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"Courier Junior,"  
"Ottumwa, Iowa."

# The Courier Junior

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FOR THE CHILDREN

The Courier Junior  
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MATILDA DEVEREAUX,  
EDITOR.

### JUNIORS HAVE TRUE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

Dear Juniors.—We are very happy today because our Christmas Stocking club is such a success. The members of this club are certainly full of the true Christmas spirit, the spirit of giving and loving which came into this world two thousand years ago. "That First Glad Christmas," the story of which is told in the following verses:  
Thou Blessed Christ of Bethlehem,  
O When Thou in the manger lay  
Upon that first glad Christmas Day,  
We think the birds more sweetly sang,  
The little lambs did softer bleat,  
Thy worshippers more gently trod,  
To lay their treasures at Thy feet;  
And even the rose, in richer red,  
A finer, rarer perfume shed—  
Throughout the earth, in every place,  
All things did know some added grace  
That first glad Christmas Day.

For all Thy ways were gentleness  
Ever, as fitting Mary's Child—  
Thy speech most pure, Thy manner  
Mild,  
And in Thine eyes shone love divine  
For every helpless living thing;  
Thy touch that health and life re-  
stored,  
Scorned not the bird with broken wing;  
And we who now would serve Thee  
Best,  
And choicest gifts would offer Thee  
Should follow Thy dear footsteps blest  
In tender, helpful ministry  
On this and every day.

The Juniors in their stories tell many beautiful legends about Christmas. We feel that the Courier Juniors know full well the true significance of Christmas. Most of them have shown it by joining the "Christmas Stocking club." We feel very proud of the Juniors. They show such an excellent spirit of Christian charity. They will make many little hearts happy this Christmas by their offerings to the Christmas Stocking club. We wish the Juniors a very merry, merry Christmas. May all the blessings of the season be their portion.

### THE PRIZE WINNERS.

Lois Griffin and Caroline Tout are awarded prizes for their Christmas stories.

## The Yule Log Fairy

Once there lived a family by the name of Bandedau. Their home was in the mountains of southern France, and the time was so long ago that no account of the year in which they lived has been kept. Indeed, had it not been in the days of fairies, even this story would never be told. But owing to a certain happening which took place on a Christmas Eve this story was handed down from father to son, from mother to daughter.

And here is the story:  
The Bandedau family numbered four. There were the father and mother named, respectively, Adam and Hannah, and the son, Peter, and the daughter, Esther. Peter was 12 and Esther nine years of age.  
Adam Bandedau was a poor man, but an honest, hard working one. On the

steep sides of the mountains he kept his sheep and a cow, and in a little valley that lay between the mountains Hannah Bandedau made a garden, tilling the soil by her own hands, with the aid of a few simple gardening tools. And Peter gave her what assistance a boy of his years could give. Esther kept the little thatched cottage tidy and clean, preparing the meals for the three workers who were out of doors most of the day, and who came in at night from their toil, very, very tired.

But they never complained of their lot, for they had hopes that Dame Fortune would smile on them some time in the near future. And she did—in the form of a fairy.  
One morning—it was on Christmas Eve—Adam Bandedau and family sat around their plain, undressed wooden table partaking of a simple breakfast of mush and milk. Adam spoke: "Tis the holy time of Christmas, mother," he said. "And we should do an act of charity towards someone poorer than ourselves, even though it consists in giving ever and ever so small a gift. The Lord sacrificed his life for sufferers. We should make some small sacrifice in his name on the day of his nativity. What say you, mother?"

"You are right, Adam," acquiesced Hannah Bandedau. "There is the widow David, who stands in great need. She has two children, and the wolves go among her sheep and destroyed three of the finest ones. She is struggling hard to maintain her children and herself, and to keep above asking for alms. What say you to our sending her a bag of wheat and a small cheese?"

"Very good, mother," agreed Adam Bandedau. "And as I shall have to watch the sheep and cow, and keep them where the best grass and herbage grow on the mountain side, either Peter or Esther shall take the cart and go with the wheat and cheese to Widow David's cot."

"I'll go," offered Esther. "for Peter is helping mother in the garden. They are breaking up the ground against the planting of new vines in the spring."  
So it was agreed that Esther should take the dog cart and make the journey over the mountain to the cottage of the widow David. So, as soon as the breakfast was over, Esther tidied up the house and placed the noon meal—consisting of a wheaten loaf, a jug of home made wine and a small cheese, on the table. "Mother and Peter will be hungry after the forenoon spent in the garden," she said. "Poor father always carries his bread and cheese in his pocket, and eats as he drives the sheep from pasture to pasture. How tired poor father is of an evening after a day spent in climbing the steep, stony mountain sides after the sheep. And dear mother, too, is weary from her labors when the day closes and it is time for lighting the torch in the chimney-place."

Thus soliloquizing, little Esther made herself ready for starting to the widow's home. Peter had hitched the dog to the little two-wheeled cart and Adam had measured out a full bag of wheat which he had put into the cart. Esther went to the storeroom and got from a shelf a small cheese.  
"Now, before going, I shall fix the fire to hold until noonday, otherwise the house would be cold on mother's and Peter's return." (It must be explained that the weather during the Christmas season in Southern France was not cold at the time of this story. True, it was somewhat frosty of evenings and mornings and cooler throughout the winter months than during the term of spring and summer. But the ground did not freeze till in January; therefore Hannah and Peter could prepare the ground for the next spring's planting.)

So saying, Esther picked up a huge log that lay beside the fireplace. "Ah, this is the log father said should burn our Christmas Eve fire. Well, this is Christmas Eve, and I'll throw the log on the flame and have the house cheery on the return of the dear ones." But just as Esther was lifting one end of the heavy log—the Yule log—a flash of light leaped from the farther end and caused Esther's eyes to go shut. When she opened them again there before her stood a fairy. "Ah, I have come to bring you some Christmas cheer," said the fairy. "Your parents are good and deserving folk. They were robbing their lender to help the needy widow. So here is a bit of good fortune for you—and yours, little helpful maid. Take of it for yourselves and for those about you who are in need." Then, before Esther could reply, the fairy had disappeared, going, as she came, in a flash of light that closed Esther's eyes for a moment. When she again opened them she found herself alone and the Yule log lying on the fire, burning brightly. But greatest surprise of all was there in the shape of a bag of gold. When Esther beheld it she gave a cry of thankfulness. "Now we may buy a good farm where there is fine pasture and a vineyard, and greatest good of all—we shall be able to do much for the poor. Widow David shall this day receive gold enough to buy herself a farm, and many other poor on the mountainside shall be made comfortable. Ah, good fairy, you came to us on the Holy Christmas Eve. And we shall do much good with the fortune you have intrusted in our care."  
And Adam and Hannah Bandedau did everything that Esther had said they would do with the gold of the fairy.

### LETTERS TO SANTA.

#### TOY GUN FOR HARVEY.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I want a toy gun and a hobby horse for Christmas. I also want some candy, nuts and oranges. I am a little boy six years old. I go to school. My teacher's name is Miss Bell Sigler. I like her very much. For pets I have a

dog. His name is Collie. My little sister Nettie wants a doll for Christmas. She is 3 years old.  
Harvey Easter, age 6,  
Eldon, Ia., R. No. 2.

#### BIBLE STORY BOOK FOR BERTHA.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I will tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a doll and a cart, a bible story book, and stove and some little dishes, and a sack of candy, and I want oranges and nuts. My little sister wants a big doll and a cart and some little dishes, and some candy and nuts and oranges.  
Bertha Fleming, age 8,  
Drakesville, Ia., R. No. 1.

#### BLACK HAired DOLL FOR DORA.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I want you to bring me a doll with black hair and I want some candy and nuts also, but don't forget my little sister and brother Johnnie and Minnie. I will hang my stocking on the door and I want to join the Christmas Stocking club.  
Dora Adcock, age 8,  
Chillicothe, Ia., R. No. 1.

#### MINNIE WANTS A DOLL WITH YELLOW HAIR.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I want you to bring me a doll with yellow hair. I want some candy and apples and nuts. Don't forget my little brother Johnnie. I want to belong to the Christmas Stocking club. I will hang my stocking by the window.  
Minnie Adcock, age 10,  
Chillicothe, Ia., R. No. 1.

#### HELEN WANTS AN EXPRESS WAGON.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I want you to bring me an express wagon so I can get the wood for my mamma and a little bank like Mary Gordon's. Mary and I used to spend so much money when I lived in town but now I am in the country and I am lonesome for her sometimes and I would love to have a rocking chair if it isn't asking too much.  
Helen Travis,  
Ottumwa, Iowa.

a fur and muff, a pair of gloves, a box of letter paper and some handkerchiefs. Hoping to receive what I ask for will thank you very much. Wishing all the Juniors a Merry Christmas. Hope you will get to visit every one this Christmas. Will close for this time.  
Your Friend,  
Blanche Wheaton, age 11,  
Ottumwa, Iowa, R. R. No. 1.

#### WILLIE WANTS SKATES.

Dear Santa:  
I thought I would write to let you know what I want for Christmas. A pair of skates, and a horn some candy and be sure and bring my brothers something nice their names are Charles and Raymond.  
Willie Daugherty, age 4,  
Ottumwa, Iowa, R. R. No. 5.

#### CARL WANTS FUR OVERCOAT.

Dear Santa:  
I want a fur overcoat a pair skates and a horn and a B. B. gun and some B. B. shot and nuts and oranges and please dear Santa my sister is sick bring her something nice her name is Pansy.  
Carl Brown, age 8,  
Ottumwa, Iowa, R. R. No. 5.

#### SKATES FOR ORVILLE.

Dear Santa:  
As it is so near Christmas I thought I would tell what I want for Christmas. I want a pair of skates, mittens and leggings, a sled and a nice book. I am a little boy eight years old I go to Bear Creek school. I am in the third grade and will be promoted to the fourth grade after holidays. I have several pets, the nicest one is my canary, it sings all the time, and will bite at me when I tease it. I have never written before, but hope to see my letter in the Courier.  
Your little friend,  
Orville E. Adcock, age 8,  
Ottumwa, Iowa, R. R. No. 4.

#### RONALD WANTS A WATCH AND CHAIN.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I want a watch and chain and some candy. Please do not forget them.  
Ronald Lewis, age 7,  
Albia, Ia., R. No. 3.

#### IMOGENE WANTS DISHES.

Dear Santa Claus:  
For Christmas I would like for you to bring me a set of dishes, a big doll, a pair of supporters, a coat, some candy, dates, figs and some animal cookies.  
Imogene Coyne,  
Chillicothe, Ia., R. No. 1.

#### SLIED FOR JOHNNIE.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I want a sled and skates, and candy of course, and if you please, I want a tablet and knife. I live four miles from Farson. Do not forget.  
Johnnie Williams, age 9,  
Batavia, Iowa.

#### MARY'S FIRST LETTER.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I am a little girl six years old. This is the first time I have written to the Junior and I will now for Christmas. I would like for you to bring me a doll, a set of dishes, a pair of supporters, an orange, some candy, some dates, figs.  
Mary Coyne,  
Chillicothe, Ia., R. No. 1.

#### A BIRD FOR BERNARD.

Dear Santa Claus:  
Please bring me a bird that whistles, a watch and some candy and nuts.  
Bernard Lewis, age 4,  
Albia, Ia., R. No. 3.

#### FURS FOR SYBIL.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I will write you a little letter to let you know what I want for Christmas. I would like to have a fur and muff, a pair of gloves, a post card album, a book and if it isn't asking too much of you, I would like to have a locket and chain.  
Sybil Wheaton, age 8,  
R. R. No. 1, Ottumwa.



A Junior's Christmas Morning

#### THE LITTLE M'DANELS' WANTS.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I thought I would write a few lines to tell you what I want. I want some candy and a tooth brush and a bracelet and my little brother Claude wants a rubber doll and some candy and a teddy bear and a ball and I want a watch that runs and a doll and some oranges and bananas. My little sister Doris wants some candy and I want a gold ring. I go to school every day. I like my teacher very much. It is one-half mile to school. I will hang my stocking up Christmas eve and don't forget papa and mamma.  
Edna McDanel, age 8,  
Moravia, Iowa.

#### ELLA WANTS A SLEEPING DOLL.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I am a little girl six years old. I am writing you a letter to tell you what I would like to have for Christmas. Please bring me a doll that will go to sleep and some nuts, candy and some oranges. I have three little brothers. Their names are Harry, James and Stanley.  
Elsie Munsell, age 6,  
920 W. Mill St., Ottumwa, Ia.

#### WHAT OLIVIA WANTS.

Dear Santa Claus:  
This is a letter that I am writing for a little friend of mine to you for her telling what she wants you to bring her on Christmas eve night, and have her list of what she wants.  
Her age is one year two months and her name is Olivia Jones. She will at 538 Meadow street hang up a little bag and go to sleep hoping that you will call and see her on that night.  
Dear Santa, this is what little Olive Jones wants you to bring her on Christmas eve night: A little red cap, red silk ribbon, two dresses, one doll, oranges, nuts, cake, candy, apples, baby rattle, a set of dishes, a book, a baby shawl, ear rings, necklace, a teddy bear, a little bracelet, two little woolen shirts, a set of baby furs, two little under skirts and a little baby buggy blanket.

#### "HOPE SANTA WILL VISIT EVERY ONE"—BLANCH.

Dear Santa:  
Thought I would write and tell you what I want for Christmas. I want

#### BLUE COAT AND BEADS FOR MANILA.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I will write and tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a blue coat, a pair of beads, a pair of skates, a hat, a sled, a watch and some ribbons. I want some candy, nuts, bananas, oranges, figs and a box of oil colors. I am going to be on a Christmas program. I have a nice piece to speak. I want to belong to the Christmas Stocking club. My grandpa takes the Tri-Weekly Courier.  
Manila Jewett,  
Buxton, Ia.

#### RENA WANTS A RING.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I will write and tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a ring, locket, story book and nuts and bananas.  
Rena Wiley, age 9,  
Batavia, Ia., R. No. 1.

#### REX WANTS A DRUM.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I will write and tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a drum, watch, knife, game and some story books, and some candy, peanuts, dates and nuts.  
Rex Wiley,  
Batavia, Ia., age 7,  
Batavia, Ia., R. No. 1.

#### JOHN LIVES ON AGENCY R. NO. 1.

Dear Santa Claus:  
I am a little boy 8 years old. I live 2 miles west of Eldon on Agency Route No. 1. I will tell you what I want you to bring me. Bring me a knife, train and track, street car with track and automobile, also some hard chocolate candy.  
Johnny Riggs, age 6.

#### OPEN DOOR MISSION LETTERS.

Dear Santa, I would like a furry coat, a cap and a pair of overshoes. Well, I will close this time. From Lawrence Walker to dear old Santa.  
A story book about Jesus.  
Mildred Ruth Harkless.

Dear Santa Claus: Please send me a little horse and wagon and a little drum and a little ship and some candy. Your little friend,  
Alfred Wheatley

Dear Mrs. Astra: If you see Santa, would you please tell him that I would like to have a sled or a muffler or a drum, and oblige,  
Ira Hobbs.

Dear Santa Claus: I want a nice doll and a doll buggy, and a set of little dishes and also an A. B. C. book. This is my letter for Santa Claus. From Leona Bishop to Santa Claus.

Dear Santa Claus: I want you to bring me a red worsted dress and a nice leather go-cart for my dolly, for I have plenty of other toys.  
Addie Bates.

#### MARY'S CHRISTMAS.

Mary was a little girl three years old she lived in a little cottage by the side of the sea. The water in the sea was frozen, so Mary, enjoyed herself by skating on the sea. She often fell but she got right up saying it did not hurt. It was the day before Christmas that Mary's aunt, uncle, grandma, grandpa and cousin were coming. So Mary went to meet them. They had a lot of packages but Mary did not know what for. So at night she said her little prayer and then went to sleep. While she was asleep they decorated the Christmas tree.

So next morning there stood the little tree right in the middle of the parlor. She was so glad that she hugged and kissed them all. She went to Sunday school and then came home to eat turkey, cranberries, cake, cookies, apples, nuts, candy, bread, potatoes, gravy, and last of all desert. In the afternoon she played with her things which consisted of a wax doll, a tea set, a doll buggy and several other things for a little girl. So Mary had a nice Christmas.

Caroline Tout, age 10,  
425 Ottumwa, St. Ottumwa Iowa.

## 1910 Christmas Stocking Club

The 1910 Christmas Stocking club promises to have a larger membership than the 1910 club. Every one, old and young should join this club. One can become a member by bringing in a nice pair of stockings, filled with Christmas goodies and toys, or by giving the equivalent in money. These stockings will be distributed Christmas eve to little children whose parents are not able to give them any Christmas cheer. It is suggested that every donor mark the age of the child for whom their stocking is intended on a slip of paper.

The stockings are left just as the donors fixed them. The membership of the club up to 11 a. m., follows:

- LOIS CAROLINE GRAHAM.
- STEPHEN GUY GRAHAM.
- RAY GRAHAM.
- VIOLA MAY SWIM.
- AMY LUCAS.
- ROSCOE ECKLEY.
- PRIMARY: JOM, IRVING SCHOOL.
- WILMA MALTBY.
- MARTHA STOUT.
- PHILIP BERNHARDT HOFMANN.
- DOROTHY WILLIAMS.
- SYDNEY SCOTT.
- RUSSELL WISE.
- WEBSTER MAJORS.
- IN MEMORY OF FLORENCE ANDREW—25 DOLLS.
- LUCIUS A. ANDREW, JR.
- LINUS H. NIEMEYER, JR.
- RALPH WILLIAM STARKEY.
- GRACE MILLER.
- CASH, \$1.00.
- MARTHA MYERS.
- MARGARET MYERS.
- HELEN MYERS.
- JUNE MASON.
- RUTH HALL SHANAHAN.
- CHARLES SCHANCK.
- MARCELLA LAW.
- FRANK M'DONALD.
- HARRY M'DONALD.
- NELLIE M'DONALD.
- MARGARET M'DONALD.
- MRS. MARGARET OGILBYE, \$1.00.
- MARGARET CATHERINE KOETT.
- GEO. FRANCIS W. KOETT.
- LOIS GRIFFIN.
- LORETO I. OBERTSON.
- MARTHA ELIZABETH SIMMONS.
- FRANCIS WILLIAM SIMMONS.
- FRANK M'INTIRE POLLARD.
- KATHERINE ELIZABETH KLEP.
- ARTHUR HALBERG.
- MARTIN BOHE HARDOGG.
- FRANCES SYBIL BRITAIN.
- IN MEMORY OF ELOISE DAGGETT—GIVEN BY A FRIEND.
- MARION JORDAN GILMORE.
- MARGARET NELSON.
- MRS. THEODOSIA HARRISON.
- GERTRUDE FERGUSON COWLES.
- ELSIE MERRILL COWLES.
- JOHN ANDERSON.
- CHARLES ANDERSON.
- MILDRED RUTH LYNCH.
- CHARLOTTE CUSHMAN.
- EDWARD CUSHING.
- DICK KAUFFMAN.
- MANILLA JEWETT.
- JOHN CHAS. HORNING.
- MARY HALL 50 cents.
- ELIZABETH HUTCHISON.
- CHARLES LEONARD.
- BONNER LEONARD.
- HELEN DUKE.

### WHY THE CHRISTIAN WORLD CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS.

Many years ago on December 25 there was a little babe born in a manger in the city of Bethlehem.

God sent this little babe to us as his own son. He had promised many years before that he would send his own son into the world. On Christmas eve long ago the shepherds were watching their flocks of sheep, when God sent his angels to tell them that he had sent his son into the world, and the star in the east would guide them to where the young child was lying. They followed the star and they found the babe and its mother, Mary, in a manger at

an inn in the city of Bethlehem. They presented costly gifts unto him of gold, frankincense and myrrh because they knew and believed he was God's son.

God sent his son as a gift to the world on the 25th of December and that is the reason Christmas is kept, because it is Christ's birthday. God sent Christ to make the world better and when we give gifts at Christmas we should give them in a loving spirit and to help those that are needy, and do all the good we can at Christmas time. Being happy and trying to make others happy is the Christ spirit.

Lois Griffin,  
Albia, Iowa.



SANTA'S TOY HOUSE



LOIS GRIFFIN.