RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

Christmas.

Hark throughout Christendom joy bells are ringing; From mountain and valley, o'er land and o'er sea, Sweet choral melodies pealing and thrilling, Echoes of ages from for Galilee ; Christmas is here, Merry old Christmas,

Gift-bearing, heart touching, joy-bringing Christmas, Day of grand memories, king of the year

In volume majestic deep anthems repealmg, Harmonies heaven'y swell on the air ;

Lofty and lowly in brotherhood kneeling, Peasant and prince mingle praises and prayer ; Christmas is here. Sanctified Christmas: Christ-bearing. life giving, seul-saving

Christmas. Day of fond memories, king of the year.

Tender remembrances softly are stealing Over the souls of the weary and worn: Mists of the past, full of balan and healing, Soothing the sorrow of sad and forlorn; Christmas is here.

200d."

in the future.

Many-voiced Chrsstmas,

Grief-soothing, heart-cheering hope-bearing Christmas, Day of sweet memories, king of the year.

Bearer of burdens, and giver of rest: Comforter. Saviour, Redeemer, most holy ;

Christianity's birth-time, eternally blest; Christmas is here. Merciful Christmas,

Faith-raising, love-bearing, all blessing Christmas. Sweetest and holiest day of the year .- S.d.

A Christmas Blessing.

"I saw a notice in the paper to- meeting-house, and he had repeated- transferred her to them. day, Samuel, of some kind of society ly said that "nature's temple was "Poor dear, how she must have half-starved thing happy ?"

"Just as you please, Jane; only not averse to an afternoon nap or mas Gift. How much more kind like's not they'd send a rough and an interesting story. tumble boy that would turn every- [thing upside down. Do just as at the farm was stormy, and noth- they appreciated to is gift ! And he you've a mind to." Mrs. Wetherby glanced nervous- the second Sabbath dawned bright of meaning is co-uprehended in the ly through the open door, half and beautiful. Breakfast was eaten, simple text, "A little child shall expecting to see the chairs piled in the dishes washed and put away, lead them' !" the middle of the floor, and a rag- every speck of dust wiped from the ged boy astride them : but the furniture, and Mrs. Wetherby was kitchen was as spotlessly next as sitting down, but nothing was said ever, and her gaze wandered back about church. Cherry commenced pretty hard with us this winter, and to the sinking sun, the last rays of to talk about the mission chapelshe I reckon we'd better give up this which lighted up her care-worn face attended at home, and told how her paper; I don't care much for it anymaking it almost beautiful. A mother always washed and mended how.' moisture in the gray eyes betokened her clothes on Saturday. Then she other thoughts than those of scrub- question-d about their church and what you can afford to do, and we bing, ironing and cooking. At last Sunday-school. Finally she spoke must be governed by that, but this she spoke again : "Well, Samuel, I believe I'll risk Wetherby never could resist : it. Even if they should send a boy I guess we could manage somehow. We've lived a good many years for ed to go to meeting, he would and also the household department Turselves. There's no child that I harness up and take us ?" From the kitchen came a voice "But, wife, we have home papers know of happie. or better because saying, half apologetically : of us. No, nor grown person either for that matter. Maybe it's all right to try to get along and lay up airing to-day, and see what the journals and the political news of something; but it seems to me that minister's got to say. I'll be round the day." it ain't all we are put here for. If for you in half an hour."

"here's a real nice man that can tell were his hearty words of welcome lo's of stories. He lives down at to the visitors. the village, but I found him near

Then he came to her, and whishere, and made him come in and pered that things were all in the get that suit that uncle isn't going front parlour, and she'd better arto wear again. I knew you'd feel range them before dinner. He had real bad if he went away so ragged." | brought her a present that she'd And the farmer's wife could not find there and that was what had tell the child that blind Jerry had kept him so long. Now she could gone from there many times, just as be cheerful without an effort and ragged. Instead, she brought out laughing softly to herself, she openthe clothes, and sacrificed the new | ed the parlour door. mat she had planned.

There was a cry of delight, and The next day Cherry rode with Cherry Blackwell was folded in her the farmer to the mill; but return- loving arms.

ed wi h a new burden on her wind. "Is she really mine to keep?" 'I called into a little house, where "Really yours-ours to keep, an old woman lives that's awful ...nswered her husband, who had folfond of reading, only she's too old ; lowed.

and I speit out a few verses in her I need not tell you how the child-Bible; but I told her you'd come less woman cried over and kissed this afternoon, and you could do it the little girl who had come to fill the vacant place in her heart, nor of Mrs. Wetherby was as much sur- the joyous time they all had that prised that she could leave her Christmas afternoon. When the parlor undusted all day for the visitors had departed and the goldsake of reading to old Nannie Gray, en head was resting on its pillow, Day of the poor, bringing Jesos the lowly, as Nannie was to see her. But the Mr. Wetherby told his wife he had old lady's gratitude awoke within searched in vain for the child, and her a re-olve to live less for herself at last accidently met her in the street, alone and friendless. He Years before this the Wetherby's had learned from her that her mothhad been regular attendants at er was dead and her father in prison. church, but for some time past Mr. On visiting the father he found him Wetherby had thought that a ser- more than willing to part with her, in n read at home would profit him and as soon as practicable, the papquite as much as one heard in the ers had been procured that legally

that wanted anybody in the country the best place for worship." Sing- suffered !" said Mrs. Wetherby. willing to take a child for a week ularly enough, the sermon he usual- Then in a moment added : "How or two, to send them word : and ly read was headed "Produce much suffering there is in the world! I've been a thinkin'. We've got Market," and he spent the most of It used to make me doubt God's plenty of room, and eggs, and milk; Sunday afternoons in that part of goodness, but I have learned that why couldn't we make some poor, nature's temple nearest his grain he provided a panacea for every ill fie'ds. And Mrs. Wetherby was when he gave his wondrous Christand generous would they be, who The first Sabbath Cherry passed have means to help the needy, if ing was said about going out, but came as a little child. How much

A Noble Testimony. The late Edward Corderoy, Esq., a highly esteemed merchant in London, was once called upon to address a meeting of several thousands in Exeter Hall on the question of "Sunday Rest," and in the course of his telling remarks, which were listened to with the deepest interest, he said

"I knew a man once, who honored the Sabbath day. He was the manager of large works for a Government contractor, and had to pay some hundreds of men on a Saturday night. I think it was at a required in haste. His employer told him he must work on Sunday, and have his men in the yard. 'Sir,' replied he, 'I will work for you till twelve o'clock on the Saturday night, but I dare not work on the Sabbath. 1 have a higher master to serve.'

"George,' said the master, 'my back is not so broad as yours, but I will bear the blame.

"His foreman told him, "there is a day coming when each must give an account for himself,' an . hirmly, but respectfully, he declined to work on the Sabbath.

"Yet that man was but a servant; he had a wife and six children had he lost his situation, he had nothing but his character and his skill as a workman to sustain him. You should say : 'O, yes, he had far more; he had the blessing of the God of the Sabbath.'

"The Sabbath morning camewho that witnessed the sight ever could forget it ? The men assembled and went to work under other orders than those they were acsustomed to receive. This good man assembled his family, the Scriptures were read, prayer was offered, the



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JERSEY JACKETS FOR STREET WEAR.

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Now list

little Alice had lived," there was a quiver in her voice, "twould have gladdened by seeing the Wetherby as much as any? Our children are been different. Most likely it'll be family in the long vacant pew. growing up and they must have the a regular heathen, but I guess a Meeting was followed by Sabbath- right kind of reading, and while little missionary work wou'd do us school, and before they could leave there is news and other such matgood."

And a note sent to the "society" | was urging Mrs. Wetherby to take | carefully culled out and cleaned up, brought a quick response in the a class. Cherry, too, was tugging so as to be pure and healthful for person of a blue-eyed, golden-haired at her hand, so what could she do the family." girl, who gave her name as Cherry but consent? After teaching once, . . Yes, wife, I have sometimes

Blackwell. A lively little girl she was, too, that the next Sabbath should find in some of these other papers is not notwithstanding her pale face and her again at church and Sunday- fit for a respectable family to read. forfeited the respect of his subjects; slender form. She was allowed to school ? But summer was drawing to a roam over the farm at will, and soon made friends with all its dumb in- close, and the little visitant, now some advice in our religious paper, The nation was filled with anxiety. habitants. The childless couple grown "plump and rosy," was long- and other kints dropped that are so It was decided that the Christmas grew to love her pretty, artless ways, ing for her mother. So one day the helpful; the good seed sown in our should be a silent one : there were and before the chid had been with farmer and his wife, who would fain hearts and in the children's. Why, no carols, bells, or merry-makings. them a week, began to wonder how have kept her for their own, bade my spiritual life is strengthened and they had lived so long alone. Cherry her a tearful good-by.

sometimes spoke of her wother, always with affection. Her father They had learned something of the she avoided mentioning. Mrs. blessedness of doing good, and felt that it was so helpful." Wetherby suspected 15 was one of that never again could they return those cases in which a patient sick- to their former selfish lives. As the women are working in missions in London. There was silence on ly woman was overworking to sup- autumn advanced, more than one and otherwise. It seems to me that the Strand. The church bells were port an intemperate husband; and poor widow was made happy by a this is the age of active Christian still. St. Paul lifted its white roofs sympathy for the mother showed cord of wood or barrel of flour left women. You men are so busy that over the Thames, and Westminster itself in kindness to the child.

"No, indeed, she musn't go home class soon became the most promis- half of it." yet, I want Cherry to look as plump ingone in the Sabbath-school. "It's and rosy as the best of 'em before because she's so interested in it her- the whole church if we let you alone." cient fanes. The holly and ivy no she goes back," she said in reply to self," the superintendent said. her husband's query.

One day Cherry returned from a called Mr. Wetherby to the city. ramble, with a serious look on her "Now you can get the

A Fireside Chat.

"Mary, the times are going to be

"Well John, of course you know in the coaxing way which Mrs. is a good paper, and in fact I don't get time to read hardly anything but "Don't you think if Uncle Sam- it. It has the Sunday-school lesson, uel really knew how much we want- and the children always read that, with much interest."

which we must take, and of course "Gu-ss we'll give old Kate an I want the agricultural and farm,

"Yes, father that is true, but do And the minister's heart was we not need the religious paper, too, the church, the wise superintendent | ters in the religious paper, it is all

what could be more natural than thought that a good deal that comes I'll admit there's lots of chaff."

"Then, John, think of the wholerefreshed every time I take this ed in the Protectorate of Cromwell. Her influence remained, however. paper. It is like food for the soul." The festival was altogether abolish-

at the door, and Mrs. Wetherby's you can't find time to do it all, or Abbey its towers ; but the tides of

"Yes, you women will run off with more poured in and out of these an-"Indeed we will, John. And more appeared in the windows of 18 Just before Christmas, business then think of the Temperance stand the rich and poor. The Yule fires 18 of our paper. I want our boys to were not kindled, northe carols sung. 18

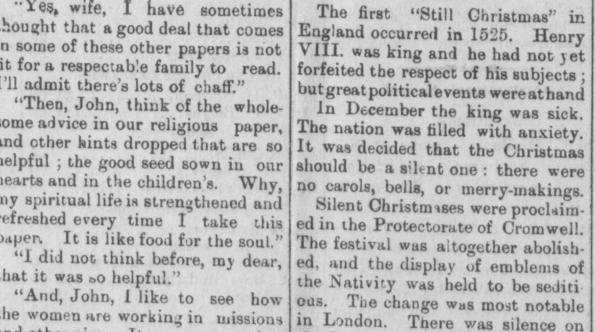
frugal meal was dispatched, and then, father and mother and the six children left the yard (for they all lived on the premises) in the sight of the assembled workmen, and walked solemnly away to the house of God.

"I thank God that that working man was my father !

"The situation was not lost; the God fearing working-man was all the more honored and trusted because of his religious consistency. He closed the ejes of his employer when the friends of more prosperous times nad nearly all forsaken him. The family my father served consisted of four brothers, the eldest of whom was buried with honors in Westminster Abbey-my father attended the funera! of the youngest in an ordinary grave yard, and none were found to erect a tombstone !

"My friends, whatever of prosperity has been vouchsafed to my brothers and myself, I unhesitatingly attribute, under God, to that honored father's instruction and example, who would not break the commandment to 'Keep holy the Sabbath day.'"

No Christmas,



happy people in holiday attire no

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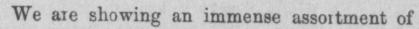
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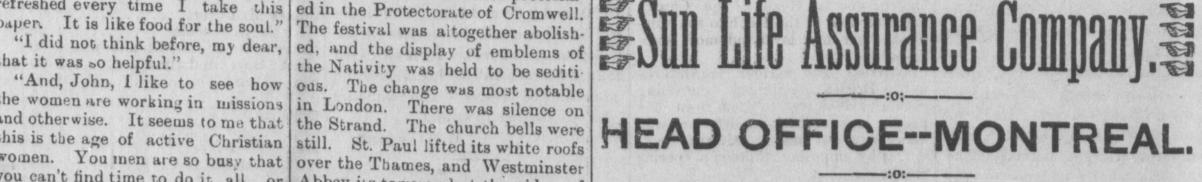


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"On, Aunt Jane," she cried. 'there's a little lame boy in the cottage down the lane, who loves flowers, and birds, and fruits, and custards, and everything I do; but he's sick, and his mother is poor, and please, 'here an arm stole coax- ingly around Mrs. Wetherby's neck; "please may I carry him the eggs my bantam lays?" Mrs. Wetherby really felt asham- ed of herself ! Little Jimmy John- son had lived near them for ten years, but she had never supplied a want of his from her abundance ! And here was the "heathen" pro- posing missionary work.	ling little girl, how much we owe to her! You'll certainly be back in time?" Mr. Wetherby assured her that he should be home on the 24th. But when the coach arrived that day he was not in it. Neither did he come in the evening, and the next day she was obliged to prepare the grand turkey dinner, and wel- come her guests alone. The car- riage brought lame Johnnie and old Nannie : blind Jerry was there :	they may marry. I don't want any of them to go to destruction through drink." "God preserve us from that, my dear, God preserve us from that !" "Then, John, one think more : you never can know what a help this paper has been to me in bring- ing up the children. It has given me more ideas and more sympathy and strength than I can tell. The bulk of the work of training them falls on me, and I can't do it with- out some religious help and backing like this. Why, John, I get ser- mons and grace and comfort from	The chimes of old ! They were the hand bells of the heralds in simple garb passing from street to street and smiting the air, and crying out : "No Christmas ! No Christmas!" Heads filled the windows, and fi- gures the doors. Crowds stopped on the corners of the streets and in the squares. The cry went on : "No Christmas ! No Christmas!" It smote the hearts of those who loved the old ways and customs. But the spirit of the times was not lost. The star of Bethlehem was	1880	
I have some peaches and jelly for him, and you may gather as many flowers from the garden to carry as you like." Cherry danced away, perfectly delighted. But an hour later, Mrs. Wetherby, glancing from the win- dow, saw to her dismay, that the child was leading blind Jerry up the walk.	so were the dozen pupils of her class, and three or four children that she knew wou'd not have amerry Christ- mas at home. In vain she tried to stifle the anx- ious feeling at her breast, so as to appear cheerful. Twenty times she found herself watching for the coach which must bring her hus- band. At last it came, just when she was in the kitchen, and the first intimation she had of his arrival	"Well, I guess we'll have to give up something else if crops are short and times are hard." "That just like you, father, to give up something. But indeed the children and I could hardly do with- out our paper. We'd miss it more than anything else about the place. By the way, John, isn't it time to	Restoration. The Christmas bells rung out once more. The waifs again sung their carols at the gates of the old feudal halls. There were merry-makings under the ever- preens. It was at one of the Court Christmases of these years that Charles knighted a loin of beef, and gave it the name of "Sir Loin." The festival in the days of this "merrie monarch" became a revel,	MIUES, LEAINEF, UII ! WILLIAM PETERS, LEATHER Manufacturer, and dealer L Hides and Leather, Cod Oil, Neat Foot Oil and Finishing Oil. Tanners' and Curriers' Tools and Findings. Lace Leather and Larragin Leather a	TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION.