

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

Our kindly helpers who contribute items of Diocesan Intelligence, will please excuse the delay which will occur in publishing the news they have sent. Next week we hope to make ample amends. We wish them very cordially all seasonable blessings.

CHRIST IN THE DWELLING.

A CHRISTMAS LEGEND.

'Twas Christmas eve, and still and deep
The snow untrodden lies;
And stars are glancing, cruel-bright,
High in the frosty skies.

Slow through the village-street he came,
That beggar old and wan,
Weary and falt'ring, hunger press'd,
With garments scant and torn.

And sad, and slowly, as he went,
He plaineth evermore,
"For Christ's dear love, have pity on
The homeless and the poor."

"I have so many little ones
At home to clothe and feed,
Not e'en a groat have I to spare,
However great thy need."

And sad, and slowly, as he went,
He plaineth evermore,
"For Christ's dear love, have pity on
The homeless and the poor."

"The feast is spread, the dance is set,
The music waits for me;
I cannot stay to hear thy plaint,
However sad it be."

Still sad, and slowly, on he came,
And plaineth evermore,
"For Christ's dear love, have pity on
The homeless and the poor."

"Business and duty call me hence,
Indeed I cannot stay;
I'll hear thy case, if leisure serve,
Perhaps another day."

Thus heeding not, or hearing not,
They pass'd him by; or worse,
They gave him mockingly, "God speed,"
Or gave him hasty curse.

Then paused his faltering steps awhile
Before a cottage-door,
"For Christ's dear love, for Jesu's sake,
Have pity on the poor."

"For Christ's dear sake," thro' opening
door

A stream of fire-light came—
"Whoe'er thou art, this blessed eve
Thou'rt welcome in Christ's name."

They changed his garments, scant and
worn,

They bathed his weary feet,
Poured oil into his gaping wounds,
And set before him meat.

Thus warm'd, and fed, they laid him
down

To rest, on their own bed;
"God send you rest," they said, "Good
night."

"Christ be with you," he said.

* * * * *

'Twas Christmas morn, the sun shone
bright,
And through the frosty air
The joyous bells rang forth a call
To join in praise and prayer.

"Go to the stranger's room, my child,
And if he be awake,
Bid him with us to praise and prayer
This day, for Jesu's sake."

Within the humble room there shone
A mild celestial light,
Nor lamp, nor fire, might give that glow,
Nor heavenly sunbeams bright.

And in the midst a sweet young child
With raiment full and fair,
A wreath of fadeless roses twined
Among his radiant hair.

"Fear not," he said, and sweet and low
His voice fell on the ear;
"Ye took me in for Christ's dear sake,
And Christ himself is here."

"The shelter and the succour given,
The clothing and the bread,
Unto the least of My poor lambs,
Is giv'n to me instead."

Henceforth, upon that humble home,
God's richest blessings fell,
A peace surpassing knowledge,
No mortal words can tell.

Not perfect rest from toil or care,
From tears not full release,
But, still through every trial there,
God's presence gave them peace.

E. F.

Messrs. Darling & Currie, Architects,
have just completed the plans for a large
addition to the premises occupied by
Petley & Petley, King-street East. The
rear portion of the building will be pul-
led down, and a handsome new building
ninety by fifty-five feet will be erected
in its stead.

Mr. Harry A. Collins, 90 Yonge St.,
Toronto, exhibits a large stock of House
Furnishings for the holidays. If any of
our readers require anything in that
line they will be well supplied at this
reliable establishment, and will find Mr.
Collins an obliging and courteous gen-
tleman to deal with. See advertise-
ment.

We would draw our reader's atten-
tion to the announcement in our col-
umns, of the great sale going forward at
the ware-rooms of Thos. Woodhouse,
123 to 127 King St. E. In addition to a
full stock in his ordinary lines of Dry-
goods, there are immense piles of neatly
made clothing. Mr. W. having just
purchased the stock off D. Arnott & Co.,
is now selling at a great reduction. We
counsel our readers to visit this estab-
lishment and inspect the stock.

"Ma, I came very near being at the
head of my class to-day." "Why, my
son, how is that?" "Well, you see,
there was a big word came all the way
down the class to me, and if I could
have spelled it I would have gone right
up. I am so sorry, ma, for you know
you promised me that when I got head
you would take me down to Petley's and
buy me one of those nice tweed over-
coats, the same as all the boys are wear-
ing now."

Charles Stark's great and varied
stock of Watches, Jewellery, plated
Ware, and Fire-arms will be noted in
our advertising columns. The articles
are all at rock bottom cash prices. C.
S's wonderful expansion of the Fire-arms
department is extraordinary—four years
ago he commenced with less than a doz-
en stand of arms, his stock now em-
braces nearly a thousand. We re-
commend our readers to call at Mr.
Stark's establishment, 52 Church and
1 Court Streets' near King

CHRISTMAS.

Christmas is coming. Yes, it is com-
ing very soon. We see signs of it on
every hand. Indeed, the air is full of it,
and we have no doubt the minds and
hearts of our young friends are not think-
ing or caring for much else. We are
afraid they will not care to read anything
we have to say, unless it be about festi-
vals, candles, trees, presents, bright
skies and good cheer generally. Now,
we would not for the world say or do
anything to put a damper upon these
happy anticipations. No, not we. We
were once boys and girls ourselves, and
we know exactly how they feel and
what they want. All we wish to do is

to make our Christmas season still more
bright and happy. Our good old fathers
used to say to us:—Now, boys, be as
happy as you can. Get your Christmas
tree. Cover it all over with red, white
and blue candles; with glass balls, big
and little; with cornucopias, with dolls,
with baskets, with oranges—indeed,
with everything you can think of. Then
hang up your stockings—both of them—
and think and believe you will not be
disappointed. But—but, boys, be careful
that you are not selfish. Think of
others. Remember how many there are
who never have much of a Christmas.
Now, do you just think of them, and be
sure that you do something to brighten
up the Christmas time to them. Jesus
gave up everything when he came into
this world to make your lives bright and
happy. Go and be like Him, and then
what a Christmas you will have! You
know of plenty of families where just a
few things would make the mother and
children as happy as queens. Yes, and
more too, you will be a hundred times
more happy yourselves. Remember that
this same Jesus who gives you such a
Christmas says:—"It is more blessed
to give than to receive."

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from active
practice, having had placed in his hands
by an East Indian Missionary the formula
of a simple vegetable remedy for the
speedy and permanent cure of Con-
sumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma,
and all Throat and Lung affections;
also a positive and radical cure for
General Debility, and all nervous com-
plaints; after having thoroughly tested
its wonderful curative powers in thou-
sands of cases, feels it is his duty to
make it known to his fellows. The re-
cipe, with full particulars, directions for
preparation and use, and all necessary
advice and instructions for successful
treatment at your home, will be re-
ceived by you by return mail, free of
charge, by addressing with stamp or
stamped, self-addressed envelope to
DR. J. C. RAYMOND,
164 Washington Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.

NEW INVENTION.—On the sixth of
March last I obtained a patent in Can-
ada, for changing common windows to
Bay Windows. The invention is also
patented in the United States, and is
having a large sale in every State. I
have sold twenty-two counties in Cana-
da, and offer the remainder for sale, or
will take a partner; the right man with
\$200 capital can secure the manage-
ment and an interest in the business.
Canadian references given.—Address,
W. S. Garrison Cedar Falls, Iowa,
U. S. A.

A. Chard, of Stirling, in a recent letter
states that he met with an accident
some time ago, by which one of his
knees was severely injured. A few ap-
plications of Hagyard's Yellow Oil af-
forded immediate and complete relief.

PRIMITIVE CHRISTMAS.

THE early history of the festival
of Christmas is involved in obscu-
rity, and the practice of the primi-
tive Church was diverse. In the
Eastern Church the Feast of the
Epiphany was that on which the
birth of the Saviour was commem-
orated. But by the fourth or fifth
of December there seems to have
been observed, in most parts of
the Christian world, St. Chrysostom,
in one of his sermons preached on
Christmas Day, in congratulating
himself and his hearers on there
being such an observance of the
festival as he had long desired;
goes on to say, "It is not yet ten
years since we knew that this was

truly the day of the Nativity," and
he proceeds to state that it had
been known from the beginning
to the Westerns, and it was from
them they had learnt it. It was,
he says, "the inhabitants of Rome
who first knew the truth in this
respect, for they have long celebra-
ted this day, in conformity with an
ancient tradition."

This sermon, delivered at Anti-
och, probably in the year 386, shows
that at Rome, at least, the 25th of
December had been long observed,
and that it was then coming into
general use in the East. A story
is told that Cyril of Jerusalem
having written to Bishop Julius
of Rome on the subject, the latter
declared that he had examined
the records and found that the
Nativity should be celebrated on
the 25th December. It would
further appear, both from the
sermon of St. Chrysostom and
from other ancient testimonies, that
there was a good deal of murmur-
ing in the East when the bishops
began to keep the feast of the
Nativity apart from that of the
Epiphany, the people declaring
that they were dividing the feast
and casting them into idolatry.
To the Roman testimony as to
the day, we may add that of St.
Augustine, who says that the
"Consent of the Fathers" hands
down that the day of the Nativity
of the Lord is on the eighth day
before the Kalends of January."

Whatever claim the 25th of De-
cember may have to represent the
birthday of the Saviour of the
world, it has at least the sanctity
which belongs to the use and asso-
ciations of many centuries. And
for this must ever be sacred and
venerable. On this day we cele-
brate the birth of our Lord and
Saviour Jesus Christ, the Son of
God and the Son of man. On this
day our fathers, throughout many
generations, have kept the feast.
Well, therefore, may we put aside
any questioning as to the exact
day which is thus represented, and
stir ourselves up to gratitude and
joy as we give thanks to God for
"His unspeakable gift"—*Church-
man's Magazine*.

Undoubtedly the best medicine to
keep on hand for Colds, Coughs, Asthma,
Bronchitis and Pulmonary troubles gen-
erally, is Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam. It
will not cure Consumption, but it will
cure those troublesome conditions lead-
ing thereto.

AN ONLY DAUGHTER
CURED OF CONSUMPTION.

When death was hourly expected, all
remedies having failed, and Dr. H.
JAMES was experimenting with the many
herbs of Calcutta, he accidentally made a
preparation which cured his only child
of Consumption. His child is now in
this country enjoying the best of health.
He has proved to the world that
Consumption can be positively and
permanently cured. The Doctor now
gives this recipe free, only asking two
three-cent stamps to pay expenses.
This herb also cures night-sweats, nausea
at the stomach, and will break up a fresh
cold in twenty-four hours. Address
CRADDOCK & CO., 1082 Race Street,
Philadelphia, naming this paper.