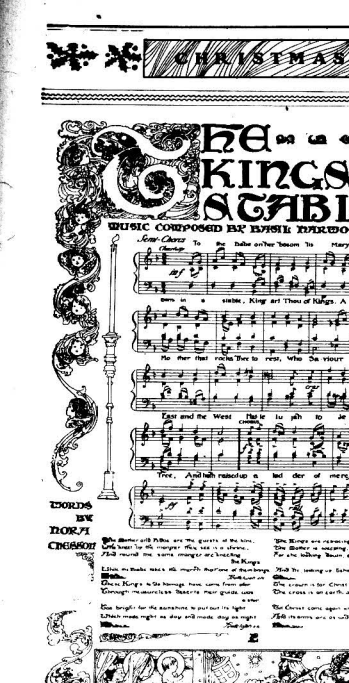

"And to the star which they saw in the east went before them," whispered the boy, and they speeded at its pure white light in the hush of the Holy Night.

"But suddenly," said the old man, sadly, "has not followed. In all the Christian era since it looked on the shepherds in that field of Bethlehem, it has looked on men doing evil somewhere in their fellows. Its light has been dimmed by the lights from camp fires of armies and from fingers of burning cities. I am old, and it is weary waiting for the fulfillment of the promise."

"The star is beautiful and spendid," said the boy with shining eyes.

"Undimmed I hope," said the Star. "And He in whose sight a thousand years are but a day sees mankind look toward me every year with new intelligence and love. Ages have passed and other ages still must be before the Word shall be fulfilled. But every Christmas eve I shine upon a world that has moved forward step by step."

Greater grew the radiance of the Star, until the world sank away and still and pure it shone over Jerusalem. Whose calm and faithful eyes are these that look toward it from a cell? Stephen lies there, soon to be taken to the city wall and stoned to death.

Again it shines upon the Holy City, surrounded now by a Roman army under Titus. Before another Christmas eve, Jerusalem shall be no more. The temple of the Most High shall be razed and Titus leave nothing on Mount Moriah save a little heap of ruins.

And again there is a Christmas eve. Six hundred years have passed. The Christian world has fallen far away from the Sermon on the Mount. Hatred and intolerance have distorted the cause of Christ into a cause for shedding of blood from Bethlehem to the far isles of Great Britain.

Christmas eve 590 A. D. and Rome is celebrating the Holy Night with wonderful splendor. Princes and warriors and priests throng the streets. Greatest prince of them all, before whom even the mighty Charlemagne bows, is the Bishop of Rome, Leo III. This is a Christmas eve destined to do more than any other Christmas eve in many centuries that have been or that are to come, to change the history of the world. For to-night Charlemagne and his magnificent court have agreed with the bishop that on Christmas day Charlemagne is to be crowned Augustus, Emperor of the West and Protector of Rome. The Holy Roman Empire has been.

Shining for the first time on Christmas in the New World, in 1492, the Star sees Columbus and his crew turn toward it from their small craft as they roll in the great blue seas of the tropical ocean off the coast of Haytí. It may be that there is too much Christmas cheer aboard the Santa Maria. For before the Star has set she is a hopeless wreck on the rocks of the beautiful island.

Shining on a new many cruel things in the New World after that. Its serene beam shines on Montezuma in 1519, a prisoner in the jubilant hands of Cortez. It shines on Cortez again with his men in the best Christmas eve, lying before Tezcuco, which he is to enter and plunder before the end of the week.

On the Christmas eve of 1529 and for the Christmas eves thereafter the Star looks on an American Odyssey. It is the Odyssey of Alvar Nunez and his three companions, sole survivors of the expedition of Pánfilo de Narvaez, wandering along the northern coast of Mexico, through Texas, to the Rocky Mountains, and thence to Mexico, trying to find a way to take them back to Spain. They spend one Christmas eve in being worshipped as demigods by a tribe of Indians. They spend many others in working as slaves.

Twelve years later the Star shines on Hernando de Soto, lying in camp in the Chickasaw country. It is the Christmas eve after his death in his wife, the beautiful Dona Isabella, and he is never to see her again. The Star looks down upon him in 1541, near the Mississippi with his great expedition scattered and all but destroyed, but the dauntless heart of him brave and unfearing. Christmas eve 1542, finds one such peerless, Fernando de Soto, Captain-General of Cuba, Adelantado of Florida, on earth.

In 1567 the Star sees a gathering in Antwerp. It is a terrible gathering that conceives a thought of inhuman wickedness and ferocity. Yet out of this Christmas meeting shall a great freedom be born. For it is that of the Spanish rulers in the Netherlands, and at it is adopted the decree of the Inquisition that condemns all the inhabitants of the Netherlands, both but few exceptions, to death. And the War of Liberation follows. It is the first to break the cruel and deadening power of Spain.

In the New World the Star looks on the colonists of Jamestown sleeping out on Christmas eve, in 1607, to escape from the Indians by strategy. Two years later, Christmas eve sees them suffering grievously from food again.

Anno Domini 1620 and the Pilgrim Fathers rest from their labor of building the settlement which they have begun before morning.

Christmas eve, 1676 and 1676, sees the Star in the New World. In the first year the New Englanders, instead of gathering around sociable fireplaces, are hunted, driving before them the remnants of the Wampanoag Indians, whom they have defeated in a great battle near Narragansett bay and in 1676 the French are taking Cayenne in Guiana after a stubborn fight.

In 1686 the Star shines on grim and moody faces in the town of New York. Sir Edmund Andross, the first royal governor and vice-regent of New England, has just arrived and is making a roaring Christmas eve of it.

Two years afterward the Star gleams on his successor, Dongan, who is spending his Christmas eve in the Jesuit college at Quebec, driven from his throne by England.

Shining with a few companions by a camp fire in the forests of the Allegheny of Pennsylvania, a young surveyor looks up at it in 1753. He is George Washington, nine days journey on his way home from Lake Erie, where he has been to carry a message from the commander of the French that will end finally in the French and Indian war. Indians are prowling on his path and night. He will look as serenely at the Star of Bethlehem as if he were sealing it in from his home in Virginia.

Fourteen years later two other young surveyors gaze a similar Christmas eve in the wilderness. They are not to become so famous personally as that other surveyor, but their names are destined to be linked for ever. They are Mason and Dixon, sitting under the Star at the end of their trail. They have reached a warpath so far Indians have forced them to stop thirty six miles from their objective point. But they have practically run their line and they finish it on Dec. 26.

Christmas eve 1773, and there are bands and flying banners in Boston Young and old, mechanics and traders and citizens of substance, are marching together. Singing "God Save the King," they head straight for the wharves, where two teaships are lying. Hundreds of the chests go over board, still to the accompaniment of the loyal tune. The others are left on the ships, but the colonists refuse to return home without unloading.

Later, John Paul Jones, in his own uniform and clothed in his three-day old dignity as commander of the Corps of Naval Officers appointed by Congress, swaggers around proudly on Christmas eve in Philadelphia in 1776.

Anno Domini 1776 sees 24,000 men crossing the ice-covered Delaware.

And in 1777 the Star shines on Valley Forge, where, snug all around pitiful, ragged, half-starved, half-crazy, freezing, but unfaltering.

Christmas eve, 1861, George Washington has surrendered his commission the day before. For the first time since the Star first looks up to the Star without heavy care.

STAR IN THE EAST

Wondrous Story of the Centuries That It Told to the Boy Who Gazed at It.

MEET TO MAKE NATION'S LAWS

Senate and House Affairs Are Briefly Outlined for Busy Readers.

REPORTS FROM BOTH BRANCHES

Special Correspondents Summarize the Important Transactions of the Federal Solons—Doings in Committees and Open Session.

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 1904.

The **Senate** decided to vote Dec. 16 on the bill providing for the construction of railroads in the Philippines. The discussion developed the fact that there is a general understanding that the Christmas holiday will adjourn Dec. 19. Mr. Scott asked consideration of a bill pensioning telegraph operators who served during the civil war. Mr. McCumber spoke in favor of the bill. Mr. Mason, Mr. Gallinger and Mr. Cockrell opposed it, and on motion was laid aside. Mr. Platt reported from the New York delegation in the House of Representatives a resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to inquire into the expediency of the construction of a retaining wall in the Hudson river. Mr. Latimer reported favorably from the committee on agriculture and forestry a bill appropriating $24,000 for the national arboretum and the bill was passed. Mr. Proctor presented a memorial from the Vermont legislature protesting against the reciprocity with Canada. Mr. Carmack introduced a bill to provide for the commission to investigate national campaign expenditures.

In the house Mr. Bingham of Penn. offered a resolution for the judiciary, navigation and judicial appropriation bill and asked unanimous consent for its immediate consideration immediately after the reading of the journal Thursday. Mr. Cannon objected. Reports of the president's message were referred to committees having jurisdiction over the several subjects. Adjourned at 5:18 p. m.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 1904.

In the Senate a resolution authorizing the payment of the Senate contingent fund to the funeral of Senators Ross and Pettigrew was adopted. The bill to provide for the public buildings commission which passed the Senate at 12:45 p. m. adjourned until Monday.

Bills to reduce southern representation in congress in the case of the disfranchisement of negroes were introduced by Mr. Pennoyer, Mr. Bingham of Pennsylvania and Mr. Gillespie of Illinois. The navigation and judicial appropriation bill, capitalizing the Philippine government, reported from the committee on appropriations by Mr. Tawney, Mr. Moore of Georgia, Hearst of California and Bartlett of Georgia, was made the order of the House. Mr. Hepburn, said it would be called up Monday. Mr. Hepburn said if the bill was then laid aside and not called up it would be taken up Tuesday.

Friday, Dec. 9, 1904.

The Senate did not meet.

A concurrent resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee to inquire into the Black Hills forest reserve was set aside for consideration of private calendar bills, unanimous consent of legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which was reported from the committee on appropriations, was made on a motion by Mr. Hepburn of Iowa to suspend the rules and pass the bill, a service commission. This was lost on a vote of 146 to 57 and the bill was then laid aside, a substitute for the strikers out on Indian reservations was adopted and the bill was passed. The new legislation. A paragraph declaring that the pay of all clerks and other skilled employees in the departments at Washington should be fixed by the secretary of the department in charge of the unit. A motion of Mr. Perkins of New York to add to the paragraph a clause $25,000 for work on the publication of the census was lost. Mr. Perkins said the clerks in the department were underpaid. Mr. Bartlett of Georgia said the salaries of the clerks in the department of commerce and Labor and for 50,000 employees in the department of the interior were stricken out. Mr. Perkins said the department were stricken out. Mr. Bartlett said the salaries of the clerks in the department of commerce, saying the much money was paid to the employees in the department of the interior was due to the investigation of the trusts. It is not the fault of the clerks, he said, but the association exacts a tribute of $50,000 from the clerks in the department of the interior. Mr. Perkins informed that the House Judiciary committee had reported a bill to provide for the publication of the statistic association on the ground that it was in violation of the law. The bill in the House reported to $500 the salary for the chief clerk of the department of commerce and Labor and for 50,000 employees. The bill was then passed. Mr. Palmer of Pennsylvania, from the committee on judiciary, submitted the supplemental report on the bill to provide for the publication of the census. The report was ordered to be printed, until Monday, to lie on the table, and ordered to be printed, until Monday.

Saturday, Dec. 12, 1904.

In the Senate a resolution calling for information relative to the part of a large force of Russian troops in the service of the American railway appliance exhibit, which recently left Moscow, from the Yosemite National Park over Sunday was adopted. Mr. Platt of Connecticut, Mr. Hale of Maine and Mr. Hopkins of Idaho called up the report of the committee on Indian affairs on Mr. Stewart of Nevada and McCumber, Mr. Dolliver and Mr. Clay, Mr. Platt of Connecticut, Mr. Hale and Mr. Hopkins as unfinished business. Mr. Spooner asked for the passage of the bill providing for the construction of railroads in the Philippines, which was made the order for Monday. Mr. Newlands said Mr. W. J. Bryan, Mr. Carmack and Mr. Dolliver, Mr. Philippines only, in that the direct government of the Philippines. Mr. Hopkins said the Philippines government

FIGHTS NATIONAL OWNERSHIP

Combine to Keep Coal Mines Out of German Government's Hands.

Frankfort-on-Main cable: West phalian bankers and mine owners have formed a syndicate to increase their share majority of more of than $7,500,000 in the Hibernia Mining company. This latest move is made to prevent the Prussian government from acquiring the Hibernia mines and finally obtaining an indirect influence in the Rhenish-Westphalian coal syndicate.

POPE AIDS WAR ON DIVORCE

Plus Asks Catholic Journals to Favor Anglican Defense of Marriage.

Rome cable: Pope Pius consents all Catholic journals to adopt a sympathetic attitude toward the new movement in the Anglican church to restrict the facilities for divorce. The pontiff urges that the general effect of convincing mankind of the necessity for a less relaxation of the sanctimonibility of the marriage tie would be greatly to promote the happiness of the human race.

COMPLETELY RESTORED.

Mrs. Ed. Gaffney, wife of D. Grunest, stock dealer, residence 3111 Grand avenue, Everett, Wash., says: "For fifteen years I suffered with terrible pains in my back; it did not know what it was to enjoy a night's rest and arose in the morning feeling tired and unrefreshed. My sufferings sometimes was simply indescribable. When I rubbed the first box of Doan's Kidney Pills I felt as a different woman. I continued until I had taken five boxes. Doan's Kidney Pills act very effectively, very promptly, relieving pain and all other annoying difficulties."

For sale by all druggists. Price 50 cents per box.

From Russian Private to General.

Gen. Linievitch, now in command of the first army in Manchuria, is one of the very few Russian officers who have risen from the ranks in important command. He was born in 1839 and was in the school entered the army as a private. At the beginning of this year he acted as commander in chief until the arrival of Kropatkin. His admirers claim that had he been appointed before the Japs came would have won so many victories.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

WITH LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfection to which these medicines have been brought is what produces such wonderful results in catarrhal troubles. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Wage of Standard Oil Magnate.

Henry H. Rogers, the Standard Oil man, who once worked for $1.16 a day, is a good deal better off much later than Jay Gould, has a cow-lick on each side of the part in the middle of his head, wears an iron gray mustache with cow-horn curls and takes off his hat to every lady he meets a bright 6 office, just as an ordinary servant would do.

Insist on Getting It.

Some grocers say they don't keep Mother Graves' Worm Syrup because they have a stock on hand of other brands containing alcohol. This is a poisonous, which they want to be able to sell first, because it is cheaper to them. Insist on having Mother Graves'.

Do you want 14 oz. instead of 13 oz. for same money? Then buy Defiance Starch. Requires no cooking.

Queen Victoria's Correspondence.

Queen Victoria's correspondence with her grandchildren is said to be possible to make it ready for publication before 1906. The volumes are to be illustrated by various unpublished portraits of eminent public characters.

Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children,

Successfully used by Mother Gray, nurse in the Children's Home in New York, cures Constipation, Headaches, Feverishness, Teething Disorders, move and regulate the bowels and destroy worms. At all druggists, 25c. Sample FREE. Address, Mother Gray, Le Roy, N. Y.

Nobody has as yet been able to prove that a college education ever qualified a man who would have been great without it.

Nothing

is so sensitive to cold as a nerve and this is the cause of

Neuralgia

St. Jacobs Oil

is the tried and unerring remedy. Cures Neuralgia, Nerve Pain, Nerve Weakness, Nervous Headache, Nervous Debility, Nervous Prostration, Nervous Troubles of all kinds. Price 25c. and 50c.

YOU TRAVEL—OR WILL

If not to-day, then to-morrow. There is quality and value in every "KATY" product. Ask for Katy Tickets and then see the connection. The K. O. R. R. of Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Ill. Ill. Ill. It will be worth while.

At this time of the year you are probably thinking what shall I wear? Write for Catalogue, Mail Order Coast of Texas, San Antonio. Our Matrix of Measurements is being sent out to all parties who express an interest in our Mail Order Department. Write us for information about Clothing, Hats, Shoes, Furnishings. Our Catalogue is free, but if able to procure, drop and a 2c stamp will bring you a copy and Special Information. There are some special bargains in Clothing, Hats, Shoes, Furnishings. Write for Catalogue and Special Information. Address "KATY" ST. LOUIS, MO.