

Levi Pennington

People

1968

Christmas, 1968

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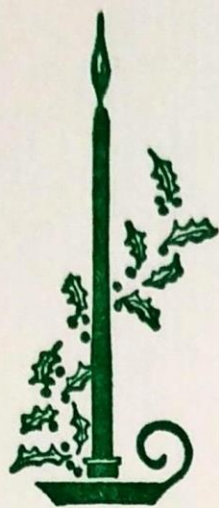
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Christmas, 1968

Behold there came wise men from the east. Matt. 2:1



BALTHAZAR to Gaspar and Melchior, Greeting.
My heart turns today to that notable meeting
When we from each other though living afar
Had each seen a wonderful, brilliant new star.
Each of us knew it was bringing the news
Of one who was born to be king of the Jews.
Long had we known of that nation most blest
Which some glad day was to bless all the rest.

KNOWING at times that grim perils might face us
We met one day in that desert oasis.
You will remember that journey together,
Long, weary days in the blistering weather,
Then when the sweltering day time was gone
Came the cold night that chilled us to the bone.
With no foreboding of fierce monarch's malice
We came at last to King Herod's palace.

WE thought the new-born king would be there.
Maybe by fear of the king they were bound;
None of the court could suggest even where
This future ruler could haply be found.

SO Herod summoned the proud Hebrew sages,
Versed in the prophecies of the past ages.
"In Bethlehem of Judea" they said,
"This in the prophets we always have read."

WITH our full confidence centered in them
We took our journey to blest Bethlehem.
One of us spoke. "How blessed we are!"
For we beheld again that lovely star
Which we all knew was announcing the birth
Of the great king who should bless all the earth.
It stood at last o'er the humble abode
Which indicated the end of the road
Which we had traveled, assured it would bring
Us to the home of the world's future king.