

## The St. John Standard

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### A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."  
 —John 3:16.

Out of the sordid muck of the world flashes once every twelve months the Christmas message bearing to toiling, sweating millions the promise of redemption. Thoughts must turn for a space to that first Christmas in Bethlehem of Judea, to that manger where, swaddled against the elements, the Christmas babe lay in fulfillment of God's promise. Do we merit the sacrifice?

It is fitting that, in the midst of the Christmas joys, we give even brief ear to the beginnings of it all. God's great gift to man. His only begotten Son. For what purpose was the gift made? Was it that we, in the fancied security of health, position and the glorious knowledge of the power to create and earn should pass in thoughtless complacency our less favored brethren? Have we not a Christmas duty? When we live the seasonable greeting "A Merry Christmas" can we do so with a clear conscience, knowing that no act of ours has contributed to take from the merriment of another's time of joy? Have we, during the preceding twelve months, done what we could toward the accumulation of the fund of Christmas happiness? For the pleasures of Christmas are not born of a day. That was the case in the first Christmas, but conditions have changed. Now the happiest souls in the world are those who have helped others to be happy in the year which is drawing to a close. For it is for us to live self-centred, mean lives for fifty weeks in the year and in the other two to go out of our individual ways to spread glad good wishes which come but from the lips. By so doing we deceive only ourselves.

There is a Christmas duty, a responsibility resting upon all of us and as we have prospered so does that duty press for fulfillment. What have we done this year in the liquidation of that debt? Is there one to whom we can point and say "I helped to make him or her better or happier or wiser?" Is it not the fact that we have lived to ourselves alone, accepting what came to us with equal satisfaction or disappointment? Have we done ought to repay our obligation to God and to humanity, to the men and women who lived and worked and died that we might enjoy the comforts denied to them? If those dear dead could come back and see us as we are, would they consider they had been justified in their efforts in our behalf? Think it over.

Christmas is a period of joy. Also should it be a time of abnegation, of denial. There are so many in our complex social system who have never known the Christmas joy in its full fruition. Why should we cheat them of their right? Should they not be as happy as we? And if the buffeting of fortune has left a brother on the rocks of material adversity should there not be a helping hand at this time of all times? Thank God for the noble men and women who hand themselves together to do what they can to alleviate the distress of the world. They are paying our debt, but shall we be content to have them pay it always? Is not Christmas 1913 a good time to commence the bearing of our own burdens?

Let us open our soul windows and let the sunshine of charity clear our hearts and brains of the cobwebs and dust of avarice, greed and selfishness. Let us go out into the country, fill our lungs with the bracing Canadian air, look at the sunlight and the blue sky; get ourselves in harmony with our fellows, then go home and thank God for life and for His gift to men. Remember we are not alone and that our brothers as well as we, have the right to enjoy the Christmas pleasures. Have we helped? Think it over, but do not stop at the thinking. Let us do our share to spread the message and to make it real. Then when we meet our fellow men we can wish them "A Merry Christmas" and it will come from the heart. It is worth the effort.

### ILLITERACY IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

Why should the Province of New Brunswick enjoy the unenviable distinction of leading all other provinces in Canada in the percentage of its population which is unable to either read or write? Surely this is a discreditable record, and yet, according to the latest census returns, it is a strictly correct one.

The portions of the census report dealing with the educational condition of the people of Canada make particularly interesting reading. In all Canada the percentage of the total population unable to read or write is 10.50 and it is regrettable that New Brunswick, in proportion to its numbers, does more than any other province to make up this total.

Of the provinces the percentages of

illiteracy are as follows: New Brunswick, 14.05; Alberta, 12.72; British Columbia, 11.61; Manitoba, 13.31; Nova Scotia, 10.34; Ontario, 6.51; Prince Edward Island, 7.61; Quebec, 12.66; Saskatchewan, 13.70.

Of the chief cities in Canada the percentages are as follows: Montreal, 19.41; Toronto, 7.41; Winnipeg, 19.75; Vancouver, 10.40; Ottawa, 14.31; Hamilton, 8.09; Quebec, 16.82; Halifax, 12.34; London, 5.32; Calgary, 11.56; St. John, 10.09.

A peculiar sidelight on the condition in the cities is that Montreal, the largest and wealthiest city in Canada, and the home of the most widely advertised educational institutions, leads all others in the proportion of its illiterates. Possibly this is to be expected in the case of a city growing as rapidly as Montreal, where the great influx of immigration tends to increase the percentage of illiteracy. But why should St. John and New Brunswick show as badly as they do? The last census return estimated the population of St. John at 42,511; today it is nearer 60,000. If the proportion of illiteracy is maintained it means that out of our population there are more than 6,000 persons over the age of five years unable to read or write.

In New Brunswick that percentage rises to even higher proportions. This is hardly understandable unless it might be explained partially on the ground that in New Brunswick the children do not start school as early in life as in some of the other provinces.

On the other hand a visit to the schools in the province will reveal the fact that the average age of the children in, say the eighth standard, is not greater than in other provinces, which would seem to discount the plausibility of the explanation offered. In the provinces of the West, where there is a larger proportion of foreign immigration, it would not be surprising to find a considerable number of illiterates even among adults, but the immigration movement to this province has been of comparatively recent origin which makes the proportion of illiteracy all the more amazing.

We have always been proud of our school system, proud of the fact that there are free schools, and that the child of the poor man has equal opportunity with his better circumstanced companion to obtain the rudiments of education. The history of the world has shown us that the educated nation is the prosperous one. It would appear that if the grand old Province of New Brunswick, now on the threshold of an awakening, is to maintain her place among her sisters in the Canadian confederacy something must be done, and speedily, to remedy the present condition. Give our children a chance.

### THE BRITISH MAILED.

The British mail which arrived on the steamer Royal George was sent forward by a passenger special on the Canadian Pacific Railway. When the steamer docked, officials of both the St. John and Halifax post offices were in waiting, and, at the order of the Postmaster General, a special C. P. R. mail train was in readiness. As it turned out such a train was not needed for the mail went forward on the passenger special and was delivered in Montreal without delay. The fact that the train was ready, however, is evidence that the post office department was prepared to give a fair test to St. John.

As a matter of fact, St. John's big opportunity will come when the Lusitania and Mauritania, of the Cunard Line, running to New York, are laid off early next year. Then the British mails will be routed by the next fastest steamers in the service, and this means the Royal Liners. There will be no reason for St. John to complain of lack of opportunity to prove its claims.

The Telegraph's Ottawa liar is on the job again. This time he is disposing of Hon. J. D. Hazen. Yesterday's Telegraph informed us that the Minister of Marine was to be appointed Chief Justice of New Brunswick in succession to Sir Frederic Barker. While the position is an honorable one, for which Mr. Hazen's ripe scholarship, legal knowledge and absolute fairness would splendidly qualify him, the Telegraph's statement is entirely without foundation. Mr. Hazen himself answered such falsehoods at the dinner recently given in his honor. In the Telegraph's disposal of the Minister of Marine the wish is probably father to the thought.

### STEAMERS REPORTED.

The White Star Line Dominion 600 miles east Halifax 11.30 yesterday, due Halifax Sunday morning, Portland on Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning.

The White Star Line Megantic 300 miles west, Fastnet 1 p. m. yesterday. The Allan Line Scandinavian 430 miles west, Main Head Thursday 11 a. m., due Greenock Sunday 10 a. m.

## DIARY OF EVENTS

### HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

Joseph Howe, the great Nova Scotian statesman and journalist, and the eloquent and able foe of Confederation was born near Halifax 109 years ago today. He was educated principally by his father, a Loyalist from Massachusetts, and at twelve was apprenticed to a printer. His early manifested considerable literary ability, and he was still a youth when he became editor and proprietor of the Nova Scotia. One of his first journalistic triumphs was an exposure of a ring of corrupt officials, which resulted in a libel suit, from which Howe emerged fully vindicated. While engaged as a newspaper publisher he interested himself in politics, secured a municipal charter for Halifax, became a member of the provincial legislature and cabinet, was colonial agent in London for several years, and in 1854 superintended the construction of the first railway in his native province. He was among the first to advocate a union of the provinces, but he was excluded from the conferences in Charlottetown and Quebec, for reasons which have often been criticized, and eventually threw the weight of his influence against Confederation. He created and inspired the secession movement in Nova Scotia but when it failed, entered the Dominion cabinet, and in 1873 he was made Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, but died soon afterward.

December 13 is the birthday of Alexander Milton Ross, Canadian naturalist, at Belleville, Ont., 1832; the Rt. Rev. John Craig Farthing, Bishop of Montreal, 1861; and of John Fraser, long Auditor General of Canada, 1852. On this date in 1880 Sir Charles Tupper moved in the House that a grant of 25,000,000 acres of land and \$25,000,000 in cash be voted for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

### THE PASSING DAY

#### "PUBLIC FAST."

One hundred and thirty-seven years today, on the 13th of December, fell on a Friday, and it was observed throughout England as a day of fasting and humiliation, by order of George III., who, desiring to obtain the favor of heaven in the task of quelling the "rebels" of the North American colonies.

#### A SERMON ON CHARITY.

Heinrich Heine, whose 114th birthday anniversary will be celebrated today by his admirers in his native Düsseldorf, was a freethinking Jew, but he once delivered a brief sermon on charity to a summer vacation.

Most of those that issue from pulpits, Baron James Rothschild, who was a patron of men of letters, invited the poet to a dinner, and he can speak from experience, since he married at the age of twenty-two. Dr. Lowell recently toured Europe, and was accorded the highest honors by the educational leaders of the Old World.

#### EMINENT ARCHAEOLOGIST.

British and Danish scientists will today pay tribute to the memory of the eminent archaeologist, George Stephens, who was born in Liverpool just a century ago. For over forty years he was a member of the faculty of the University of Copenhagen, and made a special study of Danish and Norwegian antiquities.

#### THE HUMAN PROCESSION

Dr. Abbott Lawrence Lowell, president of Harvard University, was born in Boston fifty-seven years ago today. He pursued law in this country for many years before he joined the faculty of his alma mater. Like his predecessor, "Prexy" Lowell holds decided opinions regarding a number of things. The desirability of early marriage for the realization of true happiness is one of the theories held by the Crimson chief, and he can speak from experience, since he married at the age of twenty-two. Dr. Lowell recently toured Europe, and was accorded the highest honors by the educational leaders of the Old World.

#### A NOTED SOCIALIST.

If—and to most people this will seem a pretty large "if"—the socialists ever attain power in America, Emil Seidel will doubtless loom large in history as one of the pioneers of that happy era. The former socialist mayor of Milwaukee was born in Ashland, Pa., forty-nine years ago today. He learned wood-carving in Germany, and returned to America to become one of the organizers of a union of his craft, and the founder of the Socialist party organization in Milwaukee. As mayor of the Wisconsin metropolis he attained an international celebrity. In the last presidential election Mr. Seidel was the Socialist candidate for the vice-presidency, and later took the lecture platform as an exponent of the Marxian economic creed.

#### THE CASH REGISTER KING.

John H. Patterson, president of the cash register "trust," was born on a farm near Dayton, O., sixty-nine years ago today. As a boy he worked in his father's saw mill. Later he engaged in the coal business in Dayton. Twenty-eight years ago he organized the cash register company which gained a practical control of the business in America. Last February the aged manufacturer was convicted of criminal violation of the anti-trust law, and was sentenced to one year in the Ohio penitentiary. He has been in caring for the flood sufferers of Dayton caused a widespread movement to be launched to save him from imprisonment. Mr. Patterson has long been an advocate of co-operation between employer and employee, and his work for the benefit of his workmen won recognition from the French government, which conferred on him the decoration of the Legion of Honor.

#### The Lay of the Carpet.

"Hear that hen cackling?" said the neighborly neighbor. "Somebody's hen must have laid an egg."  
 "No," replied Mrs. Boggs, "that was my husband. He just laid a carpet."

## IN LIGHTER VEIN

### MORACE ON BROADWAY.

(Uxor pauperis Ibyel.—Horace. Book III. Ode 15.)  
 You are old, Mrs. Ibyel, wrinkled and old,  
 And still you are going the pace,  
 Your actions are scandalous—really, I'm told.  
 They know you all over the place.

You doli yourself up like a kid of six—  
 You tango from morning to night;  
 You wear out your partners; you primp and you preen—  
 "Do you think, at your age, it is right?"

You run after boys that are just out of school—  
 You trot with your daughter's young men.  
 Forgetting that chickens may do, as a rule,  
 What's forbidden a silly old hen.

Oh, rub off the rouse of your giddy career,  
 And send back your drinks to the bar!  
 The home is the sphere for a woman, my dear—  
 When the woman's as old as you are!—Louis Untermyer.

Madge: You seem annoyed about it, but I don't forget you were standing under the mistletoe?  
 Marjorie: No, but Charlie did.

### Merely Postponed.

Ted: So you didn't manage to catch Dolly under the mistletoe?  
 Ned: That's all right. I'm going to take her for a sleigh-ride tonight.

### Capitalizing Profanity.

The Dealer—This is a fine parrot, sir.  
 The Preacher—Does he swear?  
 The Dealer—No, sir; but for a dollar extra I can give you one that swears splendidly, sir.

### Recognized the Brand.

A short time ago an Englishman, Scotchman and Irishman were at work together. During the interval for dinner, the two former determined to play a joke on their companion. Therefore seeing his coat hanging up they drew on it a representation of a donkey's head.

Pat did not notice anything until the time arrived for putting on his coat. The first thing he saw was the caricature. Then turning to the two men, he said sadly: "Which of you wiped your face on my coat?"

### Bent and Broken.

Hook—There goes Sweet. He is bent on a summer vacation.  
 Cook—And what happens to a man who is bent on a summer vacation?  
 Hook—Why, it isn't long after he is bent before he is broke.

### And Also How Hard.

Bronson—So you claim to have invented a flying machine?  
 Woodson—Yes.  
 Bronson—Does it fly?  
 Woodson—Yes. All I've got to do now is devise some means of finding out where it is going to light.

## Diamond Rings

You who are anticipating the purchase of a Diamond Ring as a Christmas gift will find it most advantageous to make your selection at our store. In making our selection of holiday goods we anticipated a demand for Diamonds and are now offering some particularly fine stones at prices that make each one a genuine bargain.

The Diamonds are white, brilliant and full of fire—the characteristics that make Diamonds most admired. You will really be surprised at the low prices on these Rings.

Come in this evening and see them.

**L. L. Sharpe & Son,**  
 Jewelers and Opticians  
 21 KING STREET, ST. JOHN, N.B.

## Evening Classes

Will Re-open for Winter Term  
**Wednesday, Oct 1st**  
 Hours 7.30 to 9.30, three nights a week, Monday, Wednesday, Friday.  
 Terms on application.  
**G. KERR, Principal.**

## Your Personal "Merry Christmas"

Daily printed, with your name, on beautiful imported cards bearing exclusive holiday designs. SEE OUR SPECIMENS.  
**C. H. FLEWELLING,**  
 Engraver and Printer  
 85-12 Prince Wm. Street.

Cooked and Fired.  
 "So Johnson has lost his position at the city hall. Did he get a raw deal?"  
 "No; he was fired on a cooked-up charge."

Making 'Em.  
 "Going to make many Christmas presents this year?"  
 "You bet! It's cheaper than buying 'em."

## To Get Rid of Wrinkles and Bad Complexion

(From Beauty's Mirror.)  
 It is more important now than during the period of profuse perspiration, to keep the pores clean. All cosmetics clog the pores. In winter this interferes greatly with elimination of waste materials, injuring instead of aiding the complexion. Ordinary mercerized wax serves all the purposes of creams, powders and rouges, giving far better results. It actually peels off an offensive skin, at the same time unclogging the pores. Minute particles of sear skin come off day by day, causing not the least pain or discomfort. Gradually the healthy, younger skin beneath peeps out, and in less than a fortnight you have a lovelier complexion than you ever dreamed of acquiring. Mercerized wax, obtainable at any drugstore, is spread on nightly like cold cream and washed off mornings. One ounce usually suffices.  
 For removing wrinkles, without stopping the pores with pasty stuff, here's a never-failing formula: 1 oz. powdered saxolite, dissolved in 1-2 pint witch hazel. Bathe the face in this daily for awhile; every line will vanish completely. Even the first application gives surprising results.

**McPHERSON'S LIGHTNING HATCH HOCKEY SHOE GET THE HITCH**

We have all kinds of Skating Boots, but "McPHERSON'S LIGHTNING HATCH" always give satisfaction.  
 Ask those who have used them. Men's, Women's, Boys, and Girls' Skates attached free. Mail orders solicited.  
 For sale by  
**Francis & Vaughan**  
 19 King Street

## CHRISTMAS CAKES AND CANDIES

Fruit Cake, Plain Cake, Pound Cake, Scotch Cake, Mince Pies, Mince Patties; also Chocolate Creams, both loose and in Dainty Boxes. Also Hard Baked and Cream Mixtures. . . .  
**ROBINSON'S 5 STORES,**  
 173 Union St.—60 Wall St.  
 109 & 417 Main St.—48 Celebration St.

## NIGHT CLASSES

Open every night in the week, during the entire year  
**LOW RATES NOW**  
**THE J. R. CURRIE COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE**  
 27 Union Street.

## Christmas Gifts For All

Now is the time and this is the opportunity for economical satisfactory Christmas buying. Come to us for DOLLS, TOYS, GAMES, BOOKS, STATIONERY, FANCY GOODS, ETC.  
 Sale of Handkerchiefs, Samples, 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 18c., 20c., 25c., 30c., 35c., 40c., 45c., 50c., 60c., 75c., 80c., 90c., 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.00, 4.50, 5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 6.50, 7.00, 7.50, 8.00, 8.50, 9.00, 9.50, 10.00, 10.50, 11.00, 11.50, 12.00, 12.50, 13.00, 13.50, 14.00, 14.50, 15.00, 15.50, 16.00, 16.50, 17.00, 17.50, 18.00, 18.50, 19.00, 19.50, 20.00, 20.50, 21.00, 21.50, 22.00, 22.50, 23.00, 23.50, 24.00, 24.50, 25.00, 25.50, 26.00, 26.50, 27.00, 27.50, 28.00, 28.50, 29.00, 29.50, 30.00, 30.50, 31.00, 31.50, 32.00, 32.50, 33.00, 33.50, 34.00, 34.50, 35.00, 35.50, 36.00, 36.50, 37.00, 37.50, 38.00, 38.50, 39.00, 39.50, 40.00, 40.50, 41.00, 41.50, 42.00, 42.50, 43.00, 43.50, 44.00, 44.50, 45.00, 45.50, 46.00, 46.50, 47.00, 47.50, 48.00, 48.50, 49.00, 49.50, 50.00, 50.50, 51.00, 51.50, 52.00, 52.50, 53.00, 53.50, 54.00, 54.50, 55.00, 55.50, 56.00, 56.50, 57.00, 57.50, 58.00, 58.50, 59.00, 59.50, 60.00, 60.50, 61.00, 61.50, 62.00, 62.50, 63.00, 63.50, 64.00, 64.50, 65.00, 65.50, 66.00, 66.50, 67.00, 67.50, 68.00, 68.50, 69.00, 69.50, 70.00, 70.50, 71.00, 71.50, 72.00, 72.50, 73.00, 73.50, 74.00, 74.50, 75.00, 75.50, 76.00, 76.50, 77.00, 77.50, 78.00, 78.50, 79.00, 79.50, 80.00, 80.50, 81.00, 81.50, 82.00, 82.50, 83.00, 83.50, 84.00, 84.50, 85.00, 85.50, 86.00, 86.50, 87.00, 87.50, 88.00, 88.50, 89.00, 89.50, 90.00, 90.50, 91.00, 91.50, 92.00, 92.50, 93.00, 93.50, 94.00, 94.50, 95.00, 95.50, 96.00, 96.50, 97.00, 97.50, 98.00, 98.50, 99.00, 99.50, 100.00, 100.50, 101.00, 101.50, 102.00, 102.50, 103.00, 103.50, 104.00, 104.50, 105.00, 105.50, 106.00, 106.50, 107.00, 107.50, 108.00, 108.50, 109.00, 109.50, 110.00, 110.50, 111.00, 111.50, 112.00, 112.50, 113.00, 113.50, 114.00, 114.50, 115.00, 115.50, 116.00, 116.50, 117.00, 117.50, 118.00, 118.50, 119.00, 119.50, 120.00, 120.50, 121.00, 121.50, 122.00, 122.50, 123.00, 123.50, 124.00, 124.50, 125.00, 125.50, 126.00, 126.50, 127.00, 127.50, 128.00, 128.50, 129.00, 129.50, 130.00, 130.50, 131.00, 131.50, 132.00, 132.50, 133.00, 133.50, 134.00, 134.50, 135.00, 135.50, 136.00, 136.50, 137.00, 137.50, 138.00, 138.50, 139.00, 139.50, 140.00, 140.50, 141.00, 141.50, 142.00, 142.50, 143.00, 143.50, 144.00, 144.50, 145.00, 145.50, 146.00, 146.50, 147.00, 147.50, 148.00, 148.50, 149.00, 149.50, 150.00, 150.50, 151.00, 151.50, 152.00, 152.50, 153.00, 153.50, 154.00, 154.50, 155.00, 155.50, 156.00, 156.50, 157.00, 157.50, 158.00, 158.50, 159.00, 159.50, 160.00, 160.50, 161.00, 161.50, 162.00, 162.50, 163.00, 163.50, 164.00, 164.50, 165.00, 165.50, 166.00, 166.50, 167.00, 167.50, 168.00, 168.50, 169.00, 169.50, 170.00, 170.50, 171.00, 171.50, 172.00, 172.50, 173.00, 173.50, 174.00, 174.50, 175.00, 175.50, 176.00, 176.50, 177.00, 177.50, 178.00, 178.50, 179.00, 179.50, 180.00, 180.50, 181.00, 181.50, 182.00, 182.50, 183.00, 183.50, 184.00, 184.50, 185.00, 185.50, 186.00, 186.50, 187.00, 187.50, 188.00, 188.50, 189.00, 189.50, 190.00, 190.50, 191.00, 191.50, 192.00, 192.50, 193.00, 193.50, 194.00, 194.50, 195.00, 195.50, 196.00, 196.50, 197.00, 197.50, 198.00, 198.50, 199.00, 199.50, 200.00, 200.50, 201.00, 201.50, 202.00, 202.50, 203.00, 203.50, 204.00, 204.50, 205.00, 205.50, 206.00, 206.50, 207.00, 207.50, 208.00, 208.50, 209.00, 209.50, 210.00, 210.50, 211.00, 211.50, 212.00, 212.50, 213.00, 213.50, 214.00, 214.50, 215.00, 215.50, 216.00, 216.50, 217.00, 217.50, 218.00, 218.50, 219.00, 219.50, 220.00, 220.50, 221.00, 221.50, 222.00, 222.50, 223.00, 223.50, 224.00, 224.50, 225.00, 225.50, 226.00, 226.50, 227.00, 227.50, 228.00, 228.50, 229.00, 229.50, 230.00, 230.50, 231.00, 231.50, 232.00, 232.50, 233.00, 233.50, 234.00, 234.50, 235.00, 235.50, 236.00, 236.50, 237.00, 237.50, 238.00, 238.50, 239.00, 239.50, 240.00, 240.50, 241.00, 241.50, 242.00, 242.50, 243.00, 243.50, 244.00, 244.50, 245.00, 245.50, 246.00, 246.50, 247.00, 247.50, 248.00, 248.50, 249.00, 249.50, 250.00, 250.50, 251.00, 251.50, 252.00, 252.50, 253.00, 253.50, 254.00, 254.50, 255.00, 255.50, 256.00, 256.50, 257.00, 257.50, 258.00, 258.50, 259.00, 259.50, 260.00, 260.50