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H. E. Hillman & Co.'s.

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23 Eleventh Street, Wheeling, W. Va.

A STRONG SERMON

Preached Christmas Morning by Rev. Jacob Brittingham, at

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, ISLAND.

The Congregation Unusually Large, Owing to St. Matthew's Being Closed—Mr. Brittingham's Topic Was "No Room for Jesus"—Religious Observances of Christmas Day Should Not be Forgotten in Social Excesses.

Congregations, unusually large even for Christmas day, were attracted to St. Luke's P. E. Church, Island, yesterday.

"Standing, as we do, on the day of the birth of Christ," said the minister, "the mind reverts to the time when two travelers entered the village of Bethlehem.

"Isn't it pathetic that our Savior was given to us under such circumstances and in such surroundings because there was no room elsewhere? Yet this is a type of the condition of things that exists to-day in our lives and in our homes.

"Here, for example, is the word of God. How do we treat it? Are we excluding it from our lives? If so, we cannot claim Christ in us the hope of glory.

"Think, then, brethren, as it is truly said, when reading the Scriptures or hearing them read, that the very word of God Himself falls upon the ears; reflect that you are performing a duty which is an essential part of the communion with Him; remember you are seeking a direction toward Heaven, your destined home, a direction which cannot misguide, deceive or lie, and above all, beware that you close not the door of mind and heart against this blessed word, for if you do you will miss the very presence of Jesus, who seeks to enter every human life, and whose words are designed to meet the deepest needs of every heart.

"Again, we may judge how we would have treated the holy family by how we are treating the church now. The church of the living God is not an idea, but the pillar and groundwork of truth; by her faithful servants the pure word of God is preached and the sacraments are duly administered.

"The influences of the Bethlehem innkeeper have been present in Christian history to this day. Under these influences the crowded homes of comfort and contentment have closed their doors. The knock was at the gate of palaces and the answer came, 'No room; we are full already.' It fell next on the study door, and the student turned from his books only to chide the stranger that stopped him on the way to wisdom, and the Lord of all wisdom turned away from the door of haughty and mistaken learning.

Diamonds, Studs, Rings, Pendants, Charms, Cuff Buttons, Bracelets, Pen-Knives, Cigar-Cutters, Watches, etc. Gold Watches, Clocks, Silver, Ebony and Gold Filled Brushes, Sterling Silverware, and Best Silver-Plated Ware. Headquarters for Regina Music Boxes.

lieve we sin if we come not together, when it is possible to do so, to give thanks to God for the gift of his dear Son, who was made of flesh and dwelt among us as the only begotten, full of mercy and truth; nor do I believe, as some, who profess to know a better way of giving thanks on some other day than this.

"I verily believe that if the Christian people of every name would go to places of worship and give thanks to God in prayer and praise, there would be less excess; at least the Gospel would protect that excess in any direction is not the true exhibition of the life humanity might live, and if the people would come to this gospel, as they ought to do, with honest hearts, they would feel it does something more than protest against excess.

"The chaperoons of the evening will be Mesdames W. F. Butler, J. F. Merriman, Julius Pollock, J. J. Jones, William Tierman, James Cummins, William Stifel, Margaret Dalzell, Joseph Spedel, Louis Killmyer, George Wise, Fred H. Behrens, Jr., Jacob W. Grubb, Lewis Franzell, B. Walker Peterson, T. C. Moffat, and Charles Howard Simpson.

No Services at St. Matthew's. There were no Christmas services at St. Matthew's P. E. Church yesterday, on account of the church being without a rector, but the choir will render a special programme on New Year's eve, beginning at 11:40 o'clock.

THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

At the German M. E. Church Was a Decided Success.

The annual recurring Christmas festival of the German Methodist Episcopal Church is a special feature of this Sunday school and congregation. Weeks before committees are appointed, plans matured and carried out with an enthusiasm and energy worthy of a good and great cause.

The speaking of the occasion was exclusively in German, and it was a joy to see with what accuracy and true accent young America could use this language. One of the enjoyable features of the evening was the repeated chorus singing of sixty-three little children—two infant classes specially trained for this occasion by their respective teachers, Mrs. Carrie Freiber and Mrs. Allinger.

While all the children spoke well, the names of the Misses Bessie Winchener and Julia Bock may be mentioned as having recited in a very pleasing manner. Of course, the choir and congregation aided the school well in singing. Mr. Metzner, the superintendent, was heartily congratulated upon the success of the evening.

RAILROAD CONSOLIDATION

Intended to Parallel the Pennsylvania in Ohio and Indiana.

TOLEDO, Ohio, Dec. 25.—It is reported in railroad circles that a deal is pending to consolidate the Detroit & Lima Northern, the Ohio Southern, the Lake Erie & Western and the Monon systems. The first-named road is under a receivership and the Columbus and St. Mary's branch has been sold to C. N. Haskell, of this city, and W. B. Strong, Jr., of New York.

Received Welcome Christmas Gift.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 25.—Mrs. Mary Garrett, one of the most noted of woman prisoners in the Ohio penitentiary, was pardoned to-day. She entered the prison October 5, 1888, under sentence of death, carrying a babe in her arms, having been convicted of cremating her two imbecile step-children at Spencer, Medina county.

Society.

The younger sighs, when Christmas comes. For hobby horses and for drums, And jumping jacks and sleds and tops Such as delight the hearts of boys. He sometimes feels resentment faint, Although he utters no complaint, When hopes of playing gifts take wings, And "Santy" brings him "useful things."

The society event of the holiday week will occur at the McClure this evening, when the Charity Ball will be given for the benefit of the City Hospital, and that it will be a largely patronized affair is evident by the advance sale of tickets. It has been talked of for days, and from the elaborate arrangements made it is certain that all the fond anticipations will be realized.

The management of the Grand Opera House promises another attraction, which demands the attention of amusement seekers, as he has engaged the excellent company which is presenting that splendid drama, "A Guilty Mother."

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"The Heart of Maryland."

A play that yields to one's thought a larger and grander intellectual field of insight into the condition of human life, its social relations, passions and all the varying moods and all the underlying motives of its being, is that class of dramatic work which will ever maintain lasting popularity upon the stage.

REED NOT MISSED

House Gets Along Very Well Without the Ex-Speaker—New Presiding Officer Possesses Both Tact and Ability.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—Thomas B. Reed is the last striking illustration of the generally accepted saying "No one is missed." An old member on the Republican side, and one who has been familiar with most of the public men of both parties for thirty years past, was talking of this to-day. He said: "Notwithstanding Reed's pronounced personality, his great intellect and his magnificent equipment for masterful command of men in legislative ramifications, he did not seem to be missed. Everything moved along just as smoothly as if there had been no change. It was like a case of doing business at the same old stand and in the same old way."

"Kidnapped in New York"

The Grand was packed to the doors for both performances of "Kidnapped in New York" yesterday. This is the new play, in which Barney Gilmore, who was last seen here in "Hogan's Alley," is starring. It appears strange to find such a successful exponent of farce comedy roles in a melodrama, for such is the play, the story finding its theme in the abduction of Baby Clarke.

The Great Hermann.

The Great Hermann, magician and conjurer, appears at the Opera House, next Monday, January 1, matinee and night, supported by a large company of entertainers. Herrmann is a most wonderful man with a most wonderful pair of hands. When Hermann is most active with his hands he gives the audience the advantage of the printed hint. "The closer you look the less you see," while he amuses his auditors with his bright little sayings, touched in characteristic French accent, soft and seductive. He will present an entirely new programme of magic here, besides presenting a few old tricks which defy all solution and the seeing of which the second time only make his achievements seem the more wonderful.

"A Bachelor's Honeymoon."

"A Bachelor's Honeymoon," the latest farce success from Hoyt's theatre, New York, will be the attraction at the Opera House next Saturday, December 30, matinee and night. The play is from John Stapleton, an experienced

McFadden's. Warm Gloves and Mittens at Special Prices. Men's 35c Heavy Double Knit Wool Mittens, something very warm, for 25c. Men's 35c Heavy Leather Working Gloves, either lined or unlined, for 25c. Drivers' Extra Heavy Double Knit Gloves or Mittens, with pulse warmer wrist, 48c. Leather Working Gloves, with extra heavy lining and knit wrist, in dog skin, calf skin or mule skin, for 48c. Best Quality Buckskin Gloves or long gauntlets, either lined or unlined, and worth to-day \$1.50, our special price 98c.

author-actor and is as thoroughly original and clever in theme and construction as its title would suggest. It was originally produced in New York City and was received with unanimous praise by the critics. This is sufficient endorsement, alone, to warrant a good entertainment as the New York critics are more prone to condemn than praise.

five-mile gale, has been raging throughout the northern Ohio and Lake Erie for the past twenty-four hours. The thermometer registers 15 above. In this city street car traffic is badly impeded as a result of the heavy snow drifts on the tracks. Trains on the trunk line railroads are nearly all late.

PHILADELPHIA WORKING

To Make the Republican National Convention a Memorable Political Gathering—Raising Guarantee Fund. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 25.—It will be an important meeting of the advisory committee of the Citizens' Republican national convention association which will be held at the Manufacturers' Club to-morrow evening.

Of paramount importance is the raising of the necessary guarantee fund. This work is being pushed ahead by Dr. Lamb and his corps of solicitors. President Henry Burk said last night that he was anxious to have the money in hand by the time when the national committee meets in this city, January 10. He confidently expects this, basing his opinion on the interest in the affair, which is generally manifested among all classes, regardless of political affiliations.

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METEORS BOMBARD

The British Ship Grosmont on the High Seas. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 25.—Captain Flathorn, of the British steamer Grosmont, at the Delaware Breakwater, from faraway Pedang, Java, brings an interesting story of a curious phenomenon which he observed at sea on the night of December 9, when the Grosmont steamed into a shower of meteors.

CHEAP! CHEAP!

Christmas Goods must go to make room. Cigars, Pipes and all smokers' articles at COBT.

Silver-Ware.

Our holiday stock of Silverware must be seen to be appreciated. We are making a very handsome display of goods in this line, and hope you will come in and see how far your money will go in our silverware department.

McNamee,

The Jeweler, 1597 Market Street.

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Although it is understood that the exposition auditorium will be used for convention purposes, the formal permit will be given at a meeting of the exposition directors to be held within a week or two. Dr. William P. Wilson, director general of the commercial enterprise closed so successfully on December 2, said last night that there would be not the least difficulty in the matter of securing the hall. Another indication of this is the fact that the plans for alterations which will give the hall ample accommodations are being prepared.

The understanding is that at the next meeting of council there will be introduced an ordinance granting an appropriation sufficient to make extensive and permanent alterations to the auditorium that it may be used generally for conventions.

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Halftermeyer & Stahl

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HARNESS!

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