



BIG ATHLETIC CARNIVAL AT POCOMOKE

Girls Meet on December 14.

On Tuesday, Nov. 19, all the girls of the high school were called together for a meeting in the Senior room. Everyone was very curious as to the reason for this meeting. We soon found out, however, for Mr. Simmons told us that on Dec. 14 there would be an athletic carnival in the Armory at Pocomoke. All the different schools of Worcester County will take part in the events.

The contestants are divided into four groups according to age, and no one may participate in more than one game. The events for the girls over sixteen years of age are: Volley Ball, Throw for Basket, Field Ball Throw, Run and Catch Relay. The events for those under sixteen are: Circle Dodge Ball, Target Throw, Potato Race, and Block Race. The events for those under fourteen are: Flag Race, Dodge Ball Throw for Distance, Dodge Ball and All-up-Relay. The events for the girls under twelve are: Egg and Spoon Race, Round Arm Dodge Ball, Throw for Distance Circle Dodge Ball and Shuttle Relay. Miss Reinecke has charge of the class of girls over 16, Miss Jones the girls under 16, Miss Collins, those under 14 and Miss Berry the girls under 12.

On December 1, a P. A. L. Director

(Continued on page 2)

ATTENDANCE LOWER IN NOVEMBER THAN IN SEPTEMBER

Snow Hill High School has an enrollment of 165 students and out of this number 95.4 was our percentage in attendance during the month of September. Our rank was third. In October our percentage was a little better. We still ranked third with a percentage of 95.9. In November our attendance dropped until we were below the average. We ranked fourth with 92.6. We are sure that the main reason for the fall in attendance is due to sickness but many pupils stay home with just mere excuses. If these persons would come to school instead of staying at home for no reason at all, our attendance would be much better. We feel that if the parents will cooperate with us a little more in the future our attendance will be much better.

SNOW HILL DEFEATED BY CRISFIELD

On November 14 Snow Hill played Crisfield at Salisbury for the inter-county Championship. Although it was raining both teams were all set.

Crisfield scored one goal in the first half and two goals in the second, holding Snow Hill scoreless.

Although we lost the game our boys did their best for old S. . H. S.

JUNIORS ENTERTAIN FIELD BALL AND SOCCER TEAMS

On Wednesday night, November 27, the Juniors celebrated the holiday by giving the Field Ball and Soccer teams a party at the school. There was a large percentage present and all there, had a very nice time. The room was attractively trimmed with Thanksgiving decorations. Suitable games were played throughout the evening. Everyone played with such vigor that they were quite thankful for the refreshments which were served. Everyone enjoyed himself immensely and we hope we will again have the opportunity of being guests of the Juniors.

Hall Police Force for the month of December:

Chief—Mathilde Dryden;
Joyce Strickland
Lois Mason
Dorys Mount
Helen Harris

HONOR ROLL

The following students have made a grade of not less than B in each subject during November.

Seniors: Lois Mason, Mathilde Dryden, Joyce Strickland, Dorys Mount.

Juniors: Helen Harris, Herman Perdue, Esther Robins, Mildred Mathews.

Sophomores: Charles Palmer, Jessie Maddox, Cynthia Hales.

Freshman: Antionette Applebaugh, Audrey Outten, Grace Higgins, James Hancock, Anna Strickland, Catherine Shockley.

BIG ATHLETIC CARNIVAL AT POCOMOKE

(Continued from page 1)
came to show us just how the various games and relays are played, all of which are very clever and interesting.

Since Worcester County has never had any meetings of this nature, in the winter, the students are showing great enthusiasm over the carnival.

SURPRISE THANKSGIVING PROGRAM GIVEN BY FIFTH GRADE

This program was a complete surprise to Miss Gibbons and the members of the fifth grade who did not take part. It was entirely managed by Katherine Truitt and was very educational as well as entertaining. The selections were as follows:

Reading—The Origin of Thanksgiving Lorraine Morris

Recitation—The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers Thomas Sturgis

Reading—Thanksgiving Will be Here Soon Katherine Truitt

Recitation—Thanking God Albert Ardis

Recitation—Thanking Mabel Perdue

Reading—A Deeper Thanksgiving Violet Richards

Thanksgiving Song—Marie Taylor, Virginia Scott and Mary Purnell

Reading—Thanksgiving at the South Pole Billy Cherrix

Recitation—Thanksgiving Sabina Cox

Reading—A Turkey for President Hoover Robert Baker

Reading—Thanksgiving Poem Richard Nelson

NOVEMBER

A November day is dark and dreary,
The turkeys 'round the barnyard hurry,

The turkeys run about in flocks,
Thinking of the chopping blocks.

The geese are flying through the air,
The ducks are feeding everywhere,
The hunters with their dogs go out,
Scaring the beasts and birds about.

The rabbits in the woods doth hurry,
The squirrels up the oak trees scurry,
For they are afraid of the hunter's gun,

And the dogs that so swiftly 'round them run.

The hunters season will soon be o'er,
And dogs will run at large no more,
The beasts and birds will all come out,
From hiding places 'round about.

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DRAMATIC CLUB

The second day meeting of the Dramatic Club was held Thursday, December 5, in the D. S. Room. The president called the meeting to order and the business discussion ensued.

The Club drew up a list of entrance requirements, which were to be posted on the bulletin board. The Club will sponsor again the reading table on which pupils may be able to secure some of the best reading material that can be had. The Club also decided to take the Baltimore Sun. This paper will be on the reading table every morning.

It was decided that the president appoint one member of the Club to look after the table each month. The Club decided that on the next day meeting we should have a discussion on selections which will be appropriate for the declamation contest.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

SCIENCE CLUB

The regular meeting of the Science Club was held on Monday, November 18. The meeting was called to order by the president and the business discussions ensued.

The making of a new oath was decided upon and a committee was appointed to make it.

Due to the fact that the Club was unable to hold an evening meeting in November, the same committee is to serve for the next evening meeting.

The Club set a date for all members wishing to come before the Club and of what they had to do to gain admittance.

All people wishing to gain admittance must do one of the following things:

1—Demonstration of an experiment.

2—Render a report or lecture to the

Club on some important article in any of the magazines or newspapers.

3—A well organized scrap book.

4—Deliver a lecture (scientific).

5—Report of a trip to an industrial plant.

6—Book report on a scientific book, which has been approved by the Club.

GLEE CLUB

Following a series of tryouts, seven who have received an average of C, have been admitted to the Glee Club. The new members are Alma Martin, Madeline Outten, Walter Onley, William Townsend, Marion Pettitt, Louis Sturgis and Marion Riley. With their loyal support, as well as the support of the other members, we feel confident that this year the Glee Club will be successful.

CHRISTMAS EVE

The snow is falling lightly,
The sleighs rush up the street,
The children sing around the fire,
With voices soft and sweet.

The snow is falling faster now,
The children are in their beds,
Gay Mary and laughing Susie,
Have quilts about their heads.

The boys are all in slumber land,
Gay dreams have filled their heads,
Of Santa and his reindeer,
With his toys, boats, and sleds.

Tomorrow will be Christmas,
The happy old folks cry,
The children will play with their presents,

And the world will be filled with joy.

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C. R. Hare, Treasurer

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SANTA DON'T FORGET THE TEACHERS AND SENIORS

—o—

Miss Berry—A diamond ring (?)

Miss Bratton—Something really historical that will interest the seniors.

Mr. Bromley—A private telephone.

Miss Collins—A nice long ruler to "Pat" the freshie's fingers who forget their thimbles.

Mr. Frank—A new agricultural room.

Miss Jones—A box of French dates.

Mr. Jones—A rocking horse for Dick.

Mr. Kelley—A new manual training room.

Miss Reinecke—A job of library work in North Carolina.

Miss Shockley—A cup of chocolate not very hot—just "Luke" warm.

Mr. Simmons—A parrot that will say "Close the door" and "Move on."

Stella Adkins—A big French dictionary.

Elizabeth Barnes—A game of Old Maids.

Ada Carter—Just plenty of dates. How she loves them!

Viola Davis—A book called "Ike."

Estelle Dickerson—Some candy in a "Mason" jar.

Ethel Dickerson—A "Hale" storm on Christmas Eve.

Mathilde Dryden—She is bound to get what she wants just beyond Virginia Crossing.

Minnie Dryden—A woodpecker with a nice long "Bill" and a new book with just one "Page."

Harriett Grey—A faithful boy friend.

Anna Hales—A job of bookkeeping at the Standard Oil Co., Filling Station, over at Princess Anne.

Virginia Hudson—A new sister-in-law, but "he don't wanna."

Anna Jones—A date with the son of a prominent Girdletree merchant.

Ruby Keister—A brand new car with "Kelley" tires.

Susie Lank—Nothing but "Cash."

Grace Lewis—Send "John" a book so he can understand the shorthand letters.

Alma Martin—A "gym" in the new school.

Lois Mason—She wants so little

and yet so much. Give her "Justice." Dorys Mount—A "Chev" that won't go over sixty.

Emilie Scarborough—A little dog named "Pete" from Cottongham's Drug Store.

Naomi Sturgis—A big "Ben" clock.

Joyce Strickland—A new car that "Parks."

Helen Twiggs—A job of bookkeeping at "Richardson's" office.

Harold Parks—A quart of strawberry wine that will make him re- "Joyce"

Walter Onley—A scarf with "Dots" in it.

George Cash—All he wants is the song "Susie, Little Susie."

William Townsend—Don't want anything.

Wallace Watson—A speedy roadster that will climb "Girdletree hill."

Lester Heartway—The use of the car more often to es "Carter" home—she lives so far on the Pocomoke road.

—o—

The "First Nowell" is one of the four oldest English Christmas carols adapted from old mediaeval Nowells. The French word Noel is not only used to name Christmas day but also as a greeting, much as we say "Merry Christmas."

The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in
fields as they lay,

In fields where they lay keeping their
sheep,

On a cold winter's night that was so
deep.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and
night.

This star drew night to the North-
west,

O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Then entered in those wise men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence,
Their gold and myrrh and franin-
cense.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

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HOW CHRISTMAS IS SPENT IN ARGENTINA.

Christmas is the most important among Argentina's holidays. In Argentina presents are distributed on the same date as they are distributed in the United States.

We do not use the cedar or pine tree for Christmas trees. Pine trees and cedar trees are seldom found in Argentina. We use a tree something like a holly tree. We call it "Bull's Shads" tree. The tree is decorated with silver trimmings and silver bells. The tree is lighted with candles. Christmas gifts are put underneath the tree and are given out on Christmas Eve by some member of the family, (generally by one of the children.) On Christmas day all the neighbors and friends gather together for an ox roast. We select a certain ranch where we are going to have the roast.

To roast the ox, a hole big enough for an ox to go in is dug in the ground. After the hole has been dug, a big fire is built in it. After all the wood has been burned and only red coals are left in it, the killed ox is dropped into these coals and it is turned over at certain intervals until it is roasted.

There is plenty of roast and wine for all. There are many people in Argentina who would not eat any roast without wine, they think it is a sin. After Christmas day is over the Christmas tree is left in the house for seven days. After these days are over the children take the tree away.

The weather during Christmas is the hottest time during the year. Though I have spent twelve years in Argentina, it has never rained during Christmas.

This is the way we spend Christmas time in the ranches of Argentina, but I haven't the least idea how it is spent in the city, as I have never been in the city during Christmas time.

THE VALUE OF MUSIC IN HIGH SCHOOL

Is music in high school of great value? Yes, because it not only gives individual pleasure, but from it we learn about the origin of different

musical selections as well as something about the composers. When we understand the composer's character and the entire history of his life we are able to appreciate his works much more. It is in his music that his character is depicted. A splendid example of this is Chopin's "E Minor Prelude". In this work of art we hear tragedy filled with deepest sorrows, bitterness, and hopefulness. In this, we get a glimpse of Chopin's life which was one of gloom, due to this physical condition.

What does the study of music do for us? It develops the powers of rapid observation, accuracy and memory. It also refines the judgement and insures repose and poise. It was Arthur Brislione who said, "Music is to the mind what the plow is to the soil. Music stirs up thought.. It makes the brain more active, in fact

it makes thought and life better—more harmonious. It drives out disagreeable thoughts and brings in thoughts of beauty, hope and admiration."

SENIORS GIVE ORDER FOR CLASS RINGS

Make Maryland Seal Their Choice

The Seniors have at last ordered their class rings. On October 8, after the usual "ahs" and "ohs" that go with the occasion, we selected our ring. The ring is made of yellow gold. It has the Maryland seal set on onyx and around it is written Snow Hill High School. The figures 19 and 30 are engraved on the side in a very pretty style. Everyone is pleased with it and we are anxiously awaiting the time to wear them.

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Ass't business manager.....Walter Onley
Circulation managerHarold Parks
Ass't circulation manager...George Cash
Official typistHelen Twigg
Ass't typistAnna Hales
Faculty advisorO. P. Simmons

O. Perry Simmons	Mathematics
Julia F. Bratten	History
Clara Belle Reinecke	English
Grace Jones	French, Latin, Biology
Wilbur Jones	Science
Luther Bromley	History, English
Charlotte Collins	Home Economics
Louise Berry	Commercial
Paul S. Frank	Agriculture
L. James Kelley	Manual Training
Ethel Shockley	Music

CHRISTMAS

By observing Christmas in this way we will brighten the lives of others and ourselves as well.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

When Christ, the Child of Nazareth,
was born on Christmas Day.

originated in Germany, had its origin in Egypt at a period long before the Christmas era. The palm-tree is known to put forth a branch every month, and a spray of this tree, with twelve shoots on it, was used in Egypt at the time of the winter solstice, as a symbol of the year completed.

THE ORIGIN OF THE USE OF HOLLY AND MISTLETOE

Mistletoe is a parasitical plant found on various trees. The leaves are yellowish-green and the berries resemble white wax. The mistletoe is extensively used in England at Christmas, and is derived largely from the apple orchards of Normandy and Herefordshire.

The Norse mythology tells us that there was once a God named Balder who personified the sun and moon.

Balder was the son of Odin and Frigga. He was a favorite with all the Gods and Goddesses because of his goodness and beauty.

However, Balder had one enemy whose name was Loki. Loki did all he could to destroy Balder, but Balder's mother had exacted promises from everything in the world except mistletoe that Balder would not be harmed. The Gods made a pastime of throwing their most dangerous

weapons at Balder to see them fall to the ground. One day Loki made a dart of mistletoe and gave it to Balder's blind brother to test. Loki told the blind God how to throw the dart and the blind god threw it so it struck Balder and killed him. He was afterward restored to life. The mistletoe was given to the goddess of love to keep, everyone passing under it receiving a kiss as a proof that it was an emblem of love and not of death.

In modern days mistletoe is hung on the walls at Christmas and the young men have a privilege of kissing all the girls who pass under it, picking each time a berry from the mistletoe. When the berries are all picked the privilege ceases.

These customs and others which we celebrate at Christmas time are relics of pagan days and they have no reference to the birth of Christ whatever. However, we would not like to do away with them on that account for what would Christmas be without holly and mistletoe?

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

In the early days of Christianity the anniversary of the birth of Christ has been celebrated by a special church festival. In the early centuries England called this festival Christes messe meaning "Christ's

mass," whence we get our word Christmas.

Christmas became the greatest of popular fetes during the Middle Ages. The churches were adorned with simple decorations and old plays were given, showing events connected with the birth of Christ and his early years. Many of the Christmas carols which we sing in our churches and at our community Christmas tree celebrations have come down from these early plays.

The jolly old Dutch settlers of New York brought with them across the ocean their rules of practice from

their fatherland. The people of the New World owe their Santa Claus to them, for this jolly old saint is none other than St. Nicholas the patron saint of children.

In England and America the children hang their stockings before the fireplace in a row, and on Christmas eve night Santa Claus, rushing down from the north in a sled drawn by reindeer, goes down the chimneys and fills the stockings from the large pack on his back. Gifts in the Baltic lands are supposed to be brought by the Christ child (Kris Kringle) himself.

The French children place wooden

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shoes on the hearth to receive the presents which "Bonhomme Noel" (Father Christmas) brings.

The Norwegian children have a good time hunting for their new toys which have been hidden in different places.

Presents in Italy are drawn from the "Urn of Fate"—a habit which originated from the Urn of Fate of the ancient Romans. The parcels are mixed up and some of them are blanks which cause great excitement when drawn, and also disappointment for the small children who do not understand that in the end there will be gifts for all.

"Waits" sing under windows on Christmas eve in England.

The Russians sing the ancient Kol-yada songs which were once sung to the pagan gods, but are now dedicated to Christian saints.

Wherever there is Christmas music the French Noel songs and the famous German "Kristlier" are heard.

Choir boys and school children hold carol parties and go about singing old-time songs for "shut-ins" and other unfortunates, in our own land.

The Christmas tree, trimmed with its golden star and lights, and its imitation frost-trimmed boughs, we think is as much a part of the celebration as are the Christmas songs.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas Day will soon be here
With all its gladness and good cheer.
We wish everyone to be happy and
gay,

On this coming Christmas Day.
Listen my children and you shall hear
On the twenty-fourth night of this
old year,

Santa Claus and all his noise,
Bringing the children all kinds of toys
In the morning when children arise
They will look at their toys and ex-
claim with surprise,

Santa Claus has surely been good to
us here.

And I am sure all children are happy
this year.

Nevada Downs

Social Notes

Mr. Kelley has been absent from school a few days on account of sickness. We are glad to see him back again.

Miss Bratten spent the holidays with her niece in Wilmington.

Miss Reinecke spent Thanksgiving in Baltimore.

Alma Martin, Ada Carter, and Almeta Jones had a very nice time at Temperanceville, Va., on Thanksgiving Day.

Miss Berry returned to her home in Felton, Del., for the holidays.

William Townsend, '30, visited friends in Baltimore during Thanksgiving.

Miss Collins visited friends in Baltimore and Washington during Thanksgiving.

Dorys Mount, '30, spent the holiday with Harriet Grey.

Anna Jones, '30, visited her sister in Baltimore, Thursday November 28.

Only a few former students returned home for the Thanksgiving holidays. They were Virginia Riley from Mary Lyon; Ruth Riley, Louise Duer, Mary Harris from Towson Normal; Nellie Cherrix, Virginia Dryden from Salisbury Normal School, and Nellie Heartway from Goldey College.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

If you are of any help to others, even at the sacrifice of yourself, you will feel exalted. I was only a small Christmas tree but I found this out.

Since I had past my third birthday the day seemed to slip by very, very slowly; for on my birthday which happened to be on December 15 I had heard two small boys talking, their conversation running thus, "Say Tom, don't you think the tree will do."

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"Naw, it hasn't seen enough winters yet."

I remembered this conversation but could not understand it. Finally I plucked up enough courage to ask the large, austere oak, that stood back of me, the meaning of the little boy's words (even I knew he was a small boy).

"You little dummy!" the oak roared at me, waving her great branches in a terrifying manner over my head, "It means that you are not old enough to be of use to anyone."

The words the oak had spoken cut me to the heart and I could not help drooping. I was in such intense grief that I was unable to lift my boughs for many, many days; my only hope now was to grow taller and larger and older in appearance.

I tried so hard to do this that even the hostile trees about me could not help wondering from what source came my strength.

When the year had finally rolled around and my birthday was again approaching, I heard the voice of little children who were roaming through the woods. At last after waiting many moments I saw a small girl appear. "Oh! Look at that cute tree! Sam, come, come here that's the very tree we want."

At her word other children came into view.

"That is a pretty tree and look how graceful it is."

At this remark I began swaying and bobbing and trying my best to bow.

After a while they decided to take me. Two boys soon chopped me down and then all the children began dragging me down the dusty trail. Of course I did not like this but when they tenderly placed me in the corner of a large sunny school-room I felt repaid for my many pains.

Oh, what a delight it was to stand there and watch sweet-faced girls place ornaments on my branches. However before they finished I became very tired and was glad when they finally left.

That night I slept very peacefully for there was no cold, strong wind blowing through my branches.

The next morning I was waked by a door opening. Upon opening my eyes I saw a tiny, shabbily-dressed boy enter the room.

"Oh!" he wailed "they did not find a Christmas tree." Then, spying me, his little face lighted with a joy and he ran to me and began caressing my branches with his tiny hands.

Under his caresses a quietness of spirit descended upon me which I had always been yearning for.

Cynthia Hales

A HAPPY HOME

What constitutes a happy home? What are the elements necessary in making a home, one of joy and contentment? Christianity, unselfishness, love and obedience to parents are the principles upon which the foundation of a happy home is made.

Are we, the classmates, doing our best to attain these necessary principles in our respective homes? Do we love and obey our parents? Are we considerate of younger and older brothers and sisters? Our parents have an undeniable right to expect this attitude of willingness, love and obedience from us and also brothers and sisters expect our love and understanding.

To attain these principles in our homes, we must strive earnestly to be cheerful, gracious and gentle—likewise, we must strive to be sympathetic when time necessitates. Endeavor to greet all members of the family with a cheerful smile every morning and thus spin the silver thread of gaiety for the rest of the day. Let

us bend every effort to acquire these qualities in our individual homes, because it is often through some little word or deed of kindness rendered by children that bright streaks of happiness are spread in unhappy homes. Making our own home a happy one is a vital part of our community life and we cannot afford to neglect its development.

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JACKIE AND JIMMY'S DREAM

—o—
 "Come on Jack let's go to bed."
 "What's the matter old sleepy head?"
 "It's Christmas eve now don't you
 know
 And Santa's coming thro' the snow."

So after prayers had all been said
 Jack and Jimmy crawled in bed.
 Jimmy dreamed of Santa and sleigh
 While Jackie dreamed of Christmas
 day.

If Jimmy's dreams had all come true
 A time would be had by Jimmy too,
 He was with Santa in the sleigh
 And they sped thro' the air as they
 went on their way.

Over housetops and trees it seemed
 they flew
 The snow in the air floated and blew
 And in a moment they hit a big
 stump.
 In a bed of white bed-clothes he was
 left in a dump.

But Jackie's dream of Christmas Day
 Was far from being about a sleigh.
 Instead of a sleigh as he lay in bed,
 He dreamed of a table with good
 things spread.

A turkey so nice, the color of gold
 Lay in the center of the table so bold.
 And just as all were ready to eat
 The Turkey got up and walked out;
 just as neat.

Jackie got up and chased him around,
 And where do you suppose Jackie was
 found.

He awoke with a jump and bounced to
 the floor

The sun streamed in at the half open
 door.

Jackie pulled Jimmie out of the bed;
 "Come on, Jimmie you old sleepy
 head

Let's go down stairs right away
 Don't you know it's Christmas Day?"

Harriet Grey

IF I WERE A CEDAR

—o—
 If I were a cedar at Christmas time,
 How happy I would be.
 To think that I would soon be cut,
 And become the center of glee.

I'd be dressed up in a shining coat,
 With presents at my feet.
 The children would clap their hands
 for joy.
 For them I'd be a treat.

Old Santa would come and trim my
 branches.

And how nice that would be.
 I would be the center of attraction;
 It wouldn't be Christmas without me.

Clarence Taylor

A SNOWSTORM

—o—
 The wind was a thing of madness
 Rushing o'er the bleak, lone plain.
 The air was full of snowflakes,
 The sign of King Winter's reign.

Not a star could be seen in the heav-
 ens
 Not a light could be seen o'er the
 plain.

Nothing but the bleak dark universe,
 And a traveler without a name.

All day the snow had been falling,
 And drifting up high and wide.
 Making, a wearisome journey,
 To the traveler without a guide.

At last! A light gleamed before him,
 He paused with a heart of hope.
 Could it be, he would find a refuge?
 Oh! If I only could; he thought.

He kept his eyes on the beacon,
 That shown through the drifting
 snow.

And at last reached a place of safety,
 Where cheer and warmth were aglow.

Tho' the wind was still howling and
 moaning

And the snow was whirling with zest.
 The stranger was sleeping and dream-
 ing

Of the blessing of a haven of rest.

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AN UNEXPECTED CHRISTMAS BASKET

Mrs. Jones and all the little Jones' were now living in a small hut in the railroad yard. The Jones family included Mrs. Jones, John now the oldest child as Jim had died just a few weeks ago, and Molly a girl of about twelve, who was in the habit of trying to keep up with her younger brother and sister.

It was Christmas Eve the children were in bed and Mrs. Jones and John were sitting near the fire.

Everything had been quiet as the children Billy and Jane were trying to sleep, until snow flakes began coming through a broken window pane and Mrs. Jones jumped up from her soap box seat and replied, "John, put another rag in the window before I git covered with snow."

John made a quick response and said, "I had better git some more

coal from the railroad before the snow gits too deep."

When John left to get a bucket of coal, Mrs. Jones could not keep from crying to think that there was not any money in the hut to buy a thing for Christmas. The children had not known what a real Christmas was, since Mr. Jones had died and they hardly had had enough to eat. As she looked at the empty stocking and bare cedar tree she thought that perhaps Miss Ellen would come, but no, on the second thought she knew that Miss Ellen would have a party with her rich friends. Miss Ellen Good, a daughter of one of the richest men in town, had taken a fancy to the Jones family and had given them useful things and succeeded in keeping starvation and poverty from their door.

Mrs. Jones saw that the fire was nearly out so she put a shawl over her

head to look for John but just as she opened the door, she met Miss Ellen and she nearly fell backwards in surprise. But she soon managed to say, "Do come in Miss Ellen and set down out of the snow."

When Miss Ellen came in, Mrs. Jones showed her the bare tree and the empty stockings. Miss Ellen said, "I have a little surprise for the children." She left the hut and went out to her car and brought back a large box and a large basket.

At last John returned with the coal and helped decorate the small hut with the contents of the box and basket. After everything was ready Mrs. Jones replied, "I can never thank you for the gifts this Christmas and God bless you. When the children wake up in the mornin' it will be the happiest Christmas they have ever had."

Herman Perdue

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