

THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING.

As I hang my stocking
Above the fire,
To see what good things
The good St. Nick
Will bring me here to-night.

UNCLE JERRY'S CHRISTMAS.

UNCLE JERRY
Foster was too stingy
to live, and everybody
knew it. But he
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OLD FATHER TIME RECEIVES THE NEW YEAR.



CHRISTMAS MUSINGS.

Whatever the facts or fancies of our creed,
They are divine if they but serve our need;
And hence the brightness of that glorious
That still is called "The Star of Bethlehem."

The Library Corner

Prof. A. H. Sayce is adding still another volume to the long list of his published works. "The Early History of the Hebrews" is just announced for publication by the Macmillan company.

A FLORIDA CHRISTMAS.

How the Happy Day is Celebrated in a Fair Southern City.

CHRISTMAS in Florida is a novel experience to Northerners. There the manner of observing this holiday is more like a Fourth of July celebration than anything else.

Only in the churches is the commemoration suggestive and familiar. In some of these a great Christmas ship, with evergreen-trimmed masts, is displayed.

Another Altered Will. Little Alice—Mamma says she ain't going to give you anything for Christmas this year.

Will Receive Calls. "Do you expect to receive calls on New Year's day?" asked Willie Higgin.

Need Not Interfere. "I don't see your mistake," said he, glancing up at the chandelier.

There Was Another. Jack—I hear you had a narrow escape from a bear in the mountains this summer.

Where did this 'ere come from?
And he 'aughed and says: "It's made out of one of our best Plymouth Rocks: is it good?"

A wonderin', quiverin' smile hovered for a minute on 'er poor face; she didn't know what to make on't.

He got up and bowed his nose with all his might and main.

That night Uncle Jerry harnessed the old mare and went over and got Mary Buel to come 'n' stay with 'em a spell.

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can't expect a woman to stay 18 all her life.

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He sat there, blamin' herself and thinkin' 't what a poor, weak kind of a mother she was.

How then two kissed and clung to one 'n' other, till the children got out o' patience and wouldn't wait no longer for their turn!

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Church as the date of Christ's circumcision. The Church of England adopted the festival occasion a thousand years later.

THE GLAD NEW YEAR.
Old-Time Celebrations of Its Birth and Some Customs of To-Day.

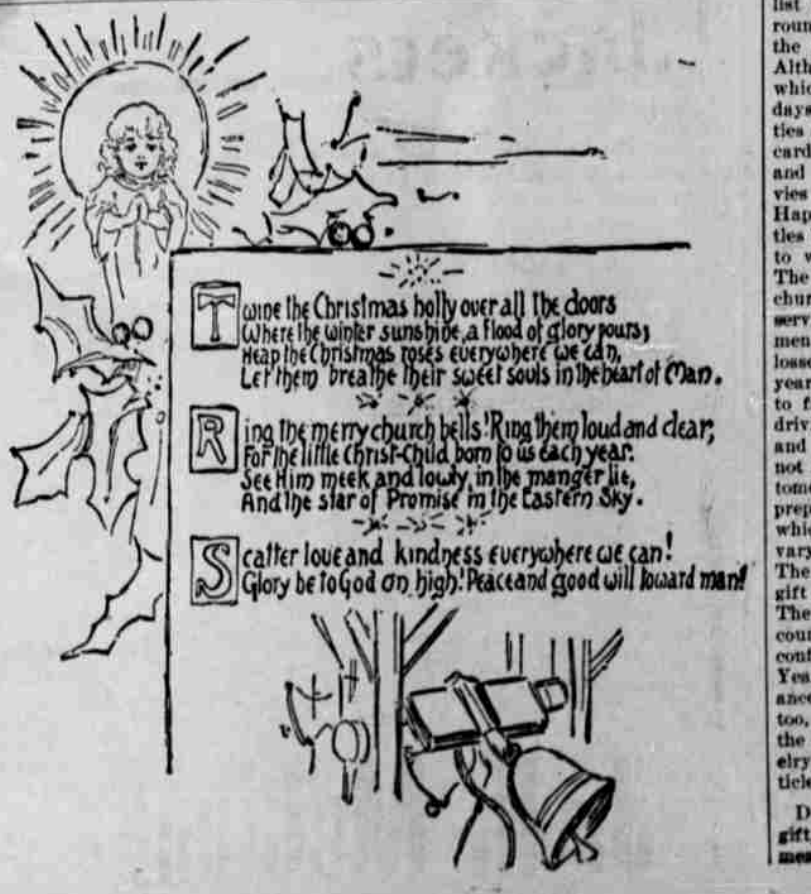
HE first of January has in the minds of most of the world a double significance.

THE custom has died away. Its decline began some years ago, when here and there, upon the bell or door knob of the house, a small basket was hung to receive the cards of those who might call.

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Once the Christmas holly over all the doors
Where the winter sunshines, a flood of glory pours
Heap the Christmas roses everywhere we can,
Let them breathe their sweet souls in the heart of Man.

Ring the merry church bells; ring them loud and clear;
For the little Christ-child, born to us each year,
See him meek and lowly in the manger lie,
And the star of Promise in the Eastern sky.

Caller love and kindness everywhere we can!
Glory be to God on high! Peace and good will toward man!