

Busy, Jolly Santa Claus

[Copyright, 1901, by Hamilton Musk.]

Santa Claus' long white beard, his round proportions, red, cheery face and generally jolly good fellow appearance are borrowings from pagan traditions and art. He is the type of one who has an abundance of the good things of life himself or can command them by the exercise of some magic and wants to see them go around.

The chimney and stocking business is all due to an accident long ago, but first came so clever as St. Nicholas to know a good thing even if it happened to him, so he's kept up the trick and given a sort of sacredness to ways that are easy and apparel which is one degree better than the unmentionable. This was the original chimney and stocking incident: St. Nicholas wanted to convey a purse of gold to a very worthy family which happened to be in deep distress, but he didn't wish to make the charity offensive. He reached the house on Christmas eve and, looking through the window, saw the gray haired head of the family hanging up his stockings to dry before a wide, old fashioned fireplace. After the folks had all retired and had time to fall into deep sleep the saint climbed to the roof and, taking the purse, dropped it down the flue with a sort of curved pitch which landed it in one of the stockings.

Of course the recipients of this marvelous gift didn't keep it quiet, and the good old soul who was at the bottom of it found out how much good he had done. The next year he went back and saw the stocking in place for another windfall, so he chipped in another purse. A third year he repeated it, and always after that the old man hung up his stockings regularly the night of the 24th of December. Whether or not the gold continued to flow in tradition does not say, but every child knows that Santa Claus has been around annually each year since that time and has filled the stockings in evidence with all sorts of things according to the needs and desires of the owners. Even birch rods, long and tough, have been known to whisk from the upper air straight down the cracked chimney flue

and land in the stockings of boys who ought to have them. It is no easy task for even a saint to know what each of so many millions ought to have, but he even things up somehow so that there is no cause for complaint. He hasn't made any contract, and no one can reasonably complain if the unexpected happens.

Some people profess to be able to read character by the feet of the subject. Perhaps the jolly old patron of gift giving has learned to read in the stockings put before him the deeds of the owners, thus being able to reward or punish. In the



OLD SANTA IN HIS DEN.

Good old days it was a tradition that if a mile hung up a stocking with holes in it she would be punished for laziness. Boys' stockings shouldn't have nail holes in them nor be frayed at the toes, for the one is a sign of laziness in not removing the nails from the boots and the other the boorish habit of kicking at everything in sight, even the new furniture.

JONATHAN JOYCE.

TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878. NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

United States Land Office, Roseburg, Oregon, Dec. 17th, 1901.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 9, 1892, Ole Jacob Rismvick, of Hoquiam, county of Clatsop, State of Washington, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 1909, for the purchase of the NE 1/4 of Section No. 8 in township No. 25 S., Range No. 9 West, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Roseburg, Oregon, on Friday, the 7th day of March, 1902.

He names as witnesses: Syver Korstad, of Hoquiam, Wash.; Martin Haugen, of Charley Olson, of N. K. Kivela, of Eugene, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 7th day of March, 1902.

J. T. BRIDGES, Register.



[Copyright, 1901, by Joel Benton.]

One blazing star in Bethlehem's sky,
Bringing to all their hearts' desire,
Close linked with human destiny
Shall never from its place retire.

In Acan lands it had its birth—
The Magi saw it and were glad;
Hope to the stricken souls of earth
It brought—and they, no longer sad,

Welcomed the message burdened light
Which came to unexpected eyes;
The shepherds on the hills at night
Saw the new portent with surprise.

Above the manger where it stood,
By the meek oxen, open eyed,
It rose with rare beatitude,
And all the world was glorified.

So let glad bells in concert ring—
Tuned instruments lift up their voice—
And to unnumbered millions bring
That theme which makes the world rejoice.

If life grow dark and joy is not
And all our dearest dreams deceive,
Still comes to palace, home and cot
The heaven blest hopes of Christmas Eve.



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Church Services

There will be services at the Episcopal church tomorrow morning and evening; also morning services on Christmas day.

Special Xmas services at the M. E. church tomorrow at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Subject: morning, "The Star of Bethlehem," evening, "The Dignity of Labor." The Sunday school will give its usual Christmas entertainment Tuesday evening next.

The service in the Presbyterian church next Sunday morning will be by the Pastor and will have reference to Christmas. In the evening Rev. J. M. Hunter will preach on the subject, "Things that Accompany Salvation." All are welcome. The Sunday school Christmas services will be held on Tuesday evening at 7:30. An interesting exercise is promised.

Largest assortment of fancy Crockery and Chinaware in town, at Flanagan's.

Travel by Sea

Arrivals by Arelata, Dec. 16.—Miss M. Bass, M. J. Peters, A. B. Coyle, R. B. Foote, Mrs. Nelson, Miss Gustafson, Mrs. Rasmussen, A. Stivelage and wife, Miss Dien, W. H. White, A. W. Fuller, C. Roberts, N. Seavallius.

Arrivals by Alliance from South, Dec. 17.—F. J. Ward, A. Kingston, W. H. Gangle, Dr. E. C. Thaw, Mrs. E. A. Dodge, Geo. Laird, Mr. Howlton, C. Nashburg, Mrs. C. Hubbard, Warren Dollar, A. M. Stappan, G. Jappens, Mrs. Blanche Bates, S. J. Sweet, Miss E. Hunter, C. M. Drumitt and wife, J. D. Drumitt, J. D. Drumitt, Frank Thurston, Walter Dyrin, E. M. Armstrong, Geo. Murphy, A. Davenport, J. F. Siligsky, E. L. Storm, C. Barry, H. Haysen, J. Swish and son, A. Anderson, Eureka football team, W. Wedler, W. Barnard, A. Way, R. Wing, J. Walling, W. Foley, E. Falk, G. Squabs, B. Traver, H. Rogers, J. Traver, A. Kellon, J. Mahan, L. Parsons, G. G. Halliday.

Departed north by Alliance, Dec. 17:—Miss M. Smith, Mrs. F. K. Palmer, Mrs. E. Anderson, T. J. Lloyd and wife, Glenn Lloyd, Mrs. Hoffmann, Miss Florence Smith, Miss A. Berry.

BLANCO HOTEL

The new proprietors of the Blanco Hotel, McDonald & Page, are endeavoring by courteous treatment and excellent service to please their patrons and the public generally. The interior of this popular hostelry presents an attractive appearance, having recently been repainted and repaired. The dining room service is unexcelled, the guests being furnished with the best the market affords.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Notice is hereby given that, by order of the county Court, duly made and entered on the 14th day of December, 1901, S. A. Yeakam was duly appointed administrator of the estate of George W. Yeakam, deceased, and that letters of Administration of said estate were duly issued to her on said date. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present them, with the proper vouchers, within six months from the date of this notice, to said administrator, at the office of J. S. Cook, at Marshfield, Oregon.

Dated this 21st day of December, 1901.
S. A. YEAKAM,
Administrator of the Estate of George W. Yeakam, deceased.