# The First Christmas.

Observance of Anniversary of Christ's Birth, at Home of the Mother of Mark.

## 

d so lately stood among men, speaking man never spake, and teaching as never taught-the first anniversary His birth, since all the trials, sufferings ad dangers of that eventful life had ed-the shameful indignities, the bitess and agony of death. Throughout usalem many homes were desolate. Saul of Tarsus, in the blindness of zeal and hatred, had been filling the sons with unredsting men and helpwomen, and none knew whose turn might be next. All the disciples, except few of the most daring, had fled the ty, and had taken refuge in other

uch were the circumstances that surunded the chosen few who were now nwn togther. The place of their meelwas entered by a gate leading into portico of a plain house, standing ite by itself in the confines of Mount n. This gate was carefully opened by outh who was stationed there for that rpose, and, a number of persons having en admitted, was as gently closed again, guests passing into an open court, thence to an inner chamber. The art itself was a wide and spacious one, ered on all sides and open only to clear skies of Judea, that were now ving with myriads of twinkling stars. ough the night air was soft and my, there were no couches or divans anged around the walls of the inclo-

#### Home of Mary, Mark's Mother.

he home, built like many others in at Holy Land, was the home of Mary. ther of Mark, where the apostles lived, er the ascenision of their Master, until work called them to other places, had already been the scene of at least ecks before, at the Pentecostal feast, ets before, at the remissional least, re had the cloven tongues of fire de-nded on the chosen disciples, prompt-them to the utterance of prophecy, the inspiration of a life so divine, fer the sign of the Holy Ghost, that neer the sign of the Holy Ghost, that ey could fare the world undaunted, in a midst of perils, and, at length, with eady mien and eyes of serene and loving ith, grasp the crown of martyrdom. These people had not met to celebrate hat is now a memorable day, but they

a been drawn together naturally, to ak precious words of comfort to her a, 22 years before, had entered on the maternity-the mother of Jesus! blood of Stephen, first martyr to the faith, was still molst and red on the stones that slew him, and which, ungathered and unwashed by the lay, as they were cast against him, on stains, mute witnesses fury and wrong-of past suffering and esent danger.

in the private apartment which the ts had entered was a dals, surrounded a railing, close by the small wicker or which closed its entrance. On it sod the venerable hostess and, at her fit hand, her son, the Apostle Mark. gray hair of the mother was decently red, but not concealed, by a kind of an. She wore no veil, for, in the dom of her mature age and the pri-10.71. cy of her own home, she was per-lited to dispense with that almost in-parable adjunct of Oriental wardrobe.

#### Two Marys.

In the whole expression of her face, atide and movements, were combined a actical good sense with that heroic engy of purpose which marked her, at a ce, as no ordinary character. One nt have thought her countenance al-t severe, in its assually staid and etimes rigid aspect; but she looked the contral figure of a group, just be and tears sprang to her eyes, show-at underneath all this strong array lay the

art of a true and tender woman. if her gaze, we behold another ther of Christ-and who was feed, the most conspicuous figure in the om, being stationed in the center of e platform, and just fronting the en-ance. She was not recijning on the

It was thefirst anniversary of Him who | ment there, his long, fair hair flowing on dther side, concealed the tears that upon It.

There is no time, either by night or day, when He is not manifest to me," replied Mary; "and scarcely a moment since," she added, after a short pause. "these words wore whispered in my ear; "Behold, a new evangel is sent forth, and a messenger of joyful tidings is close and a at hand."

"Amen!" responded John, and the low response passed from Hp to Hp, in tones as deep as the faith that made it vital. "But if we follow in His footsteps, the spirit of our Lord and the strength of our Lord shall abide with us, whether we live or die," observed James, the Evan-gelist, who was reclining near to Mary Magdalen, his dark eyes, long, black hair,

large, heavy frame and strong expression of face furnishing a striking contrast to the appearance of his brother, and justifying the title which his Master had given him-"The Son of Thunder!" The Brothers.

#### John was tall and graceful, and hts

whole form was exquisitely molded. His long, fair hair fell over his shoulders in uxuriant waves, while, in the finelywrought features was a beauty almost too delicate for manhood, were it not for their intensity of power-a result of the wonderful union of wisdom and love, for which his character was so much distinisheff. "Yes," he responded, almost sorrowful-

ly, in answer to his brother's words, as If he had just had a vision of the next martyr. 'Tea my brother, thou, I doubt not, will abide true in thy faith, even to the last. And let us all remember the

precious words of our Master and strive to follow in His divine footsteps. Is not sofishness that seizes what is best and greatest, only for itself, the Dagon of the orld, and worse than any carved image that men, in their blindness, have ever set up to worship? And is not the whole spirit of His life and works one grea. scrmon against this monster vice? "Do as you would be done by,' sate

He. Again He said: 'Be just; love one What prophet before, since the world began, has ever taught so simple a fuith, so diving a doctrine—that all men are brethren and God is their common father -not fierce and revengeful, but slow to anger and full of mercy and loving kind-ness? Then let us love one another, even as He has loved us, that the world may

ruly know that we are not of them." He plused, and a deep silence followed this beautiful exhortation, for all pres-ent were emulous to enter more deeply into the spirit of their divine Master.

Mary Magdalene Speaketh. "What shall be the end of all these

things?" was sighed, rather than spoken, to low and sorrowful were the tone, and he Magdalen, drawing closer to her side Inid her head on the Madonna's knee, clasping her arms around her. "Surety we are ready to suffer." she continued, "but although the mind is willing, the heart is sometimes weak and the nerves will shrink even from thoughts as terri-ble. Ah! tell me not of courage, for who has seen what has lately been forcad upon us can yet bear to remember it-the fierce tortures of the cross and the cruel stones?"

A deep shudder passed over the speaker, and her fair form seemed to collapse with horror, as she enumerated, mentally, the unspeakable agonics of which she had een an eye-witness. "We could not forsake Him," she pur

sued as if communing with hereit, "but do we not, every hour, suffer a living death, in the memory of His?" "Rejoice that thou wert found worthy,

even for this, and doubt nothing, my daughter, for all will be well." At these words a woman who was rather past the middle period of life came forward, from a group at one side of the room, and, laying a hand on the head of the Magdalen, she continued: "Fear nothing, Mary; doubt nothing.

Behold my son, yonder boy of Naih! Was he not carried on his bier and them lifted up from it, living? Lo! is be not a winees of the power that can save, even to the last and through the inst? Cannot he who brought forth life out of in body?" "Aye, speak Lazarus!" she resumed, after a short pause; "for thou, too, shouldst bear audible witness of His oower. The one addressed, who had listened to the widow with deep emotion, now responded:

women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem? How can we trust one so

crimson with guilt as this man?"

illess, seeing that the Just One was ade a sacrifice for the sins of all?"

Mary to James.

"Thou art surely right, my son," said the Madonna. "I feel that this is really

hear, and that have been distinctly fore-

here tonight. Behold! even now the bear-

pearance and demeanor, which indi-ted the refined habits of a person of

the room he paused, and, stretching forth

Good Tidings.

"Behold! Ye also know that Philip has

been preaching the gospel in the villages of Samaria, as he has but lately shown

when he tarried among you in Jerusalem.

Returning from a journey but a few hours since, I came to rest, in the heat of the day, beneath the balms of Jeri-cho, when, behold! a traveler approached,

and as he came nearer I saw that it was

Philip, Surprised to find him coming from that direction, when we believed that he had again gone forth to Samaria,

was in haste to know the reason, and

he sought that Phillp should come up to

him in the chariot and explain what he

read, and Philip did so. And as Philip was explaining the text, he preached Je-

f this he soon assured me.

ings:

part of the good tidings we should

had seemed to come. A friendly greeting in low tones passed between them, when the stranger said: "Be careful, Mary, and betray me not. I shall suffer more, perhaps, than thou canst believe, if this visit should be crimson with guilt as this man"" "Behold' are we not all similars" And, with these words, a speaker of great benignity and eloquent expression, came forward. It was James, the younger, whom the Jews so reverenced for his in-tegrity that they often sought to kiss the hem of his garment. known: for, O, he is suffering secretly, and when his heart is sore with the conclousness of wrong, he is sometimes will-...et us be just, even to our enemics," ing to blame others-yes, even to torture thine handmaid, because he cannot enhe continued. "Aslide from his late acts, the life of Saui, of Tarsus, exhibits a character without blemish. Let us be-lieve, then, that he is honest in his mis-take; for have not men before him been dure his own tortures." "Hast thou borne thy testimony for Him

dejuded even to the shedding of inno-cent blood7 And who among us is blood-

Truly" whilepered Mary. "I have said all I could, but now 1 have censed to speak, and only enrage him, whey I try to persuade. But, O. Mary, if thou couldst know what I suffer in the thought of that wrong, committed by the husband of my youth-the husband on my love- Mary, Mary: pity ms: for I sometimes feel as if all the guilt had been concentrated and fallen cel on him, and that I had become the murby still loving him. r Filate is kind and true to me.

hadowed on the minds of several of us she whispered, in yet lower tones. "He has shown me nothing but love up to this fatal time, and how can I do other-

nere tonight, ischount even now the cear-er of joyful news conneth near, and when we hear it, we shall believe that this in also true. There is even now at hand a time of safety to believers, and the church shall have peace." Even while she spoke there was the sound of approaching footsens. This was "Take comfort, Claudia," whispered Mary, "for surely our Lord, Himself, who teaches us to love even our enemies, would not rebuke thee for loving him who is thise own husband!" "But, Mary." resumed the other, in her to Edessa." a very pleasing effect, relaxing the minds of those present, whose thoughts had

Even while she spoke there was the sound of approaching footseps. This was followed by a low tap at the gate, when Rhoda, a young damsel in the protection of Mary, went forth and opened H. Di-rectly a person entered, the ripeness of whose years had just begun to be touched eagerness to speak, letting her veil drop aside, showing that her fair cheek and noble features had been paled and fur-rowed with tears. "Mary," she contin-ued, hastily gathering up the folds and again hiding herself, "did not the Lord with the venerable character of age, and with the veneratise character of age. The behind him followed two women. The first was satured as Joseph, of Animathea. One of the women was greeted as the faithful Joanna, wife of Chusa, Herod's chief steward. The other was closely again hiding herself, "did not the Lord forgive and pray for His murderers, even on the cross? And dost not thou think that His prayer had virtue in it' eliad, and, seeking shelter from observa-on, drew her companion into an ob-cure corner, yet not before a certain oblity of air had been noticed in her "Why should it not?" responded Mary, soothingly. Claudia's Anguish.

"Ah!" returned the other, "I have tried to think so! I have spent the lone watches of the night in prayer that this As Joseph advanced into the middle of wonderful petition might be answered and his guilt washed away. Oh, there are his hands, pronounced the accustomed benediction of the aged on similar occa-sions: "Peace be to this house, and joy and blessing to the hearts of the faithdoubtless many who look on my fine robes and stately chambers with envy, but I could go yonder and fall in the dust to clasp the knees of that bereaved mother whose bereavement my own heart's love has in part, occasioned. It would be a greater blessing to this aching heart than the wealth of the whole wide world could 'Hast thou, then, heard the tidings purchase,"

"Hast thou, then, heard the tunings that Saul, of Tarsus, is really converted and preaching the gospel?" asked John, addressing Joseph, as he and Mark brought forward a couch and spread cushions for him to rest. "Verily," returned Joseph, as he sat down, "and, strange as it may appear, I believe. But I am the bearer of other tid-tures." Her slight form shock with emotion, but Mary drew her further aside and soon succeeded in restoring her to external quiet. Just then their attention was called to Joanna, who had something to relate. Laying aside her mantie, she began thus: "Yes, let your hearts be strong in faith,

for good can never be entirely overthrown by evil Behold! a young man of the house of Herod, who, in his secret mind, is well disposed to follow the Master, was sent forth by Chuzah this very day, on a private embassy beyond the walls of the city even to Engedi the City of Palms. Having rested in the shadow of its vineyards and procured from Queen Herodias some cypress wines, with which the place abounds, he proceeded home-ward. Coming to the fountain, Rogel, he drank of its waters and sat down to rest. at the same time watching several young men who were trying their strength by lifting and throwing the stone, Zoheieth. "Directly one of these, observing him, drew him aside, and, knowing him to be

"As he was proceeding on the road to Samaria, an angel of the Lord appeared in the way before him, bidding him turn privately a bellever in the new gospel, told him that he had but just then met a pilgrim who had lately returned from o the south, on the road to Gaza. Being obedient to the heavenly voice, he straightway turned his course, proceed-ing in the direction that had been point-Edessa, bearing letters for Herod, by the d out. Thereafter, he soon fell into com-bany with a charlot, driven by a single horseman. And Philip, listening, behold! hand of Abugarus, King of that city, and who, moreover, had gathered joyful news during his sojourn there. was reading the prophet Estas, and

Then the young man bastened forward; for this pligrim was he whom he had sought, his abode being Engedi. And he overtook him but a fittle within the sus: and, straightway, the charioteer be-sus: and, straightway, the charioteer be-lieved, and, finding water, he was bap-tized. He proved to be a person of great consequence and power, a servant of Can-dace. Queen of Ethiopia, being held in ereat favor and having charge of all her reat favor and having ble mistress will soon



perhaps, Joseph, under whose escort she had seemed to come. A friendly greeting in low tones passed knowy to some of you that this King ht nome, which is really world remem-bering, even now and here. It may be knowy to some of you that this King of Edessa, having assisted in obtaining the defent of Crassus, was afterwards obliged to submit to Augustus, by whom he was carried to Rome, in order to keep him true to his forced allegiance. He was first derined of his fills of King and ietz.

When the burst of enthusiasm had somewhat subsided, the sage who had not before been noticed and who was entirely unknown by all present, came forward. Casting aside his outer garforward. Casting aske his outer gar-ment, he walked into the center of the throng, and, leaning on his staff with one hand, laid the other steadily, not-withstanding his extreme age, on the head of the new minister. And, in a walke block and the mean interaction is accord first deprived of his title of King, and obliged to accept that of Toparch, or Gov-ernor, instead thereof. He grew weary, at length, of this state of inactivity, and comparative bondage, and finally be-thought himself of a strategem, hoping thereby to regain his liberty, and so in volce whose clear, musical tones seemed rather an attitude of immortal youth

Than of decaying life, thus he spoke: "Blessed art thou, Saul, last, but not least among the disciples of the Holy One. Verily that name shall be great in "Being one day hunting, he caught sevbral animals, taking also a portion of earth from the hole that each inhabited, giving orders to his attendants that every kind should be done up in a distinct par-The annals were carried in a sack to

One. Verily that name shall be great in the earth with a greatness that belong-eth to no other. It is a rising star that shall guide lost ones over the desert. It is an unfolding sun that shall give light to darkness. It is a fountain of life that shall break out on the shores of death. Thou shalt be as the river of the mountains, whose fountain-head is the bosom of paradise, and whose voice is a cry of joy. Swelled by the torrents, it passes on with a strong and rapid current, continually growing stronger The annais were carried in a sack to the amphibeater, and there, in the pres-ence of Augustus and the chief men of his empire, he ordered a distribution of the parcels, and on everyone being opened he released the animals, when

bench and ran to his native earth and em-braced it, as all he could find of home. The Emporor read the riddle, taking the lesson so to heart that he restored the captive King his titles and sent him back current, continually growing stronger and deeper, until its broad arms embrace widely distant lands. Such is the type of thy course, for thou shalt carry this new The relation of this little anecdote had

gospel of life unto remote nations." Then, lifting and spreading forth his hands, as in the act of conferring a gen-eral benediction, he said:

## The Sage's Prophecy.

Then Mark, and also his mother, spoke to their guests, bidding them go into the outer chamber and refresh themselves. They arose at the word, and, passing out, "Blessings he with you, and peace-peace that shall come forth like a star on the clouded night-blessings that shall spring they found tables spread with wholesome and simple viands. But ere they sai down, new guests arrived: at the same time Joanna, with her companion, passed up like flowers in the midst of thorns! Blessed are ye, men and women, brethren and sisters. Many here shall be found worthy to suffer death. Fear not; for your wounds shall be healed as with the The first who entered was a sage, whos once fine and stately form was bending beneath the weight of many years. No one knew him, for he took an obscure place, unobserved at the moment, bebalsam of Gilead; ye shall labor day and night, and when ye are ready to faint, ye shall inhale strength as the breath of frankincense, and life as the spirit cause the common attention was directed of the aloe! Ye shall be cast before savto the Disciple, Barnabas, who entered age beasts, but their eyes shall be opened and their mouths shut e shall take up serpents and trend on noxious reptiles, and they shall not barm you. Ye shall Repeating the common form of saluta-tion-"Peace be to this house, and bless-ings abide with the faithful!" Barnabas walk forth in the midst of pestilence, and came forward, and, having saluted the friends individually, he addressed him-self especially to Peter, James and John, who were gathered in a group around health, flowing out from your presence, shall purify the air. For you the wing of the hurricane shall be bound and the bow of the tempest shall be broken. Your lives shall be fragrant as the breath him. He told them, with much emphasis, the story of Saul's conversion, and urged that he should be joined with them in the ministry. When the Apostles and of Eschol; your hopes unfailing as the waters of Bethulia, and whether ye dle of stones, or on the cross, or by new tor-tures, or on your own beds in peace, other brethren hesitated, expressing doubts as to the reality of the imputed your release shall be triumphant as the he lifted up his voice and dogoing up of, an eagle, and ye shall be embalmed in the hearts of all generations with memories immortal as the per-

## clared, earnestly:

Barnabas Exhorts.

The King's Strategem.

been strained with too severe a tension.

quietly out.

lose behind. Reneated

change.

"Know this, whether ye receive Him, or whether ye reject, the Lord hath sent fume of roses. "Lo! when the outer eyes are dim with age, the eyes of the spirit, looking for-ward, behold the darkness of the future. Him forth, and ye cannot hinder him, for who can overthrow what the Lord clear as noonday. Thus do I perceive the truth. Thus do I see it is good that Jesus should die on the cross, and that many of His followers shauld seal the covenant with their bloof. Behold, the shadow of the cross stretcheth from as willeth? He has already been found worthy to suffer persecution, for the Jews, even now, are thirsting for his life. Look at his works and see if they are not in the power and spirit of the Lord! Try if there is any shadow in them for the concealment of evil! The Lord hath baptized Him in a flood of to sea, embracing new worlds in its mantie of love!" "And who art thou, wonderful seer" light from heaven, and who can set aside exclaimed the Madonna, coming forward and looking earnestly in his face. "Sure-

his baptism?" Then there was a sound of many voices ly I know that voice, and yet I can scarce expressing a desire to see and to wel-come Saul to the field of labor, "Lo, He standeth at the gate, walting

He interrupted by drawing her gently to the light. Bending his aged eyes on her face, he perused it earnestly. Then to be introduced into your presence." answered Barnabus, who, passing out, left the deer open that led into the court. Every eye was searching intently for the newcomer, and when they saw a figure moving amid the darkness, with s he said:

"Yes, it is even so. Thou art not as one who walketh in the valley of vanity. mysterious light failing round about, they marveled with fear and trembling, think-ing they had seen an angel. As he came Thou wast younger then, Mary, when the new-born babe was on thy knee, but fairer to the spirit's eyes do I now be-hold thee. Rememberest thou the East-ern Magi, that blessed thee as the mother of the Holy One?" ing they had seen an angel. As he came forward, through fear or veneration, some were fain to prostrate themselves before him. But, raising them, as he ad-vanced, he took the outstretched hands of Peter and John, and, having saluted such as were pressing immediately about him, he thus addressed them: "Brothers and alsters in the bunds of "And art thou he who was called Uriel, because his soul was as an angel of light?"

"Men gave me such a name, and I am

"Men gave me such a name, and a ar-the last survivor of all my brethren," responded the sage." All present were filled with astonish-ment and profound awe, gaing on the sage's stately figure, as he stood in their sage's stately figure, as he stood in their midst, with his long hair, while as the snowy locks of Lebanon, sweeping, in silken waves, over his shdulders, and his mysterious utterance, combining the char-acters of poet and prophet. "And whence comest thou?" inquired John.

Recognition.

"Even from my native country, the land of Elam. I have come hither to lie down at the foot of the cross and find rest. Ere I depart hence to pass over the dark gulf, I seek to drink more freely

never-dying love. And when they spoke again, one to another, their words were like sweet melodies of fraternal kindness and good cheer flowing from soul to owing from soul to Occasionally exhartations forth, full of hope and determination and courage, waking the same emotions in the listeners, as they pointed ever to the bright example of Him who had hap-used his sincerity in the immortal blood of the cross.

So they kept the night; but with the gray dawn every man returned to his place and every woman to her home. And when the earliest beams of the rising sun shone over the eastern summit of Mount Zion, the sage, Uriel, stood on the threshold, staff in hand. A blessed the house and all that it, and went his way. Again he

Once more he paused, to drink and wash himself in the pool of Siloam, and then, with a murmur of love to the Risea Babe of Bethlehem, he set his face towards Iran, and the first posthumous inniversary of the birth of the Lord was inished. EUGENE L. THORPE. finished. -

# SUGGESTIONS TO LEGISLATURE

#### Remarks on Bills Which May Be Introduced.

KLAMATH, FALLS, Dec. 19 .- (To the KLAMATH FALLS, Dec. 19.-(To the Editor.)-I offer a few suggestions on sub-jects now getting attention, first on the scalp bounty law. I have not much pa-tlence with opposition to a measure simply because its direct operation is not precisely the same in every part of the state, but there is an argument against the coyote bounty which I have not seen stated. To be successful in the shear the coyote bounty which I have not seen stated. To be successful in the sheep business men must have dogs and herd-ers and corrais, and must look well after their flocks anyhow. All they need do is to make their night corrais a little more secure, and there will be small need of this law. It costs the sheepmen more than it is worth. Then all laws should be for the greatest mode to the largest than it is worth. Then all laws should be for the greatest good to the largest number of citizens. Comparatively few are or will be engaged in the sheep bushness in Oregon. Immensely greater numbers are engaged in raising grain. vegetables, etc. Everyone who is in-formed on the subject knows that coyotes are great destroyers of rabbits and ground squirreis, which are ruinous pests most destructive to gardens and to grain and other crops. Expensive fencing might shut out the rabbits, but not the squirreis.

Second-The lish and game laws. Only a few plain restrictions are necessary. The world is governed too much. There is no use making laws that are not ex-pected to be heeded. Most of the game laws are a premium on lawlessness. Among plencers, so great is the sense of the injustice and wrong of most of theso restrictions about fish and game, that there is little obedience, and the breaking of one law leads to the breaking of

others. Most ploneer settlers are poor, and de-Most pioneer settlers are poor, and de-pend mainly on fish and gime for their mest. They could safely be trusted not to waste and destroy their own present and prospective supplies. They are a law unto themselves and among them-selves against unseasonable killing of game, etc., till driven to it, in order to get any, by city sports and club men fond of hunting and fishing, and rich enough to some and camp near the frontier set-tiements and kill all the game they tlements and kill all the game they can, seasonable or not. About two years ago, such sportsmen visited the vicinity of Pelican Bay. in Klamath County, and were reported as killing, during the closed season, about 1009 ducks, mostly mal-larda, nearly all of which were just left where they fell, so that wasted, dead ducks floated down, lodged, and accumu-

hted at one point in sufficient numbers to dam the brook, which was quite a stream. No wonder the honest, hurd-working settler fails to see the justice in laws to make him keep hands off and go hungry, in order that the clubmen can turn out and have their sport. Almost the whole string are so plainly

and solely for the benefit of mere gentle men sportsmen, that the border men will fret and chafe under them for awhile, and then disregard them. The Oregonian its self is no doubt aware of that recent court decision that when it is lawful for ducks, or other game to be marketed in a state, and it is then lawful to kill them in an adjoining state, they may be shipped from the one state to the other and sold. Yet some of our folks want to prohibit selling ducks, etc., even at home. Such prohibition will not stick, and there is no use to try to make it.

Wrong and impolitic is any law about game, which permits a man to kill it, and yet undertakes to restrict his use of it, further than to require that it be not wasted

why prohibt from

18

attitude of repo 10. 21.5 we couch, in an attitude of repose, as are most of the others around her, but anding forward, and listening intentiy the words of Peter, who had, apparent-

the words of Freter, who had, apparent-, just come in. There was nothing in the form of Mary nat reminded one of that youthful bright-ms which we have seen delincated in se various Madonmas, but there was imething stronger, deepet, iruer, be-unse every line that had been wrought, ad every shadow that had fallen on the terior lineaments had been developed terior lineaments had been developed to a higher beauty and a nobler charm. in a higher beauty and a nobler charm, long vell of black gauge shuded, with-it concealing her luxuriant dutk hair, per flecked with gray, and foll with a lefd contrast, over the yet fair check and the robe and tunic of spotless white, he folded hands were clasped and lifted; is outlines of the delicate mouth were impressed and the eyes, while they were dised and bent upon the speaker, had a expression as if they also turned in-ard and were reflecting the interior visand were reflecting the interior visn of the soul.

#### St. Peter.

But all eyes were now bent on the eaker, who was narrating some inciats not then generally known, connectwith the last hours of the devoted ephen. Let us picture him, as he stood ere in that wonderful group;

He was rather tall, erect and commandg in appearance, although not overrge. His jet-black hair and beard were port, thick and curied, giving to his fine esd a bolder outline. The brows were fty and projecting, and from beneath sem finshed an eye that could have sen kindled by no other than the flory and of Peter. As he went on speaking the beloved martyr, his pale counteice became flushed and his voice rose ith excitement

Beware of loud speaking," whisperef ow, sweet voice, and at the words a nale figure that had been reclining ca-left hand of Mary, the Mother or as, rose and sprang forward; and, it, quick earnestness of her expression i movement, as well as the exquisive aty for which she was distinguished, can recognize only the Magdalen. But w the usually pale check was flushed. is eyes were tearful, and the fair hands ere clasped together until the nails of sch were imprinted in the other. She ad been listening to a story of terrible only, and all her passionate depth of eling was aroused. "Beware, good Peter!" she whispered

in. "Baul, of Tarsus, is abroad. What uid hinder him from coming hither?" So of good confort. Mary," returness er, regarding her tender form with a with and pluying eye; "for truly as the tage of our Master ever spake, it has oken just now, as it were breathing o my soul these words: "Be of goos ser, Peter, for comfort is at hand""

### John, the Beloved.

screat thou what He said, while was yet in the form, present with us?" "Where two or three are athered together in my name, there will be in the midst of you." Have we not I felt His presence and has He not been e gave me, alm

Lazarus Beareth Testimony, "His power is love, and love is omnipo dent."

There was slience a few minutes, and then Lazarus spoke again: "I could say much concerning this power of which thou hast made montion. O thou blessed widow of Nain! but for sympathy with this dear sister, whose eyes are not yet healed of their wreping for His loss." He classed the hand of his siter Mary, whose head rested on his shoulder, and once more all relapsed into that expres-sive silence, where the voice of the Spirit seemed audible, for was not the Master

Present and communing with their spirits in truth and in power? "Yonder boy has somewhat to say that should give us much good cheer." again spoke the widow, as Mary Magdalen made room for her between herself and the Madonna, and she pointed to her son, "The youth is not used to spraking and his heart is full," she added, making a

gesture of entreaty for him to rise. Then, by request of James and Peter, the youth came forward. Advancing to the floor in front of the pustform, be stood, with his left side inclined to the railing, his left hand being thrown over it, and lovingly clasping that of John, as if his diffidence might thence draw cour-

age to bear his testimony. "I had been sent forth by my mother." he began, turning, with a modest air, to the face of John, "and on coming to Tiberian on the border of Gennesaneth, not finding Him I sought, I crossed over

to the sea of Betheelds. There I met the young man, who was from Sidon, hav, ing been to Dumascus for the purchase of lines. But, instead of answering the business questions that were put to him be said, suddenly. 'Art not thou, too, a follower of Him they call Jesus of Naz-ureth?' And I answered, not knowing but he was a servint and spy of Saul, who, I knew, had gone out into that country. 'Bebold my life! Should it ever cease from following after its givtn and restore?' he said, suddenly, 'Art not thou, too, a

## Saul's Vision.

"Then he said, 'Listen, for the end of wonders is not yet! Behold, when Sam was on the way and coming near to

Damascus, a bright light, as it were, from beaven, enveloped him, round about, He fell on the ground, in great astonish-ment and feat, and the Lord spake to him and raised him from the serit. And, lot when his eyes were opened, he could see no man, for the light had strucken him doit. But with a strong hand no him blind. But, with a strong hand, ne num points, but, with a strong hand, he was led forth from his sins, and he is now in Damascus, preaching Christ Jesus, in all the synagogues, with great power, such as man never yet heard; and the laws are conformed."

Jews are confounded. Jews are contounded." "This may be some new trick of his to lead the brethren into his power," op-served Peter, "for how can he, whose hands are yet red with the blood of in-

HERE YOU FIND NOT OXLY SANTA CLAUS, BUT HIS DEER AND SLEIGH, A CHRISTMAS TREE, A CHRISTMAS TURKEY. A BAD LITTLE BOY WHO WAS SKIPPED BY SAINT NICK, A GOOD LITTLE BOY AND HIS GOOD LITTLE SISTER AND SOME OF THE TOYS THEY RECEIVED.

come to know the truth, and thus the gospel will be spread far abroad." An expression of joy follawed this an-nouncement, not because a convert was a rare thing in those days, but for the renson last mentioned by Joseph, that by

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a in the middt of you. Have we not felt His presence and has He not been milest to thee, 0 my mother, to whom gave me, almost with His last breath be unto thes a son" The took the hand of the Madonna, as apoke, and, bowing his head a mo-

and deeply of that new wisdom, whose germ I first saw enfolded in the Babe of the Manger. No peace could I find elsewhere, and when, by power of that sympathy which had always drawn His life to mine, I beheld Him stretched upon the cruel tree. I took up my pligrim staff and left the land of Iran, though it

and a support to thy weakness?" asked the Magdalen.

Thinkest thou, my daughter that the star that first led me hither is blotted from the sky? The eye of faith is not led by external signs, and the soul of faith envelops the weakness of the body

"But if the truest armor." "But if theu dist believe in the teach-ings of our Lord, why didst theu not come before?" inquired Thomas.

#### Son of Ormund.

"I was born a son of Ormuzd," replied the sage. "Names are nothing, and to me he was and is the true God. I have lived, not in external forms or names of wisdom, but in the slient power of the Spirit, that asked not of times of places, but only of truth. I have drank deeply of the ancient wisdom of Egypt; the kong-obscured learning of Ethiopta was unfolded before ma, until it became clear and simple as the letters of Chaimus, and my life has been illuminated with the Zendavesta, or Book of Fire, that burned with the wisdom of Zoroaster. have seen much that was good in all, and much that was also useless or hurt-ful. The eyes of the seer looked back to their beginning and forward to their end. But when I came to that Babs in the Manger, I beheld, in the halo that crowned his brow, a concentration of all previous light, the excellency of all future

He paused a few moments, and then added: "Now that I have borne my tes-timony, let me bless you and depart in

'Nay, good father," said the hostess, "tarry with us through the night, and always, if thou wilt."

always, if thou will." "And thy life shall be guarded with ours, until it sinks into the beauliful re-pose that seemoth near at hand," said the Magdalen.

"Nay, my children; seak not to detain my steps beyond the light of morning. The old man's love is strong; he would reach the borders of Iran and pass away

from the home of his fathers." Then Mary called the damsel, Rhoda, and she brought water, and the Madonna herself sat on the ground and washed the feet of the sage, and Mary Magdalen wiped the dust from his brow, and they yied with each other in acts of kindness and attention.

and attention. "Ye have made the heart of the old man young again," said the venerable set. as he rose from the bath, and, stretching forth his hands, again bleased

around the board, and Mark took bread and, breaking it, called on the name of the Lord, and they sut down to ment, as they had done often while their departed friend was yet in the flesh and stood in their didt defined.

And why promist from washing-say venison, while the same law forbids a man to sell a pound of his deer, but in-nists that he must be a sufficient glutton to cat it all himself, and then awallow the hide? About the next thing will be "an act" providing that nobody shall cook any same, except out doors by a cook any game, except out doors by a

comp fire, on a hazel switch. Third-The Supreme Court. If the Su-preme Court Judge will stop making long arguments and citations of authorities, at least in plain and simple cases, they can keep up with business, and, incl-dentally, the state printing will cost less, and inwyers and other can understand the laws better.

It is astonishing that any one should de so, but some months ago a man did ap-peal to the Oregon Supreme Court to em-able him to take advantage of a new law to avoid a financial lability be had incurred under a certain older law which had been repealed some months after the incurring of said liability. The court took quite a number of pages of the "re-ports" to say this: "No ex post facto law can operate in these United States, and this liability having been incurred under a law good at the time it was so incurrd, appellant (A. B.) must pay it. KLAMATH.

#### Elevate the Street Lights

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.-(To the Editor.)-Having lived in this city a number of years, also in Los Angeles and San Diego, Cal., I call the attention of the general public to the difference in light of the latter cities to that of Portland. In Los Angeles, also in San Diego, the electric light poles (most of them) are twice the height of those here, and four are lights are suspended therefrom, instead of one, and this gives a brilliant light over a

and this gives a brilliant light over a couple of blocks, on all four sites of the pole. (I mean south, west, north and east in direction from the pole). I never saw such dark streets down there as I do here in this city. Expe-cially have they those lights on and near such places as the Southern Pacific freight and passenger depot, also the Sawis Ex doord and out-fries www.limits freight and passenger depot, also the Eanta Fe depot, and out-of-the-way limits where hold-ups would most likely occur. Anyone going up Front street anywhere near the terminal grounds and the O. R. & N. warshouse would see the benefit of erecting such lights, not only in keeping one from failing, or permitting men to collide with one another in the dark, but in making it houd for footnads as their collide with one another in the dark, but in making it hard for footpads, as their best place to operate is in dark streets and on dark corners, where they can hide till their intended victim approaches. Give our eity such lights in out-of-the-way places and you will need less of a police force, have fewer hold-ups and be better off in the long run. Hoping this will come under the eyes of our eity fathers, as well as those who believe in having well lighted streets to travel on at night, I am lighted streets to travel on at night, I am HENRY LIEBE. respectfully,

MOUNT HOOD. Father Earth, asleep on the ground, Pulled on might cap and its strings bound-Used a glacker instead of a cap. A mow bank in place of a hat.

A snow bank in place of a hat. Hood was a unvelor of worth; Mount Hood is a hood on the earth-A towering bonnet of now. A canopy of white aglow; Its broad dimensions high in sir, Conspicuous, handsome and fair. -Rev. T. W. Haven, Ph. D. York Springs Pa. Day 5 1000. York Springs, Pa., Dec. 5, 1990.

The Supper. Then, when all were ready, they drew

His words and manner shamed every doubt and silenced every fear, and they who had suspected his fitness stood abashed before him. All, even the sim-plest, comprehended at once that there could be no guile in the fair, open brow, and the clear eyes that arched so nobly upward, and looked so truthfully for-ward. Many came near to kiss the bor-ders of his rarment, and to effer silent

them. Soul is Welcomed.

# might be forever." "And who was a guide to thine age