

# The Church.

"Get Foundations are upon the holy hills."

"Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls."

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## Poetry.

### WATCH, MOTHER!

Mother! watch the little feet  
Chimbling o'er the garden wall,  
Rounding through the busy street,  
Hanging clear, shed and hall,  
Never count the moments lost,  
Never mind the time it costs,  
Little feet will go astray,  
Guide them, mother, while you may.

Mother! watch the little hand  
Picking berries by the way,  
Making houses in the sand,  
Tossing up the fragrant hay,  
Never dare the question ask,  
Why to see this dreary task?  
These little hands may prove  
Messengers of light and love.

Mother! watch the little tongue  
Prattling eloquent and wild,  
What is said and what is sung,  
By the happy, joyous child,  
Ouch the word while yet unspoken,  
Stop the tongue before 'tis broken,  
This same tongue may, yet proclaim  
Blessings in a Saviour's name.

Mother! watch the little heart  
Beating soft and warm for you,  
Wholesome lessons now impart,  
Keep, O, keep, that young heart true,  
Extracting every weed,  
Sowing good and precious seed,  
Harvest rich you then may see,  
Reaping for eternity.

### CHRISTMAS IN GERMANY.

From the *Christian Advocate and Journal*.

German Holidays—Christmas Market—

Signs of Preparation—Christmas morning

at the Court Church in Berlin—Christ-

mas Day in the House-hold—Family

Worship—Lively Scene in the Chris-

mas Room—Christmas Presents—The

"Two-year Old"—The Stranger Re-

membered—Christmas in the Hospital—

Occupation of the Week—Reflections.

I have thought it might be expedient to

pause for a moment amid my travels, and

amid the constant excitement of study and

sight-seeing, to breathe a little of the spirit

that belongs to the festivities and solemnities

of the closing year, and to linger amid

some of those customs that make Ger-

man life so poetic and so beautiful. Where

can one gather inspiration for calm and holy

thought, for praise and joy, thanksgiving,

so well as amidst the Christmas season?

The "Christmas" and the happy new

year? And were can one so wisely stop to

consider his present moorings, to meditate

upon the tributes the past has brought to

his harmonious advancement, and upon

what lies before him in the opening fu-

ture?

Among all that is had in Germany, and

all that is good in America, there are yet

some things that could be profitably trans-

planted from the German fatherland to the

new world. First among these we put

the customs that pertain to the German

holidays. From time immemorial have

these customs come down to the present

generations, and they are still celebrated

with all the freshness and enthusiasm of

former ages. For many weeks before the

wished-for period arrives, the fair dames of

all ages and all classes are busily employ-

ed in fashioning every manner of useful and

ornamental, imaginable and unimaginable

articles, while the children sing, and talk, and

dream of nothing else but the "good time

coming." About two weeks before Christmas,

commences the famous Christmas market.

The booths line the streets and cover the

squares of the central portion of the city,

presenting a very lively and cheerful ap-

pearance. Rows of green Christmas-trees

as far as the eye can reach are exhibited for

sale, of all sizes, and every degree of culture

and ornament, so as to meet the wishes and

purposes of each class of the community.

And the booths would be difficult to

give a catalogue of their contents. They

may be classed under the two general heads

of everything that grows, and everything

that is made by the hand of man. Of course

these things that are thought to be particu-

larly agreeable to the rising generation oc-

cupy a prominent place, but by no means

to the exclusion of the "dear-able" to all ages.

And then the scene that is here witnessed,

especially of an evening when there is an

extensive illumination, the thousands of

ages, classes, and conditions, laying in

prostrate for the approaching festival, bearing

victoriously away the objects of their selec-

tion; the douse crowd, the glistening trees,

the crying dolls, the joy painted on every

countenance, the general hilarity, and the

piercing voice of the auctioneer woman r-

ring above 't' din—these are a few of the

incidents to be taken into consideration

among the things preparatory.

Everything now is at a stand-still, except

that which refers to the eventful season—

The one hundred and seventy learned lec-

tures have reached their chairs in the ap-

hosts welcoming the Son of God again into

the presence of the Father. The soul is

lifted up to the triumphant courts above—

Such music speaks a living language to the

mid prepared, and the fault is probably

with him who sees in it nothing elevating or

purifying. No one can ever forget the ef-

fects produced by listening for the first

time to a well-trained choir of youths. If

female voices call to praise those, on the

other hand, hold the spirit spell-bound,

We passed a day alone in reflection, self-

study and prayer, and with much profit

indulged in the associations sacred to the

occasion. Whether it be that my lonely con-

dition or the German ceremonies have

deposited the feeling, so much is certain, that

this has been the happiest, most cheerful,

and most profitable Christmas of my life—

If an American home is reserved for me

in the future, I hope in a similar manner to

commemorate many returns of this sacred

## THE CRIMEA.

### THE BRITISH CAMP.

From a Correspondent of the Daily News.

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Dec. 11.

On Sunday morning the French outposts

in the neighbourhood of Baidar were at-

tacked by the enemy, who at first succeeded

in taking prisoners a French picket of a ser-

geant and 20 men, but were afterwards

driven back with a loss of 100 men killed

and 150 taken prisoners; amongst the lat-

ter are three officers. The enemy also

managed to take a captain of French in-

fantry the other day. It appears that he

was in the Tchernaya valley, fighting after

## OMAR PASHA'S ARMY IN ASIA.

December 19.

Continued our march along a magnificent

road; the bridges, however, were almost

universally destroyed; and notwithstanding

the activity of the Turkish artillery forces,

and the excellent way in which they were

managed, there is occasionally some diffi-

culty in getting the guns across the ravines

and muddy streams with which the road is

intersected. We frequently remarked fab-

ric and abutts on either side of the road

over the Russians thought the position

example of any former war. The enemy,

indeed, in all these matters is far worse

than ourselves, but still it is of importance

further to increase our superiority by im-

mediate decision and corresponding prepara-

tions. We believe that with this view a

council of war will be shortly held at Paris,

at which the Duke of Cambridge, attended

by Sir R. Airey, will be present. Sir E.

Lyons, too, will join in the conference, and

may be daily expected at Marselles. The

## MISCELLANEOUS.

There is a rumour that Sir Edmund

Lyon is to have the command-in-chief in

the Baltic next season.

A theatrical company, destined for the

Kamloosh theatre, sailed a few days ago

from Marselles in the Kuphrate.

We lose a man: the officers in command

of gunboats are all to be subjected to an

examination in gunnery, on board the Excel-

lent, on the 1st of January, when those

found incompetent will probably be super-

## European Intelligence.

### CAPITULATION OF KARS.

The story of this capitulation has reached

us through a Russian source, and we have

no means of ascertaining the correctness of

all the details. We take the Russian report

of Gen. Mouraviev as we find it, and learn

that after the assault on Kars on 29th Sep-

tember, which had been so brilliantly repul-

sed, the blockade became stricter than ever.

## THE NEXT CAMPAIGN.

From the Times.

The long preparation required for any

military enterprise is the chief difficulty in

the art of war. In the campaign which has

not long since concluded it was commonly

admitted that the first steps were taken

rashly, without the materials of success—

without the knowledge which should guide a

general. The result was, that showers of

## INDIA AND CHINA.

A battle had occurred between Faneh

insurgents and British troops under Cap-

tain Balfour. 500 dead were left on the

field, and the insurgents dispersed, but the

country is still unsettled and martial law

has been proclaimed in the Sandal district.

Herat has been taken by the Persians,

which causes great excitement, as Herat

is the key of Northern India.

## PERSIA.

A telegraphic despatch dated Trieste, the

25th instant, and Trebizond, the 11th, states

that the English Ambassador at Tehran

had broken off all relations with the Persian

government, in consequence of some per-

sonal offence. It was thought probable

that the incident would quickly terminate in

an apology. The same despatch also announ-

ces that Omar Pasha was still near Kutais

## THE MEDICAL STAFF.

The Medical Staff Corps, under Staff

Captain S. C. Sturrock, is to be raised to 1,000

men. An order has been made that the

number of men in the corps should be in-

creased to 1,000, and that the number of

officers should be increased to 120.

Admiral R. D. Dundas, Sir Michael Sey-

mour, and Baynes will strike their flag un-

and we hear the innumerable angels

of heaven, and the innumerable angels

of heaven, and the innumerable angels

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