

THE COURIER JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

NOTICE!

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

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The Courier Junior Stocking Club the First in Iowa

Dear Juniors: The needy children to whom The Courier Junior 1916 Christmas Stocking Club will give the gifts, will be as many as last year, 1,200 at least. Up to date the membership on the "honor roll" is the same Dec. 14, 1915, 450. Consequently we are planning on a membership of at least 750, the same as 1915. Last year these 750 names represented 855 pairs of stockings. The cash donations from the 1915 Courier Junior Stocking Club enabled us to buy 345 pairs of stockings as well as dolls, candy, etc. We feel sure that one week from today the 1916 Christmas stocking club will exceed last year's. However, we will be happy if it reaches the same goal 750 members, which with the cash donations will enable us to give every needy child a pair of nice warm stockings, as well as toys, candy, etc.

For the information of the new members we will state that The Courier Junior Christmas Stocking Club was the first one of its kind in Iowa or the nearby states. It was planned and launched in The Courier office December, 1906, and we are happy to say was a success from the very start. Its purpose is to help make needy little children happy at Christmas time. Many grownups have always been members and by their generous donations of money enabled the Courier Junior to buy many pairs of stockings to add to the ones brought in by the little children, whose names appear on the "honor roll" published each day. We know of little children waiting and needing every single pair of stockings promised. To show how the Courier Junior Stocking Club has grown we will publish the figures taken from The Courier Junior files for the past ten years:

1906	94
1907	160
1908	200
1909	225
1910	270
1911	385
1912	540
1913	933
1914	1,155
1915	1,200

The various clubs of the city, youngsters and grownups are beginning to enroll, some giving money and others the stockings already filled. The Courier Junior Christmas Stocking Club hopes that many other clubs will enroll this week.

All one has to do to become a member of the club is to give a nice pair of well filled stockings or the equivalent in cash. Into one stocking put some candy and nuts, also a toy, an orange, a pair of mittens, an apple and the other stockings. Many of the Juniors fill both stockings. On the card with the donor's name put the age of the child for whom the stockings are intended.

It is not necessary to bring the stockings until next week. However, if the donors find it more convenient to bring them in this week, The Courier Junior office can care for them nicely. We want all the names of the members right away if possible. The more names we have the better we can plan for the needy children. Juniors and grownups living at a distance can send a pair of stockings, also a little money to buy mittens, a toy and some sweetmeats.

The stockings will be left just as the donors bring them in, and will be distributed Christmas eve direct from this office among little children whose parents are unable to provide any Christmas cheer and to little ones bereft of their parents.

Some of The Courier readers do not understand just what the "roll of honor" which is published each day means. (When we say "roll of honor" we refer to the names of the members of the 1916 Christmas Stocking Club.)

Every name on the published list is a promise to give at least one pair of stockings, the donor feeling sure that a needy little child will be the recipient.

A CHRISTMAS CONTEST.

We want all the Juniors to write in the Christmas contest. The subjects follow:

- WHY THE CHRISTIAN WORLD CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS.
- THE FIRST CHRISTMAS.
- THE PLEASURE OF GIVING.
- THE CHRISTMAS TREE.
- CHRISTMAS IN OTHER LANDS.

The writers may select their prizes from among the following articles: A Christmas tree, scents-ball, pair of skates, book, candy, knife or a picture.

OTHER SUBJECTS.

We all want the Juniors to send in school compositions and other stories, besides the ones on the subjects we suggest. Sometimes children can write better compositions when discussing their own subjects. We especially want letters and ancestor stories. To encourage originality and variety in the Juniors' work the following list is given:

1916 Membership of Club

IN MEMORY OF JEANETTE DAGGETT. ROSEMARY DAGGETT. MAE NEWQUIST (Dudley). CECILIA IRENE NEWQUIST (Dud)

CHAUNCEY FAY. ROBERT EMMETT FAY. WAYNE EDWARD SONGER.

JORDON MARLOW WORK. JOHN M. CANNY. MARGARET M. CANNY. MARY E. CANNY. EDWARD B. CANNY. ROBERT E. CANNY. JERROLD EUGENE LEE. DONALD PICKETT. RICHARD RAUSCHER. MARY CATHERINE WALSH. MARY MALOON. BESSIE MALOON. MARGARET MALOON. DONNA CARMEN LEACH. PAUL RAY LEACH. VERONICA LUCILLE FLACTIONS. MARGARET LOUISE HIGGINS. (Braddeck, N. D.) MARY ELEANOR LOGAN. JOHN A. LOGAN.

BERNARD HUSTON. MARY CATHERINE HUSTON. DOROTHY MAY MACMANUS. ELEANOR PATRICIA MACMANUS. THOMAS ARTHUR REIFSNYDER. ROSWELL DORR JOHNSON. ROSAMOND DORR. (Miles City, Mont.) MAXINE ELEANOR HARRYMAN. VIRGINIA MAXINE SIZEMORE. MARY ELLEN DEHART. LEONA MAY DEHART. MARTIN BOHE HARDOGG. MURRAY ALFRED HARDOGG. MARGARET WILKINSON. EVERTA CECIL KING. WILLIAM JAMES KING. DOROTHY ALTA HOWARD. RUTH ELIZABETH WALL.

CLARA ALICE KERNS. HARRY ALVA MEIER. GLENN SETCHELL MEIER. BILLY BERNHARDT MEIER. ELIZABETH MARGARET MEIER. HELEN ELIZABETH GITHENS. VIRGINIA LOUISE RHUE. GERALDINE CRAMBLITT. WILLIAM NORRIS CRAMBLITT. GERALD COOKSTON CORNELL. DELPHINE OPAL CORNELL. GWENDOLYN REATHA CORNELL. ROLLA SENECA CORNELL. GEORGE ROBERT KENDALL, JR. RUTH ELIZABETH KENDALL. JACK ALLOTT. DOROTHY FRANCES HALL (Chi.) JEAN LUCILLE HALL (Chicago) ROBERT JAMES M'URNEY. MARGARET MAY SUMMERS (Osaka) HELEN LOUISE SUMMERS (Osaka) JAMES LEROY HANSON (Osaka) RUSSELL EDWIN WRIGHT JANE FRANCES DORAN JOSEPH KANNALY DORAN. Cash \$1.00. DOROTHY FRANCES WAYLAND RUTH HALL SHANAHAN EMMETT JACKSON SHANAHAN.

NATALIE HARROW SMITH. STEPHEN HARROW SMITH. (Little Rock, Ark.) MARIAN REAMES (Richland.) HARRY SHELBY CARSON. (Chariton.) MARGARET ETNA BROWN (Keokuk.) DOLLY BROWN (Keokuk.) PAULINE LAVONNE M'REYNOLDS. FRANCIS JOHN RUMP. MORIS JOSEPH RUMP. DORIS FRY. MAXINE KITTERMAN. PHILIP EDMUNDS PRATT (Ft. Madison.) MARY LYNN GILBERT. LUCILE EARL GILBERT. LOIS SAPP (Burlington.) HARRY SAPP, JR. (Burlington.) ROBERT DANIEL WOOD. LOUISE MATILDA WOOD. MARY CATHERINE NICHOLSON (Ma.) ELIZABETH M. NICHOLSON (Selma.) JOHN FREDRICKSON, JR. FRANCIS FREDRICKSON. MOLLIE MAY FREDRICKSON. MARCELLA LOUISE MARSHALL. CHARLES NEWCOMER YOUNKIN.

school supplies, box of candy, knife, football, etc. We also want the Juniors who think the other subjects are too hard to write on one of the following subjects: The Story of a Nickel. My Best Friend. A Pet Dog. Corn and Apples. Sweet Potatoes and Cotton. A letter. Select prizes from among the following: Box of candy, football, roller skates, doll, knife or book.

ALL ABOUT PRIZES.

We do wish the Juniors would acknowledge their prizes. If any Junior has ever failed to receive a prize after his or her name appeared in this paper, it is because the wrong address has been given us. When we say wrong address we especially refer to incomplete addresses. All city Juniors should put their street number and all Juniors living in the country should put their "box number" or failing to have a box send in their parents' names.

1. Use one side of the paper only.
2. Write neatly and legibly, using ink or sharp lead pencil.
3. Always sign your name in full and state your age.
4. Do not copy stories or poetry and send us as your own work.
5. Number your pages.
6. Always state choice of a prize on a separate piece of paper, with name and address in full.
7. Address envelope to The Courier Junior.

SEVEN RULES FOR THE JUNIORS. 1. Use one side of the paper only. 2. Write neatly and legibly, using ink or sharp lead pencil. 3. Always sign your name in full and state your age. 4. Do not copy stories or poetry and send us as your own work. 5. Number your pages. 6. Always state choice of a prize on a separate piece of paper, with name and address in full. 7. Address envelope to The Courier Junior.

Gerald's Acre of Corn

Dear Juniors: I am going to write a letter about my acre of corn that I had this year. I joined the acre corn club last spring. I put my corn in and tended it during the summer. Any boy or girl from ten to eighteen years old may join the club if they write to E. C. Bishop, Ames, Ia., agent of U. S. department of agriculture, and ask for an enrollment card. Fill out the card and send it to him. He will send you instructions to begin your work. I sowed my corn on the 11th of November. There were 44 bushels on the acre. I sent in my report on the 13th of November, so I don't know how I'll come out yet. I hope to do better the next time. No enrollments are to be made in the club after June 1, 1917. Each corn club member plants and cares for one acre of more. The Corn and Baby Pork clubs had a picnic in the last days of June. I heard one of the boys down at the county institute say he had a pig that weighed over 300 pounds.

Gerald Warner, Ottumwa, Ia., R. No. 2.

VALEDA'S FIRST LETTER. Dear Juniors: This is the first letter I have written to the Junior. I enjoy reading the Junior letters very much. I am a little girl 8 years old. I have a little dog named Snip. I have a little wagon. I tie a string to the tongue of my wagon and Snip will pull the wagon by the string. He thinks it is great fun. Snip comes to the gate every night to meet me when I come home from school. Snip and I will play hide and seek. I will hide and Snip will come and find me. Valada Katherine Barkley, Ottumwa, Ia., R. No. 2.

ARTHUR HICKEY, JR. KATHRYN ADA HICKEY. AUDREY IRENE GOWDY. LESTER ALVIN DOWELL. FREDERICK TISDALE CUSHING. ROBERT SIMMONS WHITMORE. MILDRED IDELL BOLAR. EDITH HAZEL BOLAR. INEZ LUCILLE BOLAR. ALBERT LA GRANDE REINIER. MAX ARVIL GILTNER (Batavia) LAWRENCE KNIPE. MARION GILMORE. FRANCES GILMORE. EILEEN GILMORE. JOHNNIE ORR. JAMES WILLARD ORR. (Douds-Leandro, R. 2.) HAROLD WESLEY CURRY. CHESTER BENSON CURRY. HELEN JUANITA CURRY. HARVEY LEWIS CARY. (Macedonia, Iowa.) WILLIAM AUSTIN M'MILLUN (Bliss, Okla.) DOROTHY DELL LEWIS DONALD EVAN BROWN (Des Moines) EUGENE FRANCIS DAVIDSON MABEL ROSE WADSWORTH LOUISE CAMPBELL JOHN DAVID FINDLAY JAMES H. FINDLAY ALBERTINA ALASKA PARK ROSEBUD KATHERINE PARK JAMES EDWARD PECK, II VEDA MARJORIE PECK MIRIAM GERTRUDE PECK KATHERINE MAVIS ROWLINSO (Sioux Falls, S. D.) GEORGE EUGENE ROWLINSO, III (Sioux Falls, S. D.) MARY KATHERYN LARKIN RUTH HELEN LARKIN JOSEPH LARKIN MAURICE HAROLD GLENTZER (Pueblo, Colo.) CHARLES PAUL GLENTZER (Pueblo, Colo.) GERALDINE EUGENE HENDRICKS (Cash \$1.00) MARY BETH LOWENBERG JOHN A. LOWENBERG JEAN LOUISE LOWENBERG DOROTHY C. TROTTER RUSSELL EUGENE WINN MARY BERNADINE JOHNSON JACK GREGORY NICHOLSON DOROTHY ELIZABETH LEWIS SAMUEL MAHON. JOHN KEITH MAHON, JR. MARY LOUISE WILLIAMS. EMMA MAY WILLIAMS. EDWARD F. LA FORCE. (Burlington, Iowa.) MIRIAM INGRID PETERSON.

IN MEMORY OF FLORENCE AN. DREW (24 Dolls) LUCIUS A. ANDREW, JR. DORIS DOW HANSON (City, R. No. 5) MAXINE ELOISE TOOLE NOBEL CRUISE (Buxton) GWEN GILES (Blakesburg) LINUS NIEMEYER, JR. EVERETT EZRA STERNER (Batavia) BILLY ANTON BOONE GERALDINE ELKINS GERALD HOWARD MAYNARD CORRIK EVERETT CORRIK MARY DOLORES RAY ROBERT THOMPSON FOSTER KATHRYN ELIZABETH KLEPPER EUGENE FRANCIS ROUCH (Floris) JAMES BATES MATHER (Lake Forest, Ill.) WOODROW WILSON DONALD WILSON IN MEMORY OF MARJORIE FRANCES WILSON IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY ARLENE WILSON HAPPY HOUR CLUB WARREN THOMAS FARRELL CHARLES ARTHUR LEWIS WESLEY H. GARNER (Des Moines) IN MEMORY OF EVELYN PATTERSON

THE A. G. CLUB, 7 pairs. KEYNOTE CLUB, \$2.50. THE PURITAN CLUB, \$2.00. MARTHA ALBERT BARBARA ALBERT HELEN DUKE WILLIAM DUKE THOMAS MARION COHAGAN (Fairfield) GEORGE GRAY LANG NANCY M'OUNE CASH \$1.00

MIRIAM INGRID PETERSON. IN MEMORY OF FLORENCE AN. DREW (24 Dolls) LUCIUS A. ANDREW, JR. DORIS DOW HANSON (City, R. No. 5) MAXINE ELOISE TOOLE NOBEL CRUISE (Buxton) GWEN GILES (Blakesburg) LINUS NIEMEYER, JR. EVERETT EZRA STERNER (Batavia) BILLY ANTON BOONE GERALDINE ELKINS GERALD HOWARD MAYNARD CORRIK EVERETT CORRIK MARY DOLORES RAY ROBERT THOMPSON FOSTER KATHRYN ELIZABETH KLEPPER EUGENE FRANCIS ROUCH (Floris) JAMES BATES MATHER (Lake Forest, Ill.) WOODROW WILSON DONALD WILSON IN MEMORY OF MARJORIE FRANCES WILSON IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY ARLENE WILSON HAPPY HOUR CLUB WARREN THOMAS FARRELL CHARLES ARTHUR LEWIS WESLEY H. GARNER (Des Moines) IN MEMORY OF EVELYN PATTERSON

DREAMING OF CHRISTMAS



The above pictures one of the needy little children who will be made happy by the 1916 Christmas Stocking Club.

YVONNE EVELYN SMITH ROSEMARY AVERY SWENSON LA GURNA HOOD IN MEMORY OF HELEN JANE RAMSELL RICHARD ROEMER RAMSELL, JR. WILLIAM HENRY RAMSELL HELEN MARGUERITE RAMSELL (Iowa City) DOROTHY WILLETHA BRAY HELEN BERNADINE RUCKMAN WALTER CHARLES RUCKMAN LESLIE MILRE M'COY HELEN BLANCHE M'COY PAUL MASON SLOAN HELEN SLOAN IN MEMORY OF MADGE ELOISE CHAMBERLAIN IN MEMORY OF ROBERT IRWIN CHAMBERLAIN PHURMAN SUMMERS WILLIAM EDWARD STAEBLER JACK HOWARD STAEBLER RUSSELL WILLIAM HARPER, JR. RUTH ELEANOR GILLEN SERGT. PHILIP PAUL BINKS, (Co. G, Brownsville, Tex.) CORRAL CARL ELMER GILLEN (Co. G, Brownsville, Tex.) DONALD MAXWELL FERN CHARLES GREENLEAF MERRILL, JR. THOMAS WM. SETCHELL, JR.

RICHARD EUGENE SWANSON JOHN WILLIAM LAPHAM. EUGENE KAUL (Undergrove, Minn.) LAURELL BROUGH JAMES ALAN WEIR MARY ALBERTA WEIR INA MAY TOMLIN MAXINE IRENE SCHWARTZ ROBERT LEMONT EATON ARTHUR GEORGE EATON ANNA ELIZABETH EATON MARY LOUISE EATON JAMES CHARLETON SWEENEY HELEN FRANCES SWEENEY (Fon du lac, Wis.) JOSEPHINE SWEENEY JOHN WILSON LAMBERT FLORENCE M'MICHAEL ROBERT M'MICHAEL PAUL M'MICHAEL LATONA VIVIAN SYDER (North Iowa) MAX RAY HARKER (Davenport, Iowa) DONALD IRWIN WALKER MARY GERTRUDE LUTZ. ROBERT JANNEY MAJORS MARGARET JANE COOPER

NORMA LEE DAVIS ALICE HARPER IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM DREW (24 Dolls) GEORGE FREDERICK DIMMITT BERTHA MAY DIMMITT JOHN SKIRVIN (Agency, R. No. 1) DOROTHEA LURENE CREATH LEWIS REARDON WHELAN MICHAEL FRANCIS WHELAN GERRALD CALLAHAN WHELAN HELEN LOUISE KIRKHART (Carroll) HARRY C. KIRKHART, JR. ROSALIE GERTRUDE ROBERTSON LORETTA AGNES ROBERTSON SELMA ESTHER BROOKS

MARTHA JANE LOWENBERG WM. SAMUEL MORROW JOHN MORIARTY HAROLD KENYON BILLY DAMON KENYON MARGARET ELOISE BURKMAN VERA LOUISE M'KEE RUTH ANNA M'KEE MYRON LOWELL BAKER JOHN FRANCIS WEBBER, JR. BAILEY CROMWELL WEBBER ALICE LOUISE WATERMAN (Grand Rapids, Mich.) DENISON RANDAL WATERMAN (Grand Rapids, Mich.) ELEANOR CAPPS BABY CAPPS JOHN EGERLY MORRELL RUTH JEANETTE LYNCH JOE MARCELLUS LYNCH MAURICE M'VEY MARY PARKS WEAVER (New Market) JOHN EDWARD PARKS (New York City) GERTRUDE IRENE TAYLOR FREDERICK KIDD PAULINE KIDD DANIEL ROBERT SERRY (Lucas, Iowa) HELEN LOUISE SERRY (Lucas, Iowa) IN MEMORY OF DONALD STEVENS MARY GRACE STEVENS (Des Moines)

ADA Z. STEVENS (Des Moines) MAXINE LUCILLE CHENOWETH JOHN RUSSELL CHENOWETH HENRY TYNER TRAUT (Mt. Pleasant) ROBIN GREGLIUS WISE HELEN DEAN LOCKE DOROTHY CONSDINE RUTH CHRISTIE NONA JUANITA COLLETT ELIZABETH VIVIAN COLLETT (Agency) NEIL ROBERT JONES BERNICE PEARL JONES LOIS LUCILLE COPPLE DOYE FREDERICK COPPLE LOUISE BURTCHELL (Aibig) GERTRUDE FISHER LA RUE SHELTON (Chariton) THOMAS RIDDLE WILLIAM OSBORN MURRAY WILLIAM JOHN SWEENEY (Red Lodge, Mont.) HAROLD ANDERSON LOUISE ROSCOE DOROTHY ELEANOR JOHNSTONE (Cedar Rapids Iowa) CATHERINE JAMES WALKER (Portland, Oregon) PARODA ANN DUNNING JOHN DUNNING VIRGINIA DUNNING TARTON DUNNING

SANTA CLAUS. He comes in the night! He comes in the night He softly, silently comes; While the little brown heads on the pillows so white Are dreaming of bugles and drums. He cuts through the snow like a ship through the foam, Whirls the white flakes around him whirling; Who tells him I know not, but he soon finds the home Of each good little boy and girl. His sleigh it is long, and deep and wide; It will carry a host of things, While dozens of dreams hang over the side, With sticks sticking under the strings. And yet not the sound of a drum is heard. Nor a bugle blast is blown, As he mounts to the chimney top like a bird, And drops to the hearth like a stone.

The little red stocking he silently fills, Till the stockings will hold no more; The bright little sleds for the great snow hills Are quickly set down on the floor. Then Santa Claus mounts to the roof like a bird, And springs to his seat in the sleigh, Nor the sound of a bugle or drum is heard As he noiselessly gallops away. He rides to the East and he rides to the West, Of his goodies he touches not one; He waits for the crumbs of the Christmas feast; When the dear little folks are done, Old Santa Claus does all the good he can; This beautiful mission is his; Then, children, be kind to the little old man, When you find who the little man is.

FOX AND GEESSE. We children play fox and geese. We have a large ring as big as we can get inside our school yard. It is about sixty feet clear around the ring. There were two of us it the other day and as fast as we could go out the other ones would catch us, so now we have only one at a time. There are thirteen boys in our school, so we have quite a good time. The fox and geese ring is made thus: One large circle with a little ring about six or eight feet around in the middle and one line going clear through the ring so as to cut it in fourths and if there are very many playing you can make the ring in the middle. It is made like this: If you are out of the circle in the middle the one that is it can catch you, and if you do not follow the lines you are it and try to catch some one, and the one that was it is not it till you catch him again. You are to catch any one you can and then they are it and then on like this till school calls and then the game is ended. Harold Jones, age 11, Alva, Wyoming.

Santa Claus Letters

ATTENTION—SANTA CLAUS. Dear Santa Claus: The following letters addressed to you were sent in care of The Courier Junior. Some of the little writers forgot to sign their names, but of course, dear Santa, you know who they are. The Courier Junior followed the copy in every particular. (The Editor.)

Dear Santa Claus: I would like a little cork gun, and Santa Claus I would like a drum for Christmas and Santa Claus I would like a steam engine, and Santa Claus I would like a poste bottle. Thanks Santa.

Dear Santa Claus: For Christmas I would like a kitchen cabinet, Doll buggy, book, a dress gloves cradle, stockings shoes beads rolling pin baking board a box of writing paper hair stove automobile checkers coat a pair ribbon china closet. C. S. A.

Dear Santa Claus: did Joe palmer tell you to not come around this christmas he told me so if you bring me a set of dishes and a little doll and some clothes for it and a hat and coat a hole lot of dresses from Emmogene Sinclair 926 Russell st and a black board and a little piano.

Dear Santa: I havent wrote for a long time. I am going to school. I want a stocking for xmas a story book and a pocket book. I have a little brother and he wants a hat and a stocking. I have another little sister and she wants a stocking and a doll my adress is Thelma Young 106 S. birch st. Ottumwa Ia.

Dear Santa Claus I want a wagon and horn my little sister wants a doll and buggy and I forgot I want a electric train that runs on a track my big sister wants a doll and buggy and a cat and muf and a dog. good bye from Floyd Elizabeth Genevieve.

I will save every penny I get bring me a stocking cup I will B a good boy and mind my mama and pa and say my prayers every night. Lawrence Holmes was a flash light. A sled a gun, little house and little barn, some story books, horses and cows in the barn.

Dear Santa I would like for you to bring me a rag doll, And a doll cradle. Will you bring me a riding horse to play with. I want a pocketbook. Bring me a dress for the doll. And bring me a pencilbox. Bring me a gocart. I live ten miles north of a Ottumwa now dont forget. from your little girl Mabel Mullenix

Dear Santa Claus I am a little girl 6 years old. I live near Blakesburg. I have one little brother his name is Paul. He is 3 years old. I go to school. I have over a mile to walk. My teacher name is Gussie Burgeson. I thought I would write and tell you what I wanted for Christmas. I want a pair of scissors Blackboard and a writing tablet. If this dont read the wast basket I'll write again. As a letter is getting long I will close. Virginia Chesser Blakesburg Iowa. Age 6 years old.

Dear Santa Claus: I want a pair of boxing gloves and a sandy and a pair of skates, a pair of skates and some sort of electric toy and a Xmas tree. Jack Allott.

Dear Santa I want a little iron with a handle fastened on and a little dutch doll. I want a story book, and some candy and oranges and nuts, and some handkerchiefs. From your friend Margaret Myers. 115 South Schuyler St., Ottumwa, Ia.

Dear Santa: I want a little iron with a handle fastened on. And a little dutch doll, And I want a story book, and some candy and oranges and some nuts, and I want some handkerchiefs. From your friend Martha Myers, 115 South Schuyler St., Ottumwa, Ia.

Dear Santa Claus: I hope you will come to our house this Christmas. We were very glad you came last Christmas. You may bring me whatever you want for Christmas. Please bring my sister and brother something too. My brother is seven years old. My sister is 15 years old. My brother has light hair and blue eyes. My sister has black curly hair and blue eyes. I have a little dog, and we will look him up in the shed Christmas eve so you need not be afraid of him. Well I suppose you have many other letters to read so I will close. From a poor little girl, Bertha Kibler, 618 N. Ferry St., Ottumwa, Iowa.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE. I am going to tell the story of Nathaniel Hawthorne. Nathaniel was born July 4, 1804 in the quaint old town of Salem, Mass. His birthplace was near the sea. He was a great reader and he spent a great deal of his time on his voyages with his books. Nathaniel's mother was a beautiful woman with a sweet and pure nature. Nathaniel's father died when he was but four years old and his Grandfather Hawthorne took care of him. There were uncles and aunts and they were very fond of the golden haired boy and his two sisters. When Nathaniel was eight or nine years old his mother took her three children to Raymond, Me., on the banks of Sebago lake. In 1821 he entered Bowdoin college. There he led a happy life. In 1842 he was married to Sophia Peabody and they went to Concord where they lived in the "Old Manse," a famous homestead near the Concord battlefield. During his last years Nathaniel's health began to fail and he was unable to apply himself to his writing. In the month of May 1864 he went away for a trip with his old friend President Pierce and while at Plymouth, N. H., he fell into a deep sleep, never to awake. He was buried in Concord, and his body was taken to Concord, where it lies in the "Old Manse" cemetery. Lucretia Nichols, age 12, 225 Myrtle St., Ottumwa, Iowa.

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