

V. J. ROUSE, Editor.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1912.

**You Ought to Have Your Picture Taken!**

See Us About It

Miss Belle Johnson.

If Santa Claus Were Poor. I'll bet when Mister Santa Claus was just a kid like me He got his reg'lar presents off a reg'lar Christmas tree; I'll bet he had a big, fine house to stay in through a storm. An' shoes an' overcoats and clo'es that kep' him good an' warm; Because, if he had been like me, I know that he'd be sure To make a visit every year to children that are poor. If he could see our baby now that never had no toys, Perhaps he'd hold some presents out on other little boys That got so many every year, an' leave just one or two To give the kid a chance to play like babies do; But I don't s'pose he'll do it, 'cause he never knowed the way Things are with kids whose Christmas is like any other day. That drum I seen downtown today I do not need so bad, An' it's the same with other things that I ain't never had. But gee! my little sister! it is tough to hear her cry, Because she cannot have no doll-an' I can't tell her why; I guess it's no use worryin', fer that don't help at all, Because this feller Santa Claus was rich when he was small. He never had to stand outside a great big lighted store, A kind of holdin' back the tears an feeling mighty sore, To see them gune an' trains o' cars an' thinkin' 'bout the fun The other kids was going to have while he was havin' none; I wouldn't wish a man bad luck but when I'm blue an' cold, I wish that he was poor like me when he was nine years old. —James J. Montague, New York American.

W. D. Elliott was a Quincy visitor Monday. Dr. Hornback Oculist and Aurist Hannibal, Mo. The Hunnewell postoffice was robbed Sunday night. A girl arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sullivan Saturday. For Rent—2 rooms, also barn room for team.—E. W. Williams. G. A. Quick was looking after business interests in Quincy, Monday. James Divens and wife, of Colorado Springs, Colo., are with their many friends here. Mrs. Frank Anderson and daughter, of Hannibal spent part of the week with Monroe friends. Earl Caldwell came in Saturday from Denver to spend a few days with his many friends here. Miss Lillian McNutt who is teaching near Perry spent her vacation with relatives and friends here. Send in all items of news from your neighborhood. You help the Democrat but you also help your neighborhood.

**How Little Jack Guessed A Christmas Secret**



It was the afternoon before Christmas, and the air was full of big, feathery snowflakes. Jack and Mary stood at the window watching them, and Baby Jane sat on the floor. "See how pretty they are!" cried Jack, clapping his hands. "They're just like fairies going to a Christmas party." Mary clapped her hands, too, and Baby Jane thumped her rattle on the floor and crowed. But Mrs. Brown looked out of the window rather anxiously. The store was a mile away, and the snow seemed to come thicker and faster every minute. "How do you s'pose Santa Claus can get here in such a storm?" asked Jack, at which Mary's face clouded. Perhaps this thought was troubling Mrs. Brown. She didn't answer for more than a minute, not until Jack spoke again. "Pooch 'n' nonsense!" he said. "This isn't much of a snow. I could go in it myself well's not." "Could you, dear?" asked his mother quickly. "I'm afraid it's a chance if papa gets home before tomorrow, the wood road will be so blocked, and I want some things from the store to-night. Do you suppose you can go with your sled, Jackie?" "Why, yes!" cried Jack, delighted enough, and in a very few minutes he was ready to start. "Give this note to Mr. Simpkins," said his mother, "and then you won't have anything to remember. And be careful, dear, and hurry home as fast as you can." Mr. Simpkins' eyes twinkled when he read that note. "I can't attend to you right away," he said to Jack, "and I wish you'd just



JACK STRUGGLED ON. run over to the house with a line to Mrs. Simpkins for me." "Yes, sir," answered Ted. Mr. Simpkins had the bundles tucked away in the sled box and covered with thick brown paper, that the snow couldn't get through, when Jack came back. "Hard night for Santa Claus to get around," he said, pinching the boy's red cheek. "Do you suppose you'll see him at your house?" "I hope he'll come," answered Jack politely, "but I don't guess I'll see him, sir." "I saw him once," Mr. Simpkins said soberly, "when he was a little boy, about your size. He looked a great deal like you too." When he got home mother had a plate of hot oatmeal pudding with sugar and real cream waiting for him, and she whisked the bundles out of the sled box and into the pantry in a hurry. All this time the snow kept falling, falling, and the wind blew until the little house fairly shook. If it had been set on a hill there is no saying what might have happened. Jack felt a good deal troubled. He told his mother what Mr. Simpkins had said about Santa Claus when she was tucking him into bed for the night. "I'm afraid he can't get here," said he, "and then Mary will be so disappointed." But his mother laughed, stooping down for the good night kiss. "Don't worry, dear," she said. "Santa Claus won't mind this little snow."

And, sure enough, when morning came the three little stockings hanging beside the chimney were stuffed as full as they could hold. "So Santa Claus did come," said Mrs. Brown, laughing at the children's antics. Jack looked thoughtful a minute. His eyes danced. He put his lips close to his mother's ear. "I do b'lieve I know what Mr. Simpkins meant," he said, "but I shan't tell Mary. And it's lots of fun, just the same."



**The Money Question**

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**PUBLIC SALE.**

I, the Administrator of the estate of Basil Finley, deceased, will sell at the Finley farm, 8 miles east of Monroe City, 1-2 mile northeast of Huntington, on

Wednesday, January 8, 1913.

**HORSES AND MULES**—Span of mules, weigh 2600; span of mules, 6 and 8 years old, weigh 2400; yearling mare mule; suckling mule colt; Span bay mares, weigh 2600; coming 7-year-old black mare, weighs 1250; Coming 4-year-old bay mare, weighs 1200; Coming 7-year-old bay driving mare; aged driving mare. All mares have been bred and service fee paid. Standard bred suckling mare colt.

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**FOR RENT**—Farm consisting of 320 acres; also 240 acres of grass land northwest of Rensselaer will be rented on day of sale.

J. B. GARTH, Adm.  
W. T. Youell, Auctioneer.  
J. M. Johnson, Clerk.

Four Pages Only.

Christmas comes only once a year. Printers are like most other people and like to enjoy the occasion consequently the Democrat goes to its readers this week as a folio instead of a quarto. It is also printed on Tuesday in order that the force may take Christmas. They have worked hard during the year and have justly earned this much of a vacation.

The Hannibal Commercial College which has broken all previous records in filling positions in the past year will open after the holidays, January 8, 1913. 12-26.

**Your 1913 Business Plan.**

You have strong hopes that the year 1913 will see you a long way further in the road to success. In making your plans for the year, would it not be well to consider whether business relations with the

**Monroe City Bank**

will not be an important factor in your financial development? Our officers will be pleased to talk it over with you.

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H. A. Graves has received from Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Ogle of Houston, Texas, the announcement of the coming marriage of their daughter Miss Georgia Monroe to James Ogburn, Tuesday Dec. 31, 1912. The bride spent her early life in this city and is a most excellent young lady and has many friends here. Mr. Ogburn is not known here but is to be congratulated on securing such a prize.

**Notice.**  
Your City Taxes will soon be delinquent. Avoid the penalty by paying now. Office permanently at J. B. Anderson's Dry Goods Store. R. A. KIRBY, Collector.

Harry McNutt and wife, of Rolla, spent part of the week with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. B. A. McNutt. Harry is one of the faculty of the State School of Mines and Monroe is proud of him.

**Work Wanted.**  
I am ready to do your washing, ironing or other work.—Mrs. M. C. Hall, first door west of Garage.

**No tice to Our Friends and Customers**  
Owing to the death of a member of our firm, we are compelled to request all those indebted to us, to call and settle their account prior to Jan. 10, 1913, so that the business of the deceased member can be settled up.

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See **Reid** Monuments.

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DR. J. N. SOUTHERN, Physician and Surgeon.  
Office over Rogers & Thompson's store. Telephones: Residence F. & M. 240. Be. 352. Office: Bell 50.

R. S. McCLINTIC  
LAWYER  
Office over Monroe City Bank  
Monroe City Mo.

Dr. J. D. SCOBEE  
Osteopathic Physician  
Office: Proctor Building  
Monroe City, Mo.  
Phone F & M No. 195

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