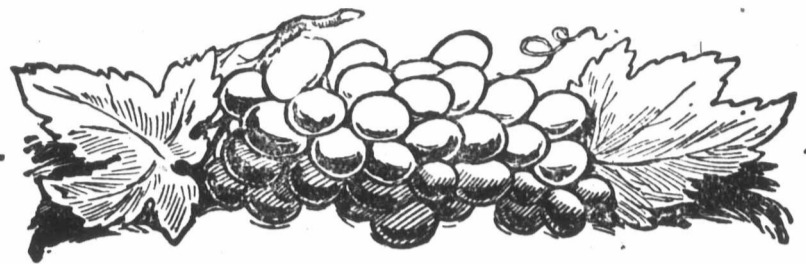
"Good!" said mamma. "And George
Washington was never too sick to do

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his duty, and that is one reason why
he was a great general and a good
soldier."

Tommy sniffed. "I guess George
Washington never had a cold like
mine!" he exclaimed.

"Ho! ho!" laughed Brother Fred.
"He! he!" laughed Sister Kate again.
"Never had a cold?" said mamma.
"Once upon a time he had a fever, and
he had to stay in his bed for days and
days, but the minute he was able to
get up and go out again back to the
soldiers he went! Are you able to go
out, Tommy, or must I put you to bed?"

Tommy looked solemn. "I don't
want to go to bed!" he said, decidedly.
"I feel a little better."

THE MAGPIE.

What is a magpie, Auntie?" asked
Nettie. "Jack Green says his uncle
brought him one yesterday."

"A magpie, Nettie, is a bird some-
thing like a crow. Its colours are black,
white and blue. Its tail, which is long,
is always in motion, and its short
wings make it slow and heavy in fly-
ing. The magpie is easily tamed, and
can be taught to speak a few words. It
is a great thief, and will carry away
and hide anything not too heavy for it.
It is a great mimic, too. Once a lady
owned a magpie which would perch on
her shoulder and feed her with ripe

cherries, just as she sometimes fed him.
But imagine her surprise and disgust
when one day, instead of a cherry, she
dropped a fat green worm into her
mouth.—The Shepherd's Arms.

**"BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN
HEART."**

This is the inscription, dear readers,
over one of the cots at the Infants'
Home, and inside the cot, when I
read those words during my visit
there this morning, a tiny baby face
looked up at me with big, pathetic
eyes as if asking for love. A small
girl of three years old was trying to
rock another babe to sleep. A wee
man about the same age was trying
to pull off his stockings, and several
other little ones were sitting on the
floor deeply interested at seeing me
because, poor mites! they have very
little to amuse themselves with. Out
in the busy world some of their par-
ents are trying to provide for their
future, and have nothing to spare by
which to send things now to their
babies. Others have no fathers or
mothers, and would be homeless
waifs, but for the open doors of such
an institution as this is.

Every one is getting ready for
Christmas, loving gifts are being lav-
ished on our own home circles, and
many a kind heart out of the ful-

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that Canada's
best salt works
can produce,
and that's the
best anywhere