Levi Pennington

People

1971

Christmas, 1971

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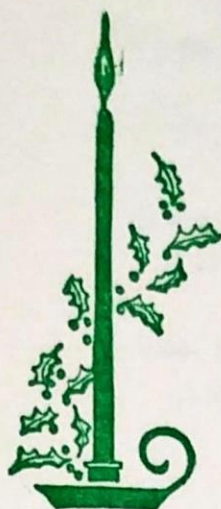Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi_pennington

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Luke 1, 1-4

LUKE, to my friend Theophilus, my greeting,
    In the blest name of Jesus Christ, our king.
You will recall that at our recent meeting
    You asked that I should tell you everything
That I had learned about our blessed Master,
    From records and from those who knew him best.
But this I cannot do, for fast and faster
    The thoughts flood in to answer your request.

I'M writing now, and I shall send you soon
    A story of the doings of our Lord.
To study other records is a boon;
    I have enjoyed the study — every word.
But better still has been the chance to meet
    And have communion with the favored few
That yet remain who sat at Jesus' feet
    And of His life the incidents who knew.

BUT even so I must be very brief.
    The miracles attendant on his birth,
The mighty works, His holy joy, his grief
    Over the sinning peoples of the earth —
But I have known Mary, the Master's mother,
    The inn-keeper, one of the shepherds, John,
Peter and Mark and James, the Master's brother —
    Most of the friends who knew him now are gone.

IT was a joy to hear the shepherd boy.
    Now grown to manhood and a shepherd still.
Tell of the wondrous, unexpected joy
    Of hearing angels o'er Judea's hill
Singing the hymn announcing Jesus' birth,
    "Glory to God" — the man can hear it still —
"Peace, and the Lord's good will to all the earth."
    The man has not forgot — he never will.