BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1901.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

"NELL."

A Christmas Story.

BY MARGARET BLACK Written for the Afro-American Ledger.

"We sorrow when Death calls away One whom we loved in youth's bright

But how much better now to die Than live to weep for days gone b Susanna Jardine.

"Dear me! I do wish something would happen. I am so tired of this dull place I don't know what to do. Its nothing the morning. but work, work, work. How I do hate it; then in the evening wheh one's work is done, no place to go, not as much as a girl friend to visit. I do wish we could move away from here. If something does not happen soon, I think I will run away, because I can't stand this much longer. If mother did not think girls and hands and an easy carriage: attracnothing, perhaps I'-

But what Nell intended to say no one mother was heard calling-

you for a bucket of water half an hour ago. I do wish you would hurry." "Alright mother, I am coming" answered Nell, as she was called suddenly back from the land of dreams.

Nellie Hill was the one torment and one pleasure of her mother's life She liked that handsome face from the start which was in silver. years of age, and like most girls that lings of trouble to come. After Alice and morning about four o'clock to go over to mention it? Miss Gertrude Smith who Did I ten you what I was doing in Bisnop and Mrs. E. Tyree; Dr. R. H.

anything else. Nell's father had been dead nearly a year, and as he was only a country her heart but her hand could, and to keep Nell in school Mrs. asked Nell's mother for her Hill did plain sewing and sometimes

worked by the day. Nell was high spirited and proud, had great ideas as to what she would do when she was twenty-one and out of termined to have and he used his "fire" several times, and looking in that SIX YOUNG WOMEN

pump for a bucket of water, but as usual was day-dreaming. As she hurriedly pumped her bucket of water, she thought "never mind, it won't always be so.

Mrs. Hill scoulded, but Nell did not | seem to hear, for she turned to leave mother went to her and shook her sav-

"Really Nell. I wish you would wake up sometimes and listen to what I say. You grow worse every day you live." I would like to to go to my room to grasp, she utters a prayer:

study a little." study, study, untill I think sometimes may be. you must be losing your mind." And as Nell laft the room, Mrs. Hill remark- to go to her bed, and cries, "Christm as ed-"that girl is just like her father. I morning! On Nellin Nellie, where rea hope to goodness all this book-learning You?

will do some good." but little Nell thought if all the Xmas "Verily, I must be dreaming," she said; to come were to be like the last one that but as she turns to leave the room, the she spent, she would not care if Christ- cry reaches are action,

mas never came. The next day instead of going straight the door: On opening it she beheld ly to school, Nell thought she would go by ing at her 'eet, Nell, with an infant the postoffice. As she was sauntering clasped tightly in her arms, Alice Jones, one of her class-mates.

is visiting at George Day's, and he is the handsomest man that I ever saw. met him last night at at Smith's and I shall tell you caudidly I intend to marry her mother. him; because he could not help but fall

in love with me." "Well, Alice Jones, if I had your conceit, I'd be the happiest gilr alive." "Oh well, I would'nt be so frank in giving my opinion of people, But you home necessary thinking in a few weeks get into their new church before some bond slave of the man that will restore that have happened, and then I have her family to send her over the country.

you, because your mother never lets you when we nustrelled and he told me plastered and two new stoves put in and once more." Notts was a slave in go any place.'

an attraction he never tried to regist. A him; I scorned and refused him, but for fee and other good things. The result few hours of pleasure for him, a few the sake of my married of which, the building is now comdisillusion and a life-time to repent, months afterwards was killed in a Sunday-school and other purposes when while for him it was another visit to a railroad wreck, where Pittsburg and needed. friend or a short trip, another pretty Columbus, and the had made his The report from the building commit- colored man was shot and killed vester- they have ruled me out and I am not gonever a thought of tomorrow.

friend to walk about the town. As he and forgive me, is a by for my sake this year in our city. walked down Broadway, he glanced up mother. I have was him for my We counted up the list of the colored for it, and started to go behind the they could take their old Masonry and Avenue A, but thought he would go father Francis B. I could people and found that out of the \$80,000 counter when the clerk seized a gun and go to Hot Springs with it, for I have forther and turn the next corner. He not name him Home was afraid he worth of work done over \$20,000 was fired, the birdshot entering Tates's knee | made up my mind that I am going to did so and as he glanced up to the top might grow like heat. I tust God will done by the colored people. Yes, and and inflicting a wound that caused organize the Independent Order of Some

up there, not much like sleighing for In turning a corner in this small min-

ing town, this young man of the world had turned a corner in his own life, and he knew it not. Before him at a little distance stood a church on a gentle eminence; a few cottages down among the surrounding hills, and the whole scene wore that peaceful repose which is so characteristic of mountain landscapes. At his right, another cottage stood modestly by the road-side, a grove of pine trees behind it. In front was the remains of a small flower garden. and surrounded by pailing half hidden in ivy, which had been trained by some

skillful hand. At the gate stood our Nell talking to Alice Jones, the girl she so coolly left in

As Homer Robert's gaze was arrested by the sight of the girls, he thought to himself. "what a nandsome girl, I must

Pretty eyes she had too, soft dark and | bright; clear brown skin, luxuriant dark hair, a graceful form, pretty little feet a town favorite.

some face and winning voice.

school teacher, his salary did not afford He was enough in tover for once in back yard. On making an investigation emony. All of our churches are makmany luxuries. When he died Mrs. Hill his life to be heartily ashamed of his he saw a man running down the street. ing big arrangements for fairs during and child was left to live as best they past, and unlike his usual way of doing Mr. Parish shot a couple of times at the the holidays. Mr. Wm. Lee and Mrs. She said "No"

Though she watched Nell, she still met Homer Roberts. When we first saw her she was at the persuaded her to a away with him, in flames. riage was, Nell in too wang.

loved Homer K balls haver than all the face were badly scorched. world besides

stormy Christ and Lye, the thinks of Nell time the house had been gutted. Mr. C.; Martha F. Barr, of Charleston, S. "What is it mother; what do you want? "No moon, no st. rs, the sky is blind. Parish is positive that the house was set | C.; Mitte W. White, of New York You know I told you when I came The wind ba; since blood hound on fire by an enemy, and an investigat City; Ida B. Eason, of Caupahoosia, ing that my lessons for tomorrow through the mark and drives the rain in tion is being made by the proper au. Va.; Jeroline Hemsley, of Yonkers, N. were unusually difficult, and if you have | sleet against the wind my panes. As | thorities nothing particular for me to do, I would the house shak s in the wind's cruel All of the furniture, including an old phia, Pa. The graduating exercises

ways books, books, books, and study, save my dang are where'er on earth she in the fire two gold watches valued at by Dr. T. Gillard, Thomas. Dr. John A As the clock strikes twelve she arises amount to \$3,000.

As she takes the lamp from the table Christmas was only two weeks off; the wail of an in at breaks on her ear.

She brought than in and put them t "Oh Nell!" she said, "Have you heard | bed. The chief was alright, but the the news? Homer Roberts of Wheeling poor little mother had sacrificed her life for that of her child. Her hours in life

Opening her eyes later they rested on | ting process for the occasion.

face and one more heart to break, with piece with God. where tee of our city was published last week day. Tate went into the postoffice and | ing to tell you all the things they have and take care of the Bre is my showing that over eighty thousand dol- asked for a letter, and on being told by accomplished. I have never been able That evening Homer Roberts, left his marriage certificate iss me mother lars worth of building had been put up the clerk there was none for him, told to understand why it is that I cannot

MANY YEARS ALL GONF UP IN SMOKE.

George Parish, A Prominent Citizen of Hagerstown Loves The Savings Life Time By Fire-Bescues Hin' Wife Just In Time.—But not Before She Was Burned About The Face And Hands .- Fired Shots At a Mau Whom He Thinks Set Fire To His

When he got opposite the gate he new building in which he intended ta illustration.

House-No Insurance.

age, she disliked anything that resem. Homer had gone she warned Nellagaius; his new house and look after the fires. has been very sick for the past five bled hard work. As long as she could him. 'His face is too handsome to be Before he left his house he thought he weeks is much improved. It is rumored steal off to herself and read and dream true" she said. But little Nell heeded heard some one at the front down and that some of our Allsaints street young the hours away, she cared naught for her not; she thought only of his hand putting his revolver in his pocket, hur- ladies will give thems lives away for a ried out into the street. No one was in Christmas gift. Mr. Daniel Daily and In a few days he not only had won sight and he walked to his new house, Miss Isabella Turner were married last when he heard his dog barking in the week. Rev. Towne performing the cerintruder, and then walker over to his Ida Roberts are on the sick list. Miss house where he had seen the man, but | Clara Nichois who has been quite sick is the man had disappeared He returned able to be out. to the house and commenced to fix the time to such goo wivamage that he direction saw the front part of his house

talling her, they ...d note n in a few Mrs. Parish had been awakened by weeks, and Mrs : il " ild forgive the smoke, which by that time, filled Colored Home And Hospital Graduato them, as her only section to the morthe house. She tried to get out but was unable to do so on account of the smoke. Christmas Ev ney ler. Dwn and on She became bewildered and walked Christmas day I sime er awoke to right into the fire. Mr. Parish by this men received diplomas last week from the room without a word, but her find her gone, a to let a me her dress time had reached his wife and got her the training school of the Colored Home ing table to explain the lact that she out the back window. Her hands and and Hospital, at One Hundred and

An alarm was sent in and the depart- vard. Those who received diplomas As Mrs. Hil sir by her fireside this ment responded promptly, but by this were Ida M. Lightfoot, of Columbia, S.

mahogany, hand carved wardrobes for were held in the Academy of Medicine, "On, God, a ip every human waif, which Parish had been offered \$200 and No. 17 West Forty-third street. The "Well go on" said Mrs. Hill: "Its al- unsheltered from the storm to-night, and a piano valued at \$150 There was also lost address to the graduates was delivered \$75. Mr. Paaish thinks his loss will Hartwell, attending physician at the

CHURCH LADIES GIVE LATHING PARTIES.

Determined To Have Their Chapel count Of Bad Weather.

(Special to The Afro-American Ledger.) Cambridge, Md., Dec. 18.—Cambridge people are very busy just now preparing for Onristmas, and the houses are undergoing a cleaning and decora-

Will Be The Slave Of The Man Who On account of the severe weather ot "Oh mother," he cried, "am I home the past week work on Waugh chapel _ Relieves H:m From Blind nees. at last. If only a little while to live. has almost come to a standstill, but nev- 28t. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14.—Tim Notts, Forgive me mother for all the pain I've ertheless the good people are doing all a blind colored man, offers to exchange caused you. If I had only listened, my in their power to hasten the work, but his freedom for the privelege of seeing life will have been brighter. I left it looks at present as if they would not again. He says he is willing o be the

brutally that I was no wife, the mar- the ladies are in the act of holding a fair Alabama before the war. He was a boy gon of beauty," exclaimed Nell, and man, an acquaintance of his. Oh mother amusing to see men and women workwith a short "good morning," to Alice the shock nearly killed me When I ing like bees to get the latnes on the leads him about. was able to leave my bed I left him. He building for the plasterers. The ladies Homer Roberts was a man of the found me four months afterwards liv- gave two or three "lathing parties," and world, with not very much heart, and ing in West Virginia, with a family as while the men were putting on lather very little principle. A pretty face was house girl. He wanted me to return to the ladies were handing around hot cofdays of paradise for the girl, then came him, I have never some him since. Two pleted and is comfortable and ready for

have been added to our list which the papers did not mention. Allow us to make this request of the readers of the Afro Anerican Ledger in Cambridge please pay up for the months of November and December; issues. We will have to stop sending

WILL HAVE CHRISTMAS FAIRS.

the little girl around nuless you pay her.

We can not continue as she must report

monthly the copies sold to the office.

Church Service: Well Attended - Newsy Notes From the Monatain City. (Special to the Afro-American Ledger.) Frederick, Dec. 19.—Last Sunday night the Rev. C. H. Murray preached a special sermon to the Order of Chaldesas at the Quinn A. M. E. church.

At Asbury M. E. Church, the Rev. G. D. Pinkney preached a special sermon on the human herrt and illustrated his sermon by exhibiting pictures representing the human heart under religious influences and under sinful influences. The church was crowded with worship-Hagerstown, Md., Dec. 18. - Mr. ers, both colored and white. The ser-

RECEIVE DIPLOMAS.

Nurses-bix In The (lass.

New York, Dec. 13.—Six young wo-Forty-fifth street and Southern Bouls-Y., and Mary E. Conway, of Philadelhospital, also délivered an address.

KILLED BY FALL OF MORSE, Brighton, Dec. 13 -George Howard, a son of John Howard, a well known resident of Montgomery county was brought home from Pittsburg, Pa., yestesday and buried at the home place. He was driving a team in Pittsburg, which Finished In Time The Ladies Take became unmanagable, and went over a Illand In Helping The Work bluff, falling on him and breaking his Along-Building Stopped on Ac- legs beside injuring him internally, he died from the shock. Mr. Howard comes

OFFERS LIBERTY FOR SIGHT.

ing to fear, because he'll never meet been married (as I thought) two weeks, Bethel Church has had the chapel most anything. All I want is to see

SAID CLERK WIN LAZY. Then Clerk Shot Him-Just Wanted His Letters, That Was All.

MUDINUJ.

UNDERSTAND WHY HE CANNOT BE MADE A MANON.

Talks About The Striuger Grand Brethren-Dr. Lumpton Elected Grant Master-Chinks He Will Be Grand Master For Life-Mrs. Carrie Jackson The Preaching Woman-Talks of Some Bla Men.

Friar's Point. Miss.—It is a long jump so wild and the young men so good-for- tions sufficient to stamp her at once as George Parisn, one of Hagerstown's mon was on the sensational order and from this place to where I was when I best known colored citizens lost all his the Reverend vorked his hearers up to took my pen to write you a few lines to He read that face in an Instant, refined by a fire at his home on W. North street proud, willful, He acknowledge to vesterday morning. Mr. Parish lived church was in total darkness and noth-remember that I was in Mobile and this inust now tell you where I letter. nimself that of all the women he had in a two story log house, across the ing could be seen but the light from the week I am way here, and it is hard to not remain in Yazoo all the time to it. "Nell, oh Nell, where are you? I sent ever seen she was the most perfect. street from which he was erecting a box which the preacher was using as an tell just where I have been since that I had you ought to know that I could be seen she was the most perfect. time. Well, I have made a mistake for | not be here, for I am not able to be bowed and spoke to Alice who was remove when finished. His savings of Mrs. Murray, of Baltimore, mother of I was in Yazzo City, and now I am way two or three places at the same time. proud to have to introduce him to Nell. a lifetime, sewed up in an old stocking the Rev. C. H. Murray, of Quinn A. M. down nere, but you will have to listen and I must let it go at that. I left them? Nell invited them both in, a. it was and hid in old sofa, amounting to about E. church is in the city visiting her son. and see what I have to say to you, for and came on to this place, by the way of getting colder outside. Mrs. Hill was \$1,700 or \$1,800, in paper notes, were She is a very pleasant lady and is mak- there is not a man, woman or cuild hy- Jackson, Miss., and had the piessure of called in to meet the stranger. She dis- entirely destroyed, except about \$2 50, ing many friends. We have not heard ing or dead wind can tell you what I am | seeing Harry T. Risher, the big baker, one pleasure of her mother's life She liked that handsome face from the start which was in silver.

was a school-girl and just seventeen was filled with forebod- Mr. Parish got up on Wednesday ing. Why is it that none of the papers you that myself.

will be a finer organization than the Masons and I will have men and women in it and they will just pay money to me for who shall last the longest. There is no need of you thinking that this will not come off in such a manner for it must come off and there is no getting around it. I will wear fine clothes and

be just pumpkins. But now let me finish up about the men I have in mind. Dr. E. W. Lamptou, who has brought so much success to the Craft is the Grand Master for another year, and I believe in my soul that Lodge And What They Are Doing he has worked himself into the hearts and minds of the people so well that he For The Widows of Their Deceased will be able to be Grand Master until he is ready to leave this world and there is no getting away from this. He is doing good work. J. W. Longstreet was elected the second man and Hon. James Hill was made Linior Warden, and W. A. J. Morgan, Junior Warden. _I am sorry that I am not prepared to tell you as much as I would like to tell you as about them at this time, but then you will have to accept this and let it go at that. Are you willing to do this? Now the next session will be held in Grenada

Miss., and I am going to be the black hand, and then in company with"



MISS CARRIE J. LLOYD.

this reighborhood, and has relatives in cause I thought that it was none of your White and Mrs. Carrie Jackson, I start-Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. business and I may think so now, but I fed for this place by the way of Vickshave too much manners to tell you so, burg. but if you think it yourself it will be I have told you about this Mrs. Carrie your business and none of mine. Since Jackson, before. She is the preaching I wrote to you last I have been some woman from Houston, Texas, and I will times up and sometimes down and some now say what I say what I said then, times level with the ground, but I thank | that she ought to be at home taking the Lord that in the midst of it all he care of her husband, mending his has brought me safe this far and he will clothes and the like. I have too much carry me on to the end I am sure.

know Nell. though you are considered at the leave to tote the Word. I have said and I say the prettiest girl in town, I'll have noth and as long as he says, and I can do algoing to happen. The world has been again that I believe that God created. made to suit a few people and a few peo- woman for the companion of man to ple have been made to suit the world. love him and care for him and make

Well this has happened, and if they to:ing words. Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 12.—At Hugo, would just let me become a Mason, I nine miles from this place. Tom Tate, a | would say many things about them, but of the hill he said, "how green it looks bless him and that and old days he hundreds of dollars more improvement death. The clerk has not been arrested. and Daughters of Chicken Leg, and that

from one of the best known families in Yazoo City? Well if I did not it is b3- W. Lake, W. F. Dangerfield, S. W

confidence in my Lord to believe that him something, and I thank my Lord Now let us turn our attention to busi- for all this, although I have had many ness for a few minutes and when I get ups and downs in this world, but then I through I will be through and will not am not going to put my private business have any more to say to you You will in the paper for my private secretary remember that the Stringer Grand has taught me to keep my love matters Lodge of Masons have met in this State out of the paper, and I am going to obey and what do you think of these people and there is no getting around this. But having the check to raise \$82.000 and I think that a woman can do more good pay it out to the widows and orphans at home than going over the country

But at any rate we reached Vicksburg aud Dr. L. W. W. Manaway was on hand with us too, although I forgot to mention his name before this. We soon got into carriages, and the man who was driving the carriage in which I rode was so full of whiskey or some other kind of corn juice, and he started to throw us all out in the mud. thank the Lord that I reached the home

Continued on Fifth Page.