LESSON XIII .- DEC. 26, 1909.

The Birth of Christ,-Matt. 2: 1-12. Commentary .- I. The coming of the wise men (vs. I, 2.) I. When Jesus was born-While the exact date of Christ's hirth is uncertain there is no reason why it may not have been on December 25, B. C. 5. But why do we say that Jesus was born "before Christ?.' Simply because our calendar is incorrect. For some centuries after Christ's time there was no calendar in general use, but each nation dated from some event in its history. Finally, in the sixth century, a learned monk, Dionysius Exiguus, was appointed to ascertain the time of Christ's birth, and it was ordered that history should be dated from that time. But Dionysius, who first published his calculations in A. D. 526, put the birth of Jesus about four years too late.. in Bethlehem-"House of bread." name properly applied to a place where

the true Bread was manifested for the life of the world."-Clarke. Of Judea-To distinguish it from Bethlehem in Galilee, mentioned to Josh. 19: 15. Herod-Herod the Great. He was an Edomite, and although a proselyte to the Jewish religion, was notorious for his wickedness and cruelty. He reigned 37 years in Judea and died a few months after the birth of Christ. At this time "the sceptre was departing from Judah, a sign that the Messiah was now at Wise men-Or magi. "Originally a class of priests among the Persians and Medes, who formed the king's privy counsel. They were men of learning and wealth. Augustine and Chrysostom say there ware twelve bagi, but the common belief is that there were but three. But why were these magi seeking the Christ? "We know that the Persian magi believed in a Messiah or future Saviour, who should in the latter day appear and renew the world in rightusness."-Whedon. From the east-Perhaps from Media, or Persia, or possibly, from Arabia. Jerusalem—They seemed to suppose that when they reached the capital of the Jewish nation

salem brought Jesus into popular notice and called attention to the fact that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem. Born King of the Jews-This was title unknown to the earlier history of srael and applied to no one except the Messiah. It reappaers in the inscription over the cross.—Carr. Notice that Jesus was "born" a king. His star-Many interpreters, especially those who seek to eliminate the supernatural, explain the "star," or "sidereal appearance," by a conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn which occured in May, B. C. 7, and again in December with Mars added. It is. however, much more in harmony with all the facts to believe that the star which attracted the attention of the magi was provided for the ocasion. To worship him-To do him homage. They were bold to confess the object of their coming.

they would have no trouble in finding

2. Where is he—This inquiry in Jeru

the object of their search.

II. Light from the scriptures (vs. 3-6) 3. Had heard-The magi had created no small stir by their inquiries which immediately attracted the attention of the king. Troubled-Herod, now sunk into the jealous decrepitude of his savage old age, was residing in his new palace on Zion, when, half maddened as he was already by the crimes of his past career. alarm and anxiety by the visit of magi, bearing the strange intelli-that they had come to worship a orn king.—Farrar. Herod feared

All Jerusalem with him-Fearig that he would make this an occasion or renewing his acts of bloodshed, 4. Had gathered-He assembled the Sanhedrin. Lightfoot. Chief priests This expression probably comprehends the acting high priest and his deputy, those who had been high priests-for at this time the office was often transferred by the Roman authorities-and "the heads of the twenty-four sacerdotal families, which David had distributed into so many courses." Scribes-The learned interpreters of the Mosaic law, and the collectors of the traditions of the elders. Many of them were Pharisees. Demanded of them-Because they would be most likely to know. Where the Christ (R. V.)—Or the Messiah the official title of the promised deliverer. "The wise men had said nothing about the Christ, or the Messiah, but only about the King of the Jews. But Herod saw that this king must be the expected Messiah."

5. By the prophet-Micah 5: 2. Matthew does not quote the exact words found in Micah, but the sense is given. It was an accepted truth that the Messiah must come from Bethlehem. 6. Art is no wise least (R. V.)-Micah says, "Though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel." This made Bethlehem "in no wise least." Although Bethlehem was little, yet it was exalted above all the other cities of Israel. The princes-"The thousands" (Micah 5: 2). The tribe had been subdivided into thousands, and over each subdivision there was a chieftain or prince.-Morison. A governor- To control and rule. Who shall be shepherd (R. V.)-To feed and care for, as literally fulfilled. It will be some day.

will keep up.

fully furnished.

a shepherd his flack. Christ is both shepherd and king. My people Insuel— Israel was God's people in a peculiar sense. They were his own peculiar trea-

HI. The intrigue of Herod (vs. 7, 8).
7. Privily called Herod desired to keep the time of Christ's birth as secret as possible lest the Jews who hated him hould take occasion to rebel. Enquired of them diligently-"Learned of exactly."-R. V. He enquired of them the exact time and received positive positive information as to the time the star appeared. Assuming that the star appeared when the child was born he would thus have some idea of the age of the child. 8. He sent them— He assumed control; but they followed the directions of the Lord. Search diligently -Herod was honest in making this charge to them; he greatly desired to receive definite word concerning the new King. And worship him also- What hypoerisy! He only wished to find the child in order to murder him (vs. 13, 16); he was crafty and subtle, saying one thing and meaning another.

IV. Guided by the star (vs. 9, 10). 9. the star ... went before them-The same star which they had seen in their own country now again appears. The star disappeared for a time and this led them to inquire in Jerusalem for the young King whom they sought. Supernatural helps should not be expected where ordinary means are to be had. stood over The star pointed out the very house. Benson. 10. they rejoiced-The Greek is very emphatic. They rejoiced exceedingly because they saw they were about to find the child and because they had such unmistakable proof of being in divine order. That alone is enough to

v. The child Jesus found (vs. 11, 12). 11. fell down-They prostrated themselves before him according to the eastern custom. "In this act the person knees, his forehead at the same time touching the ground. It was used to express both civil and religious reverence."-Clarke. gifts-The people of the east did not approach into the presence of kings without bringing them presents. The custom still prevails in many places. gold, etc.—Gold would always be useful. while frankincense and myrrh were prized for their delicious fragance. These were the very presents Isaiah mention ed: "All they from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and incense" (Isa. 60:6). "Incense, or frankincense, is a resinous gum, flowing from a tree, gash

ed for the purpose, growing in Arabia and Lebanon. Myrrh is also a gum obtained from a tree in Arabia."—Whedon. 12. warned of God in a dream.-God communicated his purpose to them in a manner that they understood, and the impression or conviction was so clear that they at once obeyed. another way -They could easily go east from Bethlehem and thus leave Jerusalem on the north.

Questions Where was Jesus born? When? Who was the king of Judea? What was the character of this king? Who came to Jerusalem seeking for Jesus? From whence did they come? Why was Jesus called King of the Jews? How had the wise men been led in their search? Why was Herod troubled? Why was Jerusalem troubled? Whom did Herod gather together? For what purpose? What charge did Herod give the wise men? Why? How did they approach Christ? After leaving Jesus what did the wise men do?

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS. The Cradle of Christ.

I. A place of salvation. "Now whe Jesus was born" (v. I). "Thou sha't call his name Jesus" (Matt. 1:21). A man's name represents his character. Herod's name is a synonym of cruelty, Abraham's for faith, Stephen's for martyrdom, John's for love, Jesus' for salvation. His name has power to save.

II. A place of obscurity. "In Bethleham" (v. 1.) An insignificant village, not mentioned among the many towns at the time of the division of the land. "In a manger" (Luke 2. 7). Not in a palace, not in a house of luxury, not in a cottage surrounded by brightness, but in a limestone cave, did the Christchild open his infant eyes to earth. Was this to teach how little God cares for externals?

III. A place of cruelty. "In the days of Herod the king" (v. 1). Jesus came a stranger to this world; there was no room for him in the innn (Luke 2. 7). Herod hunted him (v. 7). His own parents "understood not" His youthfu! aspirations (Luke 2. 49); His own townsmen rejected Him (Luke 4. 29): He had not where to lay His head (Matt. 8. 20; John 7: 53; 8. 1): Jews and Gentiles conspired to crucify Him (Luke 22. 66; 23. 1, 12). All the way from the cradle to the cross He met with cruelty.

IV. A place of royalty. "Born king of the Jews' (v. 2). The gospel of Matthew is the story of Jesus as King. Its key-phrase, "kingdom," is found fifty-six times. Its key-phrase, "king-dom of heaven," is found thirty-two times, and nowhere else in the New Testament. Mathew gives His legal genealogy, his royal pedigree, from David, source of Jewish rule; and Abraham, source of Jewish blessing (Matt. 1 1). Jesus was born king, but He waited-He is waiting still for the kingdom (Luke 19. 15; Matt. 26. 29). The prayer. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth" (Matt. 6. 10), has never been

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LEAD TO CONSUMPTION

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Christ rules His own to-day as a Shepherd.

PRONOUNCED SI-KEEN

V. A place of prophecy. "It is written by the prophets" (v. 5). A study of prophecy gives a miniature life of Jesus (Isa. 7. 14; Michah 5. 2; Isa. 9; 1, 2; Gen. 49. 10; Hosea 11. 1; Zech. 11. 12, 13; Zech. 13. 7; Isa. 53; 12; Psa. 22. 18; Psa. 22. 1; 60. 21; Zech. 12. 10; John 1. 45; Acts 13. 27; 1 Cor. 2. 8). A special blessing is promised to those who read and hear and keep the last great prokneels and puts his hand between his phecy of His second coming (Rev. 1. 3; 22. 18. 19).

VI. A place of guidance. "The star. came and stod over where the young child was" (v. 9). Heralded by a star, Jesus ushered in the day of grace at the beginning of this dispensation. The star which illuminates our pathway and goes before us to guide us to Jesus is the Holy Spirit, of whom Jesus says,

"He shall testify of me" (John 15. 26). VII. A place of rejoicing (v. 10). The wise men, rejoicing at the cradle of the infant King, carry our thoughts forward to another day when a multitude of redeemed men and angels shall cry with a loud voice (Rev. 5. 12).

VIII. A place of worship (v. 11). They gave themselves, then their gifts (2 Cor. 8. 4, 5). They saw, they "fell down," thus presenting their "obdies a living sacrifice" Rom. 12. 1); they "worshiped," pouring out their souls' adoration; then "they offered unto Him gifts" (R. V.)

IX. A place of presents. "They sented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." As a Saviour, Jesus is God's great gift to us (John 3. 16); as saved ones we are God's gift to Him (John 17.6.)

Santa Claus on the Train. On a Christmas eve an emigrant train

Sped on through the blackness of And cleft the pitchy dark in twain With the gleam of its fierce headlight

In a crowded car, a noisome place, Sat a mother and her child: The woman's face bore want's wan But the little one only smiled.

And tugged and pulled at her mother's

dress. And her voice had a merry ring, As she lisped, "Now, mamma, come and

guess What Santa Claus'll bring." But sadly the mother shook her head.

As she thought of a happier past; 'He never can catch us here," she said "The train is going too fast." "O, mamma, yes, he'll come, I say,

So swift are his little deer, They runs all over the world to-day-I'll hang my stockings up here.'

She pinned her stocking to the seat, And closed her tired eyes, And soon she saw each longed-for sweet In dreamland's paradise.

On a seat behind the little maid A rough man sat apart, But a soft light o'er his features played And stole into his heart.

As the cars drew up at a busy town The rough man left the train, But scarce had from the steps jumped down

Ere he was back again. And a great big bundle of Christmas

Bulged out from his pockets wide; He filled the stocking with sweets and He laid by the dreamer's side.

At dawn the little one woke with Twas sweet to her her glee;

I knowed that Santa would find me He caught the train, you see.'

Though some from smiling may scarce refrain The child was surely right. The good Saint Nicholas caught the

train. And came aboard that night. For the saint is fond of masquerade

And may fool the old and wise, And so he came to the little maid In an emigrant's disguise.

And he dresses in many ways because He wishes no one to know him, For he never says, "I am Santa Claus." But his good deeds always show him. -Henry C. Walsh.

The Christmas Rose.

They've brought you from your gar-

den bed, Pale from the snowflakes kiss: But, ah, your bonnie heart is red As summer's heart, I wis! It holds the breath of June, the breeze The golden glow, and hark The drowsy humming of the bees, The carol of a lark! Jean Blewett, in the Christmas Canadian Magazine

SCENE OF WORLD'S GREAT TRAGEDY.

Changes Since Crncifixion of the Saviour.

Garden of Gethsemane Is In Much of Its Original Condition.

Then came Jesus with them unto place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.

Then saith He unto them, My soul exceedingly sorrowful, even unto death.

larry ye here, and watch Me. And He went a little farther, and feli on His face, and prayed, saying, "Oh, my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless not as

will but as Thou wilt. And He cometh unto the disciples. and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray that ye enter not

into temptation; the spirit indeed i willing, but the flesh is weak. He went away again, the second time and prayed, saying, Oh, My Father, if this cup may not pass away from me except I drink it, Thy will be done.

And He came and found them asleen again; for their eyes were heavy. And He left them and went away again, and prayed the third time, say

ing the same words. Then cometh He to His disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now and take your rest; behold the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; behold, He is at

hand that doth betray Me. And while He spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with a great multitude with swords and staves. from the chief priests and elders of the

Now, he that betraved Him gave then a sign, saying, whomsoever I shall kiss that same is He, hold Him fast. And forthwith He came to Jesus and

said, Hail. Master; and kissed Him. And Jesus said unto him, Friend wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took

Him. Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.

NINETEEN HUNDRED YEARS AGO. Nineteen hundred years have elapsed since the momentous event thus recorded simply in the 26th chapter of St. Matthew, and in these intervening Here, singing and dancing and frisking ages millions have wended their way from all parts of the earth to historic Gethsemane to see the place where the world's most famous prisoner, Jesus of Bethlehem, was betrayed and arrested.

Time and wars and all sorts of tumults have cleared away a great many of the works of man, which existed at the time when Christ lived in Jerusalem, but the city still stands on the hill where it then stood, and much of the material of the present houses was culled from the ruins of the houses of the time of Christ. The Mount af Daves is still there, sprinkled over with olive trees, and is familiar to moden people of Jerusalem. Gethsemane yards in diameter and an irregular quadrangle in shape. That the scene of Christ's betrayal was at Gethsemane garden, there is but very little doubt, though there is a divergence of opinion as to the exact spot. Some centuries ago it was believed that Judas gave Him the betrayal kiss at the Cavern of the Sweat, across the road from the garden. Just outside the gate leading into Gethsemane, however, there has stood for ages a stone nillar which has been pointed out as the true spot, and believing pilgrims have kissed it by the millions until it is as smooth as the toe of St. Peter, in St. Peter's Cathe dral at Rome, and so greasy that a pernickety person would almost wish to kiss it through a handkerchief or a bit of paper.

IMPRESSIVE SCENE.

think over its powerful associations without being impressed. It contains several tall cypress trees and eight olive trees of great antiquity. Their trunks have burst and split with age, and they are said to date from the time of Christ Himself. The olive oil produced from them is sold at a fabutous price, and the olive stones are made into rosaries. The garden abounds with flowers, and around the walls are the stations of the cross. It is in charge of the Franciscans, one or more of whom may always be found there. A splendid view of the east wall of Jerusalem is to be had from the garden. though to see over the wall and view the city houses one must climb much higher up the Mount of Olives. The monks make little silk bags about as big as the finger of a glove and fill them with soil from the garden. These are sold as mementoes and bring in a considerable revenue which is devoted to the maintenance of the place. In recent times a wall had been built outside the garden, passing over the betrayal post, which is now a part of that wall, though easily distinguished from its other portions by its darker color, due, as mentioned above, to the persistent kissing of pilgrims.

Quite near to the garden is the traditional tomb of the Virgin Mary, where, the legend states, she was buried by the apostles. It is a curious place. One enters the door of a stone building of no great size or architectural prete sions, and finds himself confronted with a flight of marble steps, nineteen feet broad and forty-seven in number These lead to a subterranean church thirty five feet below the surface of the earth. On the way down are the tombs of St. Jochim and St. Anne, the parents of the Virgin. In the middle of the last wing of the church is the sarcophagus of Mary, which is naturally accorded extraordinary veneration by devout Roman Catholics.

SCENES OF TRAGEDY.

The limited district to the east of the holy city is replete with most impressive associations, and has been the

episodes. A few minutes well from Cothsemane in the direction of the city. St. Steplen was from to death. Near by, moreover, is the alleged tout of Absalom, which, because of his disobedience to his father, the Jews systematically pelted with stones or clay. Another spot revered by Christians is the Grotte of St. James, where he is reputed to have concealed himself after the crucifixion of his Master.

the crucifixion of his Master. Where Christ was crucified is known. Of course, visitors to the Church of the Holy Sepuichre are shown the very holes where the crosses of Christ and the two thieves were placed. No one, however, who has stud-ied the question, believes that the great event took place near the church at all, and every probability points to the knoll north of the city near the Damascus gate as the true site.

For centuries pilgrims have flocked to Jerusalem with all sorts of enquiries on their lips as to where certain incidents' referred to in the Scriptures occurred, and fraudulent tradition-mongers soon improvised sites in great num-The site of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was settled upon because of a miracle which revealed it to St. Helena, and since then the number of things alleged to have happened under that one roof has increased absurdly.

Among the spots now pointed out there are the centre of the earth, the spot where the three crosses stood. the spot where Christ was buried, the spot where Abraham was on the verge of sacrificing Isaac, and the spot where Christ appeared to Mary Magdalene for the third time. Manifest as it is that these are spurious, they still attract the crowds, though a visit to Jerusalem. for this reason, generally acts as a great disenchanter.

SANTA'S SURPRISE PARTY

(Gladys Hyatt Sinclair in St. Nicholas.) Twas a glad Christmas eve, and all over the world.

With reindeer and sleigh dear old Santa had whirled. No one was forgotten or slighted by

him: Each stocking was ouiging and crainmed to the brim.

'There!" cried the old saint as he stopped at his door, made all the little ones happy once more!

But the rest of the night will be lonely, Why-what is this wonderful racket I hear ?" He bounded down nimbly, so great his

surprise, But stopped just inside, scarce believing his eyes: For here were the children that he had supposed Were sleeping down yonder with eyes

tightly closed; Around a most dazzling and beautiful

"Oh, Santa," they cried, "we have found you at last! How tired you must be! You have journeyed so fast

take us good gifts; but now, Santa Claus, see-We have brought you some gifts, and this splendid, big tree! We want you to know, just for once in

a way, How happy you make us each new Christmas day. These gifts did not grow in your Christmas tree grove;

We brought them for you, with our very best love!" Then I wish you had seen them lead Santa about To examine his gifts—heard his laugh and his shout

When he found a fur coat with a collar so wide When he read the gay note that was

fastened inside! There were bells for the reindeer, a pipe and red mittens, And one little girl had brought Santa her kittens. He'd a brush for his clothes and a brush

for his hair He had pictures and books and a great easy chair Where a good saint might nap it and

sit at his ease While presents grew ripe on his evergreen trees. It is not easy to visit the place and He'd a pair of new spectacles, shining and bright, To help him to fill little stockings

aright. There were cushions so soft for the magical sleigh, cap trimmed with fur and a dressing gown gay,

And stockings so long and so warm and so thick. Jack Frost can no more play his favorite trick Of blowing a blast upon Santa Claus'

toes As over the steeples, at Christmas, he goes. "Please wear this red scarf!" whispered

one little elf; I made it, dear Santa; I worked it my self!" He caught up the girlie and gave her

He hugged them and thanked them not one did he miss; Then, "laying his finger aside of his He twinkled his eyes—and what do you

suppose? Such visions of stockings, filled up to the top, Bedazzled those children, they scarcely could stop

To cry "Merry Christmast Good night, Santa, dear!" Then home o'er the cloud hills they scampered and ran; Now guess all the gifts that they -if you can!

To promise a visit the very next year-

WHERE ECONOMY IS EAST. (Exchange.)

The average woman finds it easy to

economize when buying Christmas presents for her husband's relations.

One of the worst terrors of old age is

that distressing chronic cough. Colds settle on the chest, are wrongly treated with drug-laden and chest-weakening cough syrups, and from year to year the condition has grown worse. Formerly the cough went away when fine weather came, but now bad weather makes it

worse and fits of racking, tearing, coughing make life a burden. Because you are old is no reason for suffering with everlasting coughing those terrible chest troubles and difficult breathing can be thoroughly cured with Catarrhozone: You simply breathe the healing vapor of Catarrhozone and instantly its rich balsamic fumes are carried by your breath into the

nose, throat, chest. bronchial tubes lungs. Just think of itdirect breathable medicine, full of soothing antiseptic pine essences that reaches every sore congested membrane in in two seconds. No drugs to take-nothing to

tiniest recesses of the

CATARRHOZONE harm the aged or the infant, because Catarrhozone is the purest, safest cough, catarrh and cold remedy ever devised.

BREATHE

Mrs. M . E. Walford, the wife of a well known grocer in East Sheffield, writes: "For three years Sheffield, writes: "For three years I suffered with a hard racking cough and bronchial irritation which annoyed me so much at night I couldn't sleep. I tried many remedies, catarrh tablets, sprays, syrups, etc., but they only helped for a short time. Catarrhozone brought me wonderful comfort from the first. I inhaled its balsamio fumes every hour or two and am now free from any trace of cold, bronchitis and catarrh. I can go out in all kinds of weather and don't take cold."

There is no remedy so certain and safe as Catarrhozone, but being a good remedy it is imitated. Beware of the substitutor. Large Catarrhozone lasts two months, price \$1.00; smaller sizes 25c and 50c. All reliable dealers or the Catarrhozone Co., Kingston, Ont.

Do It Now. (Sam Kiser.)

If you chance to have a duty that is waiting to be done. Do it now.

What about your Christmas shopping? Better start out on the run-Do it now. If you haven't bought that sled for lit-

tle Willie, don't delay; The crowds are getting bigger, the stock smaller every day. If you must go forth to battle with the shoppers, haste away-

If you've planned to buy a necktie for your dear old Uncle John,

Do it now. There's a crowd around the counter, and your chance will soon be gone-Do it now. The Noah's ark for little Ted, the doll

for Marguerite-You had better buy them early, or by many, many feet You'll be trampled when you battle with your bundles in the street-

Do it now. ou can aid the busy people who must serve while you decide-Do it now.

Why delay, to get bedraggled when the last ones in collide Do it now. Why not turn a new leaf over-why not

try the better way? In this matter, as in others, there is danger in delay. If you must do Christmas shopping, what's the matter with to-day?

Do it now. Sentiments in Season.

The crop of there-is-no-Santa-Claus cools is unusually large this season. At this time of the year it is a wise boy who believes in Santa Claus. Some Christmas presents make the heart grow fonder-fonder of the other Santa Claus must divide his honors

with the Stork. The latter has received, according to the postal authorities, as many letters as the former, requesting that a present be left at different homes. The greatest need of the day, according to the American Inventor, is a Christmas tree that may be folded up and used again. Such an invention would be a godsend to those who live in city flats.

It is doubtless true that the use of mistletoe as a decoration for Christmas was forbidden by the early English Church. It may be that the Christmas tree is a heathen custom. But the Sunday School that has no Christmas tree and the maiden that hange up no mistletoe will be -in the same boat .-Judge.

"A Merry Christmas."

Hark, throughout Christendem joy bells are ringing.
From mountain and valley, o'er land and

From mountain and valley, o'er land and o'er sea.

Sweet choral melodies pealing and thrilling.
Echoes of ages from far Galilee.

Christmas is here.

Merry old Christmas,

Gift-bearing, heart-touching, joy-bringing Christmas.

Day of grand memories, king of the year.



Deer Santa Claus,—ind a chook and a sla pony in it what I can see the gun cos she i put a big box of candy train with a reel injir about the bysickel if plees not to bring a do my little sister that ca not a boy if you wa for her al right. Goo the candy and the injing for the gun and the sli it that is reel and ther as much as mamma a loving willie jone

The above is a sam of letters addressed t which are being rece department stores-let show that old Father popular as ever. There the children had patien Christmas Eve in the h to Claus when he came ney, but tenement hou eystem of heating have so many houses are he nowadays, with a chim

> SANTA CLAU Dear Mr. Santa

A LITTLE GIRL'S

you are quite well write you a long don't speck I can f crying so very loud is enough to drive and he is so I tho write and ask you change him for one cry. Please Mr. Se should like a kitch fry pans to it and a little table and keeping house with give me a long frock and dear Santa Cla ing you four kisses, FLOSSIE M. you can't bri

said please bring a and shut her eyes.

leads down into the fur that Santa, who is get as the years advance, h sary to put up at the ment stores in the city his favors from those oughly up-to-date meth

Naturally, this has more popular than ever detracted in the least no longer performs th coming down the chi in a gozen stores at th looks different in ever

wondering the throng A goo he is, with lots of pr which h rson, and heaps and hich father and mot e cheapest market ra Also, in nearly every a post-office near his ho into which the children letters to let him kn

want, with a sign over telling the children to b their names and address being very anxious that disappointed. The snow came in g year, and nipping Jac ard after. These are that Santa Clause loves. ter makes Christmas busi Claus was smil one afternoon t

ness" reporter ca ld him that he w old chap leaned b out a big Falstaff red face growing r as he laughed himsel

"Interview me" he sa r young fellow, you i have never been inter

"No; let us go somew. cup of hot beef-tea!" "Beef tea!" he answe You don't suppose I
yo'? Ha, ha ha!
me with me, and I'll s
ing new in the way of He winked elaborately.

y to his temporary he e department stores. He and the interviewe ther in his cosy little nta Clause poured out nething that looked lik roses, and steamed "That is polarexus," h m the lichen that grow

He took a long drink, uriously in his bearsk at on with the intervie nce I used to make all ents in about a forti working all the year ald just see me in my th Pole. North Pole?" Yes, North Pole. Wi

at the South Po Pole. That's my round, and I suppos in peace even there of my bears came to ago to say that Pear to see my factory, the north wind When I was on t Captain Bernier, an

would give him per