

NOTICE

All letters for this department must be addressed: Courier Junior, Ottumwa, Iowa.

The Courier Junior

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VOL. 8, NO. 21.

OTTUMWA, IOWA,

DECEMBER 1912.

FOR THE CHILDREN

THE COURIER JUNIOR.

Published by THE COURIER PRINTING CO., OTTUMWA, IOWA. MATILDA DEVEREAUX, EDITOR.

540 Christmas Stockings are Distributed

Dear Juniors: A happy, happy New Year to every one who chances to read this page. A happy New Year means a happy day every day. The managers of the 1912 Christmas Stocking club are happier than they ever have been in all the life of the Junior, six years. The following names are the only members of the club who forgot to put in Tuesday's paper:

- HOBERT JACOBS, HOLLAND JACOBS, HERSHAW JACOBS, GERALDINE COOKSTON CORNELL, JOSEPH BYRNE, MARTHA BYRNE, JOHN FARRELL BYRNE, FREDERICK GARVER WILLIAMS, MAX MILDRED OAKES, MERLE PALMER, MISS MARY M'GILL, MORGAN ROWLAND, CRETA FAY WHEELER, J. E. SCASE, C. K. ADLER, MRS. J. G. MEEK, H. M. SHUTE, DEWEY PALMER, E. J. POWNELL.

We hope they will forgive us. The 1912 Christmas Stocking club was a grand success, 540 pairs of stockings being distributed among 540 needy children. Besides giving pleasure to so many little ones, it shows that there are 540 Juniors, little and big, ready and willing to help the needy. Gifts of money, dolls, candy, and clothes were brought to the office.

Some of the members of the 1912 Christmas Stocking club live in far-off places. For instance, we have three in Washington, at Walla Walla; one in Pueblo, Colorado; two in Eau Claire, Wisconsin and four in Chicago. We can not begin to mention the ones who live in Iowa outside of Wapello county. Three of our big Juniors, Eunice Whitton, Lois Griffin and Helen Rowe, all belonged again this year.

The Christmas Stocking club is six years old and that means that it has enjoyed seven Christmases. To show how the club has grown we will publish below the figures of the last six years, taken from our files, showing the number of pairs of stockings distributed each year:

Table with 2 columns: Years, Pairs. 1906: 94, 1907: 160, 1908: 200, 1909: 225, 1910: 270, 1911: 389, 1912: 540.

Further remarks are unnecessary. However, we must add that the 1912 Christmas Stocking club members are the dearest and best Juniors, both little and big, in all the world.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS.

You know every one should make some good "resolves" on New Year's day. We think the following resolutions might be followed with excellent results:

- No. 1.—That we will belong to the 1913 Christmas Stocking club. No. 2.—That we will be boosters for the 1913 Christmas Stocking club and instead of making 540 needy little children happy, we will make 1,000 little ones happy. No. 3.—That we will obey our parents and teachers. No. 4.—That we will work hard in every Junior contest.

New Contest Next Week.

Next week we will announce a new contest. We will send out the prizes this week and announce the names next week.

If we have omitted any names from the following list we wish to be informed:

- WILLIAM WYRICK HARPER, SIDNEY HUGHES, HAROLD C. CHAPMAN, WILLIAM KENNETH SWENSON, RUSSELL LEROY SWENSON, DORIS SLAUGHT, CRYSTAL MARIE AREINGDALE, MAZIE MAY AREINGDALE, WARD BELL, MILO BELL, MARY CONSTANCE TURNER, DOROTHY ELOISE HARMAN, VERDA MAE BAGGS, ELIZABETH WILKINSON, ROBERT JAMES POWELL, JEAN FAUST, HOLMAN FAUST, ELBERT FAUST, WARREN JOSEPH GREGORY, JUNE JACKSON, MARY GERTRUDE LAMB, JEAN J. M'LAUGHLIN, ROBERT L. M'LAUGHLIN, CHARLES NEWCOMER YOUNKIN, T. ARTHUR REIFSNYDER, ELVIRA CHILDS, ABBIE CHILDS, EDNA MAY BOLAR.

- CECIL PEARL BOLAR, HELEN MARIE BOLAR, STELLA MARGARET BOLAR, MILDRED IDELL BOLAN, EDITH HAZEL BOLAR, ROBERT HINSEY JOHNSON, FRANK M'INTIRE POLLARD.

- JOHN CANNY, MARGARET MARY CANNY, MARY ELEANOR CANNY, EDWARD BREAKER CANNY, MARTHA LOUISE DOUGHERTY, KATHERINE DOUGHERTY, DONALD PICKETT, BERNARD HUSTON, GRETCHEN GROTZ, VERONICA FLACTIFF, HANFORD LUMSDON, CHARLES ROBERT GROTZ.

- NATALIE HARROW SMITH, STEPHEN HARROW SMITH, VIRGINIA IMOGENE BILLS, MAX MILFORD OAKS, DORIS EARHART, DOROTHY EVALINE HANSMANN, EDWIN WINFIELD MUSGROVE, KENNETH MARION JOHNSON, LAWRENCE WILLARD JOHNSON, GEORGE HERBERT SPAULDING, MILDRED IRENE SCOTT, VERA DAUGHTERY, JOHN WILLIAM RIGGLES, HELEN LODEMA CRILEY, JOHN FRY CRILEY, HAZELGENE CRILEY, HOWARD CORCORAN, FRANK CORCORAN, PAUL CORCORAN.

- LINUS NIEWEYER, JR., DOROTHY FRANCES WAYLAND, HOWARD T. DONALDSON, EDITH ROSE DONALDSON, DOROTHY MURIEL WRIGHT, CHARLES GARFIELD WRIGHT, DOROTHY CONSODINE, ANNIE MARIE GALLAGHER, PHILIP BERNHARD HOFMANN, MARGARET ISABELLE KELLY, MARGARET KATHERINE KOETT, GEORGE FRANCIS WILLIAM KOETT.

- IN MEMORY OF BEATRICE VIVIAN BREEDING, GLORIA LUCILLE ROBINSON, JEAN M'MINN, REX G. M'MINN, JORDON MARLOW WORK, MYRON LOWELL BAKER, HELEN DAGGETT, FLORENCE GRACE BOOTH, MARION LOUISE BOOTH, WESLEY HAMMOND BOOTH, CLEO FUNK, CHARLES ALLEN FUNK, DOROTHY FRANCES HALL.

- WILLIAM T. HARPER III, FREDERICK CHARLES LOWRY, DANIEL HANNAN PETERS, FRANCIS JOHN PETERS, WILLIAM STABLER, RUTH ELIZABETH KENT, FOREST WEBBER, EDWIN B. JOHNSON, LORETTA ROBERTSON, ROSALIE ROBERTSON, DOROTHY MAUDE FROST, INA MAY TOMLIN, JAMES KIRKPATRICK JR., DONALD KIRKPATRICK, ANNABELLE PACK, BEATRICE JUNE PACK, LUCILE RENDOL, MRS. MARGARET OGILBEE, \$1.00, VINCENT CHARLES MILLER, EDWARD DANIEL MILLER, FLORENCE E. M'MICHAEL, GRETCHEN VON SCHRADER, GERALDINE COOKSTON CORNELL.

- ROBERT W. M'MICHAEL, PAUL C. M'MICHAEL, RUTH E. KENDALL, LAURENCE HENRY HOLMES, LEORA MAE DAWSON, ALICE WAGIL M'CARTNEY, LILLIE HUFFMAN, MINNIE HUFFMAN, MAURICE HAROLD GLENTZER, LORENCE PIXLEY, HAROLD FRANCIS HESS, LAWRENCE STANDISH REID, ROWENA GRACE REID, MARTHA MARIE WELCH, DOROTHY CHRISTIE, HAROLD BERNARD OLSON, FRANCIS WILLIAM SIMMONS, MARTHA ELIZABETH SIMMONS, HELEN ROWE, MARSHALL GEORGE BISSELL, SARAH LOUISE KAISER, ARTHUR EATON, GARY A. MEIER, GLEN SETHCHELL MEIER, JOHN HARVEY NICHOLAS, MISS GRACE PARKER'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OF PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 15 PAIRS:

- IRENE BOWEN, MARION BREWER, LOUISE BURNAUGH, CLAUDINE CRISMAN, VERA CULBERTSON, AUDREY DISBROW, DORIS EARHART, MARJORIE GRAHAM LOUIS GRAHAM, LUCILE HAINES, MINNIE HOWELL, VIVIAN KENDALL, MILDRED LONG, WANETA M'ARTY, EUNICE NOLAND, HELEN POLING, MABEL WALKER, HATTIE WALKER.

- RUTH HALL SHANAHAN, EMMETT J. SHANAHAN, HELEN ELIZABETH JOHNSON, JOHN ALBERT WISDA, JOHN EDWARD CHAMBERS, RICHARD HAROLD EVAN, JAMES ALAN WEIR, GERTRUDE FERGUSON COWLES, ELSIE MERRILL COWLES, GERALD CALLAHAN WHELAN, MICHAEL FRANCIS WHELAN, LEWIS REARDON WHELAN, THOMAS O'FARRELL WHELAN, JAMES CLEMENT WHELAN, ROOM 2 IRVING SCHOOL 6 PAIRS, SAMUEL H. HARPER III, JAMES RYNER HARPER, WALLACE RUSSELL HARPER, MAMIE LEE.

- BESSIE LEE, CATHERINE HAHN, EVELYN HAHN, JAMES HAROLD CONROY, FREDERICK LEROY BILLS.

- KATHERINE ROWLINSON, JAMES EDWARD PECK II, ROSEBUD PARK, ALBERTINA PARK, MARION JORDON GILMORE, FRANCES GILMORE, DOMINGO ELOISE MICHAEL, GEORGE EDGAR HEATHER, DENA L. HEATHER, F. ELOISE HEATHER, ARNOLD MURRAY, MILDRED MURRAY, WILLIAM HERSEY COOPER, MARK GREELEY, JR., JACK HUEY, MARJORIE HELEN DODSON, RUTH ELOISE KEMPER, JACOB BAUGHMAN, RUTH JOSEPHINE CREMER, EDWIN CALL CREMER, THOMAS EDMUND FORSYTHE, FRANK ROBERT KERFOOT.

- HELEN LEHMAN, RUTH BALDWIN, M'RY PARKER, IN MEMORY OF MARJORIE MAY BAIRD, DOROTHY MARGARET ARRISON, EDITH MARIAN WILSON, WILLIAM EMERY WILSON, MARY ELIZABETH M'GRAW, D. ROTHY M'GRAW, EMMA LOUISE WILLIAMS, DOROTHY ELIZABETH KINNICK, GEORGE FRANCIS TROTTER, CARL SWENSON, CLAUDINE EAKHL, LOUISE ROSCOE.

- JANE FRANCES DORAN, LAWRENCE EVERETT MEIER, CLARA NEWELL MEIER, DORIS BRIGGS TOWER, LYDIA TRAIL, RUSSELL WISE, GERALD FRANCIS TIERNEY, LEONARD JOSEPH TIERNEY, PATRONELLA MARGARET TIERNEY.

- THEOPHILUS ANDREWS, JAMES LAWRENCE REED, CLARA ALETHA REED, IN MEMORY OF FLORENCE ANDREW, 25 DOLLS, HARRY D. GRAY, HAROLD EUGENE HILL, ELIZABETH HAW, RICHARD HAW, VINCENT ELLIOTT LORIMER, MARTHA ALBERT, CARITA STROBEL, MARY MARTHA HILL, JAMES MADISON HILL II, MARY ELIZABETH LOWENBERG, JOHN A. LOWENBERG, MARY THESA SCHAUB, WILLIAM HENRY SUMNER, BARBARA ALBERT, HELEN DUKE, WILLIAM DUKE.

- MRS. M. B. HUTCHISON, MISS ELIZABETH HUTCHISON, ELIZABETH PETERSON, JAMES PETERSON, A FRIEND, 25 cents, JEANETTE DAGGETT, RUTH DAVIS, JEANETTE MAY LAFORCE, ROBERT MAST LAFORCE, LAVINA MERRICK, HELEN BERGQUIST, CAROLINE FRANCES OVERMAN, ETHEL LEOTA HOUGH, VERA LOUISE HOUGH.

- ELIZABETH HILDEGARD ALLISON, A FRIEND \$1, ARTHUR LAWRENCE M'GILVREY, ALICE LOUISE NELSON, SAMUEL MAHON III, JOHN KEITH MAHON, JR., ADRIEN DELBERT FERGUSON, LUCILE BAKER, CLINTON BAKER, LILA BAKER, RAYMOND BALDWIN, MIRIAM MARGARET DURR, ARTHUR JOSEPH HICKEY, JR.

- EUNICE WHITTON, EVERETA C. KING, BONITA MAY MORROW, ELIZABETH MORROW, CLIFFORD JOHNSON MORROW, DONNA ELIZABETH CURRAN, GEORGE RANDOLPH CHEADLE, ALICE LUCILLA HARPER, FRANKLIN EVANS KENT, TECKLA VON SCHRADER, DELPHINE OPAL B. P. CORNELL, JESSIE BRODIE, MARY WILL PARKER, DONOVAN DIXON, GEORGE ALFRED MORRELL, ALICE LOUISE MORRELL, JOHN EDGERLY MORRELL, ROBERT DANIEL WOOD, MARGARET SHARP, ALLEN SHARP, JOHN SHARP, HELEN SHARP, MARY ALCINDA BONNIFIELD, WEST BONNIFIELD, MARGARET BONNIFIELD, EDWARD BONNIFIELD, JACK MERNER, PAUL CELANIA, ANTHONY CELANIA.

- MAXINE CLARE M'EOVOY, MARY LUCILE M'EOVOY, FULTON ALLISON NIMOCKS, MARY THERESA SCHAUB, FIRST ROOM IRVING SCHOOL, TWO PAIRS, VIOLA OREVA M'CONKEY, JOHN WILLIAM WRIGGLE, MRS. DOC EMERON, WILLIAM DOTY DAGGETT, IN MEMORY OF CLARA ESTHER DAGGETT, MARY LETITIA DAGGETT, MARY MAXINE SLOAN, ROBERT HENRY SLOAN, ELIZABETH MOORE SLOAN, A FRIEND \$1, IN MEMORY OF MABEL FLORENCE CANFIELD, ALICE M'CARTNEY, LOIS GRIFFIN.

- MRS. CLYDE BLANCHARD \$1, MAURINE LOIS JACKSON, REGINA MILDRED REECE.

- JAMES SCOTT SANTEE, HELEN VIOLA SANTEE, DONALD ELWOOD SANTEE, REGINA MILDRED REECE, RUTH ELEANOR DAGGETT, ELLEN DOROTHY WELLS, MARVEL SOMERS, META SOMERS, MARIAN SUSAN ZIKA, GEORGE A. ZIKA, ALICE LOUISE ZIKA, HAROLD BERNARD OLSON, MARY MARTHA HILL, DOROTHY ELIZABETH KINNICK, JAMES A. WEIR, FREDERICK GANER, CLARA SCHENCK, GORDON THOMAS GRAHAM, THOMAS EDWARD FORSYTHE, EDWARD ANDREWS, SIDNEY SCOTT, MARIAN SCOTT, PAULINE PATTERSON, CHARLES F. HUMPHREY, FRANCES GEPHART SWENSON, MARJORIE HELEN DOTSON, EVERETA CECIL KING, LAWRENCE RANDOLPH WEAVER, SYLVANUS BILLINGS WEAVER, KATHERINE MULCAHY, DENNIS EDWARD MULCAHY, CAROLINE GILTNER, KATHERINE KEYHOE.

- WILLIAM HENRY SUMNER, FREDIE KAISER, MELESSA THOMAS, JUNIUS THOMAS, DIZA STECK, JANET GEORGE SMITH, MARGARET G. M'GOWEN, DENALE HEATHER, GEORGE EDGAR HEATHER, F. ELOISE HEATHER, LAURENCE HOLMES, MRS. M. W. CHRISTIE, CRETA FAY WHEELER, MILDRED MURRAY, PERRY CLARK, FREEMAN VON SCHRADER, MARJORIE GAYLE OTIS, MARY EVELYN OTIS, HOBERT JACOBS, HOLLAND JACOBS, HERSHEL JACOBS, A FRIEND, MRS. A. E. MOSS, IN MEMORY OF ANNA EVELYN WINKLER, WILLIAM STABLER, MRS. J. L. HANSMANN, MRS. W. F. MUSGROVE, ART OPPENHEIMER, DEWEY PALMER, MERLE PALMER, GERTRUDE M'GOVERN, MARGARET M'GOVERN, A FRIEND, PARODA ANN DUNNING, JOHN WOLCOTT DUNNING, CASH FOR STOCKINGS \$28.

Stories and Letters.

MY CHRISTMAS WITH JACK FROST.

It was the night before Christmas. All the world was still. Even the river had seemed to hush its roaring sound. It was just 8 o'clock and Jack Frost was coming around.

The moon was shining brightly over the snow and made it sparkle like a thousand diamonds. I went in the house little thinking what was to come next. I little thought that I would be invited to Jack Frost's for Christmas.

I sat down by the warm fire and listened to my father and mother talking over the events of the day until bedtime. I then kissed mamma and papa good night, hung up my stockings and went upstairs to bed.

About 11 o'clock I was aroused by a light tap on the shoulder. I woke up dreamingly and said, "What's wanted?" "Hush!" said a voice which I instantly recognized as Jack Frost's. "Come," he said, "I have a little aeroplane to take us in. Come and go and have Christmas with the king, Jack Frost."

"Let me go and ask mamma," I said. "No, no," he said, "she will not care." So I dressed myself up warm and we got into the little aeroplane and set off.

"Sit down on the bottom and hold on tight or you are liable to fall off," said Jack. We started off flying in the air and we went so swiftly I could hardly stay in the aeroplane.

Pretty soon we gradually went down to the ground and got out. As far as I could see there was nothing but hills covered with snow. Jack went up to one of them, which appeared to be larger than the rest, and tapped on a little door. It opened and we went in, Jack leading the way. Pretty soon we came to a little room which Jack said was to be my bedroom.

Jack told me to hang up my stocking and I did so. "Go to sleep," he said "and we'll wake you up at three." "I would like to send a note to my mother and tell her where I am," I said. "No, no," said Jack, "I will take you back in time. Go to bed now," he said, and left the room.

I was very tired and soon was asleep, but it was not long before I was awakened by Jack Frost calling out, "Come, come, and dine with the king, Jack Frost." I sat up in bed and came face to face with the king. He had a crown on covered with diamonds, and his clothes seemed more beautiful than I had ever seen before. I looked down at myself and lo, my clothes were just as beautiful; all colors you could think of. "Come," said Jack, "dinner is ready."

ready." I was taken into a large room in which stood a long table covered with all kinds of goodies and there, too, was a beautiful Christmas tree covered with all kinds of presents. Everything looked beautiful.

Pretty soon in came the queen and her guests and we all sat down to dinner. We ate and ate until we just couldn't eat any more, then we all got up and went into the parlor.

This was the best Christmas dinner I had ever had and I was so full I could hardly walk. After we were all in the parlor one of the servants brought my stocking to me. It was stuffed full of goodies and many playing things, such as dollies, doll beds, pianos etc.

The servants were wrapping up all kinds of bundles for me to take home. There was something for every member of the family. They were all packed in the bottom of the aeroplane and after bidding all goodbye we started for home. We flew into my bedroom window and got out.

I went down and filled all the stockings and after bidding Jack goodbye, I went to bed. Pretty soon I heard some one calling me. It was mother calling me to breakfast, and I awoke to find that my Christmas with Jack Frost was only a dream.

From your Junior friend, Ellen Owen, Box 373, Eldon, Iowa.

FOREST WRITES TO HIS COUSIN. Miss Grace Divore, Washington, Kansas. Dear Cousin:—I received your letter a few days ago. I was glad to hear from you and to know that all were well. Yes, Laurence is able to be around again. He started to school today. He was out three weeks. All the rest are well and hope you are all the same.

Well, we had our first snow and it rained all day before. Yes, I go to school every day. I haven't been absent a day this term. I am in the third quarter of the sixth grade. We have manual training this year and I like it fine. I have made a coat hanger, a pencil holder, and a pot stand. We commenced today on a book stall. This was our first day at our own school. We always had to go to the Adams school that was about eight blocks and I like it so much better. We get more done. We have three teachers in our room. There are two grades. Each teacher gives two studies.

We will have a week's vacation at Christmas. I bet you have good times riding horse back to school only I think it will be quite cold now, but I would like it in the warm weather. I haven't forgotten the good times we had when I was out there. Tell Perry if I get to come out this year I will be large enough to make a hand in the field. I have carried papers all summer and till just two weeks ago but I am going to commence again as soon as I can get on.

Well, I really don't know what Santa will bring me. I like to have a coat lined with sheep wool but I have tried and can't get any that is small enough. I got a nice new overcoat Saturday I paid for it myself. I got a fur cap and high top shoes and I am fixed for the cold weather. I would like to have a flexible flyer this year.

Wish you could come back this Christmas. Do you remember the Christmas tree we had the last time you were here? That was five years ago. I guess we are quite large to what we were then if you came to your mamma's shoulders. I do also. I think we are getting too large for Christmas trees but it always seems like Christmas when we have one. Well, Grace, I will close this time. Hope you have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. From your cousin, Forest Weber, Age 12, 1313 East Main St., Ottumwa, Ia.

MARY AND JOAN. One cold December day two children named Mary and Joan James were wandering through the streets of a small city in New York state. They were both poorly clad, no warm dresses, coats, hoods or shoes had they. Their shoes were all torn, their dresses ragged and cold.

They were going through the streets begging for bread and money, sometimes they got something to eat. For a while they were walking in silence at last Mary said: "Joan don't you wish that we could find a pocket book full of money and nobody would claim it, and we could have the most new things couldn't we?"

Yes answered Joan. You know that in December people are doing their Christmas shopping and some one might lose their pocket-books, said Mary. At the thought of finding money made their eyes sparkle.

Just then Joan gave a leap cried out: "Oh, Mary I see a lady's purse right here in the path." When they went up to it Joan picked it up, quickly opened it, to see how much there was in it. They began to count until when through there was one hundred and fifty-two dollars and ninety-five cents, besides a ring with a ruby in it, a watch and fob. Oh! how glad they were.

Wonder whose it is asked Mary. Oh! I don't know said Joan. Look at that lady coming there maybe it's hers, will we have to give it up? said Joan. Just then the lady said: "Did either of you children find a purse?"

Yes said Mary. Joan slowly pulled the purse from behind her and asked is this yours? "The lady said it was opening it

saw that all was still there. She said, here children take this money and use it in a way that will help you? I'm so glad you found it. What are your names? Mary and Joan James answered Mary. Here comes my automobile and I must go now. Tell me your address and I will call on you Monday at 2:30 o'clock. Then she left them.

Mary and Joan James 118 East Burton St., Berlin, N. Y. I'll call on you Monday. Godbye, said the lady as she left. Monday she called on them and brought them new hats, coats and shoes. When she was gone they said they never would forget the day when they found the purse. Raymond Scott, Batavia, Iowa.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS. Our Savior, the Lord, Jesus Christ was born nineteen hundred years ago, in a far off country called the Holy Land. Many years before his birth prophets had foretold that God would send a redeemer into the world to show mankind the way of salvation. Good men believed the words of these prophets, and longed earnestly for the coming of the promised Saviour. It was naturally thought that he would appear as a great ruler or king, but God in his wisdom intended otherwise. His son came into the world as a helpless babe, just like any other person, and was born in poverty and obscurity.

Mary who was chosen to be the earth mother of Jesus, was a young maiden who lived in Nazareth, a village of Galilee. Although she was a descendant of the great King David she was not rich but she and her kindred loved God and lived piously and justly.

The angel Gabriel was sent to tell Mary that by the power of the Holy Spirit she should become the mother of a child who should be great and should be called the son of the most high, and should establish a kingdom of which there should be no end. Mary was filled with fear and wonder but she answered the angel and said: "Behold the hand maid of the Lord, let it be done unto me as the Lord hath said."

Mary was betrothed to a man named Joseph and he too was of the line of David. He was a carpenter and was a good and just man. An angel of the Lord appeared to him also in a dream and told him of the babe that was to be born and commanded that he should be called Jesus. Joseph believed in what the angel told him and did as he was commanded.

About that time the Emperor Augustus of Rome who then ruled most of the known world, wishing to lay a tax upon the people ordered every man to go to his own town and be enrolled. As Joseph was a descendant of David he had to go to Bethlehem, a city of Judea in which David had been born. He took with him his wife Mary. When they had reached the city they could find no room so they had to seek shelter in a stable. There was born the child Jesus of whose birth the angel had told. Mary wrapped him in the clothes she had brought and laid him in a manger, such as cattle feed from.

Near the town there were some shepherds watching their flocks by night and to them an angel suddenly appeared. They were afraid at first but the angel said: "Fear not, for I bring you tidings of great joy." And then he told them that a Saviour had been born and they would find him in Bethlehem lying in a manger. And all at once a great host of angels came about him singing: "Glory to God in the highest, an don't earth peace, good will to men."

And when the angels had gone they said: "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this wonderful thing which has come to pass." They went to Bethlehem and there they found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger. Some wise men saw a bright star over Bethlehem. It had been foretold that a bright new star would shine over the place where Jesus was born and they followed the star and it led them to Jerusalem and they began to inquire where Jesus was for they had come to worship him.

When King Herod, a wicked king, who was king of Judea, under the Romans heard of this he was troubled and called the priests and learned men who knew what the prophets had written and he found out where Jesus was.

Then Herod sent for the wise men and told them to find Christ and then come tell him so that he too might go and worship him, but this king had no intention of worshipping him; he meant to put him to death. The wise men found Jesus and bowed down and worshipped him for they were not surprised by finding him in this humble abode and they didn't doubt that he was the Saviour. And opening treasures they gave him presents of gold and spices.

They did not go back to King Herod for they were warned in a dream not to do so. Herod ordered all the children who were under two years old to be put to death but Joseph and Mary were warned and they escaped with the babe into Egypt. The king soon died and Joseph and Mary came back to Bethlehem.

Creta Huston, 809 Queen Ann Ave., Ottumwa.

HENRY'S FIRST LETTER TO THE JUNIOR. Dear Juniors:—I thought I would write a letter to the Juniors. This is my first letter. I will tell you about my trip from Iowa to Oklahoma. My aunt Mary came to Iowa on a visit and I came home with her. We started from Solon, Iowa, near Iowa City, and stopped off at Eldon where we made a three weeks' visit. From

there we came over the Rock Island as far as Kansas City, then over the Santa Fe to Alma, Okla. My uncle Ira met us at Alma and we had to go seventeen miles out in the country. My cousin Florence almost upset the carriage which we were riding in. We got over our fright and got on fine roads and arrived home about 2:30 a. m.

I could not see much that night, but the next day I had a good time looking at Oklahoma country. A few days afterwards I saw my first jack rabbit. Jack rabbits are like a cotton tail, only they are much larger and their ears are very large. Their tails are black where the cotton tails are white. I got here on Saturday and started to school on Monday. My teacher's name is Miss Lola Wheatley. There are thirty-nine scholars enrolled. I have not missed a day. The name of my school is Red Bird. Henry Elston, Age 11, Dacula, Oklahoma.

MARVEL IS 9 YEARS OLD. Dear Courier and Juniors:—I thought I would write you a letter today. I am nine years old and will be ten in January. My little sister is seven years old. My Aunt Ella came from town with this evening. She will stay until Sunday evening. My school will be out the last day of January. I would like to exchange post cards with some of the Juniors. We will not have any school Christmas. We did not have school Thanksgiving. I like to go to school. I will have to get three more certificates before I get a larger one. Marvel Gookin, age 9, Charlton, Iowa, Route 3.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS. The first Christmas was many hundred years ago. The babe of Bethlehem was born in a stable. The horses and cows stood around him. All at once a strange light appeared and the shepherds tending their flocks not far away looked up and saw a flock of angels. The angels told them that the savior was born and for them to follow a certain star. They did and it led them to a stable and the star stopped. The shepherds entered and there in the manger lay a tiny infant (our savior). They fell on their knees and adored him, giving him gold and gifts. Then after praising him they went back to their flocks. William T. Morrison, age 12, Melrose, Iowa.

A CHRISTMAS STORY. There was once an old lady and two small children who lived by the river at the edge of the woods. One of these children was a boy of 5 years, the other a girl of 6 or 7. Christmas time was drawing near, and as this old lady was very poor, she was afraid she could not get the children any Christmas presents. All went well until about two weeks before Christmas, when the old lady was suddenly taken sick. Now, this lady was not the mother of these children only their grandmother.

Three years before their father had come to Alaska to survey a gold mine which he had been thinking of buying. He had intended to be back in about six months, but he had failed to return, and neither had they heard from him. But now the coal, wood and provisions were almost gone, and they had no money. At last Christmas morning arrived and the old lady was no better. Hearing a rap the children opened the door and a tall richly dressed man entered. When the sick lady saw him she uttered an exclamation of delight and bounded out of bed. It was the children's father back again. The gold mine had been successful and he was now a rich man. Difficulties had arisen which made it almost impossible for him to write. I am almost certain that that family had a merry Christmas. Lucile Morrison, age 15, Melrose, Iowa.

ELMER HAS MOVED TO RIVERVIEW. Dear Editor: I will write a letter as I have not written for quite a while. I am now going to school every day. I will write through the Junior page to Santa then I know he will get it and bring me what I want. I would like to have quite a large engine and a blackboard, a ring and story book and a french harp, little plate and cup and saucer and some nuts and candy. Now I hope old Santa won't think that I have asked for too much for I really believe he can spare me that much and have plenty for all the other children. I know he is a good fellow for he always has been to me. We live out east now, out in Riverview addition. Last year we lived on Pennsylvania avenue, but I believe he will find the place without any trouble. Wishing all the Juniors a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, I remain, Elmer Willard Swope, Riverview Addition.

GRACE BROWN, ONE OF TRIPLETS WRITES. Dear Juniors:—I have never written before. I am a triplet. My sister's name is Mary Louise, and my brother's name is Theodore. I go to the Reveal school. I am in the third grade. My studies are reading, arithmetic, language, spelling, music and writing. My teacher's name is Miss Thomas. I like to read the Courier Junior letters and stories. For pets I have four little kittens. Grace Lucile Brown, Age 8, Ottumwa, Iowa, Route No. 8.