



THE ASSURED WAY

The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message

December 2021

Christmas

Apostle Norman D. Lyles

Let the Assured Way continue to reach out unto the nations, that all may be blessed and encouraged. — Mess. 123:19

The stars seemed to engulf my world, as I walked along the old railroad bed between Cass Leonard's place and mine as the snow crunched softly under my boots. It had been a peaceful evening sharing Christmas Eve with Cass's family and me. We had shared cookies and eggnog while watching his grandchildren dance around the Christmas tree and singing carols and praises unto the Lord.

The evening all crisp and clean and only the noise of the snow crunching beneath my boots brought my mind to considering a time when my family had all been together to share and enjoy each other's company and laughter.

The mile and half walk allowed my mind to wander and I found myself thinking of what the first Christmas must have been like. I wondered how it must have been for Mary and Joseph carrying their belongings on their back so they could pay unto Caesar Augustus the Roman Tax. They had traveled several days to come everyone to his own city. It wasn't an easy journey, with robbers and thieves waiting to ambush the weary travelers and Mary was heavy with child.

That first Christmas walking to be obedient to the laws of the land and avoid problems. I couldn't help but think of thoughts that surely swirled about in their minds and their hearts. The Inn's were all full, so their first Christmas would be spent in an animal's stable. It was here, not in a hospital, rather in a stable where she would suffer the pain and joy of child birth. It would not be just a normal birth, rather bringing forth Savior of the World and bring hope and joy unto the world.

As I neared my cabin, the smell of the cattle nestled all warm in the hay, brought me back to this night---the Christmas Eve.

I brewed myself a pot of coffee and sat on my porch and watched the stars glowing in

the night. Sleep wouldn't come easy this night, as it was my first without my parents. As I sat there in the cold crisp mountain air, I wondered just how it must have been so long ago.

Finally, I built the fire up and laid upon my sofa waiting for it to warm up. I must have slipped off to sleep and in slumber my mind carried me to another time and another place. I remembered Christmas in another nation, with people who spoke a different language and looked much different than myself. I was blessed to share their Christmas with them. They had no tree with lights and decorations. They had gathered in the warmth of a gentle fire and their light came from a coal oil lamp and opened up their Bibles and began reading the Gospel of Luke and about the Birth of Christ. I had heard and read the story so many times, however watching tears flowing from their faces and witnessing the praises in their eyes; Christmas seemed to be so new and the story so real. When they spoke of the shepherds who came to witness the birth, and then had rushed into town to share all they had seen unto the people of the town. I couldn't help but notice the excitement in their eyes and the depth of their love for what the Gospel had said. This is how every Christmas had been for generations here in this land. They could have given gifts and sometimes they shared something they had made or at times song or poem, but mostly they shared their love for each other. I couldn't help but notice as they prayed that night how deeply and sincerely they prayed for each other.

It was a different nation, a different language, the homes were different, and none of us looked the same, but here it was Christmas Eve; and the Words in Luke read the same, the same promises were just as true, and the same Spirit just as deep, and the love just as strong.

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The Assured Way

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FOREWORD

The Assured Way, the official publication of THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WITH THE ELIJAH MESSAGE Inc. comes to you as an expression of hope we have in Christ.

In its pages are found the thoughts and expressions of a united people, whose only aim is to promote the cause of Christ by spreading abroad to every nation, tongue, and people, the true gospel of Christ, that through obedience to his laws we might be found worthy of eternal life.

In this publication, The Record of the Nephites is quoted many times. This book was revealed and translated by the gift and power of God: The year 1828 marked the beginning of the restoration of all things. It is a history of the people who once lived in the Americas, some who are the ancestors of the Native America Indians. Though it contains a record of two other groups of people who once lived in the Americas, it is for the most part a record of the people of Nephi.

The Messages so often mentioned in this publication are messages from the Lord, brought to earth by his chosen servant John the Baptist, who comes to earth in a glorified body to finish the work given him of God; that of restoring all things (Matthew 17:11). The angel first came in 1829 and restored the priesthood authority of the Son of God, that The Church of Christ might be established as in the days of the Apostles.

In 1927, the angel messenger again appeared, and on numerous subsequent visits, has brought to us The Word of the Lord that the Church of Christ might be set in order, that a people might be prepared to be the bride of Christ. This "The Elijah Message" so many have looked for, "The midnight cry" has been proclaimed, a warning of destruction, but to the people of the Lord, a message that Christ's coming is near at hand. Fear God and give glory to his name, for the hour of his judgment has come. Awake thou that sleep and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.

We hope that whosoever reads these pages might make it a matter of prayer and fasting in humility before God, that they may know for themselves, that God has again spoken and revealed His will from Heaven. To this end we dedicate *The Assured Way*.

NOTICES

The Quorum of Twelve recognizes the teaching and wording found in the Bible (Authorized King James Version), The Record of the Nephites, and The Word of the Lord: Brought to Mankind by and Angel, as our rule and guide as the stable wording of God.

It is the agreement of The Quorum of Apostles of this church that no minister of this faith is to ordain any man into the ministry of this church until said candidate has with all his heart and soul confessed he agrees with everything written in our *Articles of Faith and Practice*. It is each elders duty to seek guidance from and to keep the apostles informed of his works in regions he is laboring.

(Continued from page 1)

The fire in my fireplace now had turned to slow burning coals and gave a soft glow unto my room and the sun on my front porch had begun to fill my heart with the Joy and Peace of Christmas Morning.

I moved myself back out to the front porch to watch the day began and let the sun warm my body. I found my Bible and opened it to the Gospel of Luke Chapter two. In verses 15-18 the Word told me of the shepherds spreading the good news that the Lord God had brought salvation unto the world, not only for the good people in the world at that time, but even unto the end of the world.

I thought about the events of the night and how those in the overseas had celebrated Christmas and the love I had felt in each group throughout the night. I felt the joy of my visits during the night and the warmth of fellowship and caring for the Word of God. and how my friends and brothers and sisters had shared their joy and thanksgiving for the Lord and His gifts and Power which He had brought unto those who dwell upon the earth.

During this Christmas season, with families frantically searching for gifts

for each other, credit cards expanding into debts (that sometimes takes all year to pay); sometimes we forget to consider what truly is Christmas. Most of the world celebrates Christmas in many different ways, and surprisingly much of the world takes a pause to breathe and sometimes even love one another.

Certainly all of those gifts are sent in love and hopefully to bring joy to the receiver, however we often neglect the greatest gift we receive daily as a result of that special day. While it is true no one seems to be able to show the exact day of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and some even desire to make that fact a point of contention and some even desire to do away with the celebration of the Birth of Christ; however, without the birth of Jesus Christ, there would have been no salvation! To ignore the birth of Christ is to deny the Word of God. Did not the angels in heaven even celebrate His Birth? We could argue about the day, but to ignore and not celebrate the Birth of the savior of the world is to give honor to ourselves or Satan for our salvation.

I choose to celebrate the Birth of Christ daily. I clearly understand without His Birth, there is no way I could myself be born again and joyfully

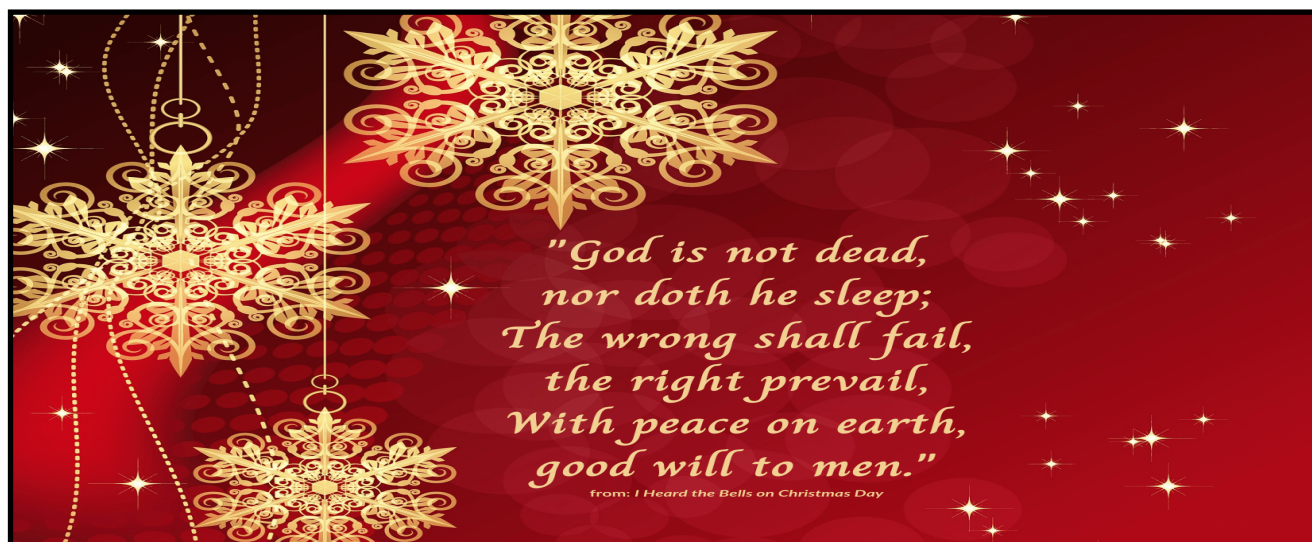
await to rejoin Him on the day of judgment. I could not have the relief and joy at the forgiveness of my sins, the fellowship and knowledge of the sonship of Christ.

Perhaps this season you too will have time to walk alone in the solitude of your thoughts and feel the gentle breeze upon your face and be able to take the time to consider the first Christmas and the joy of the shepherds and the awe of Joseph and Mary looking upon the face of the babe in the manger, the smell of the hay and livestock, the cool breeze upon your face and the whisper in your ear of the Holy Spirit proclaiming the Lord has brought the gift of eternal salvation and life! Perhaps as the tears of joy slide down your face you too can find the true meaning of Christmas. Perhaps you, even as those first shepherds, will go forth with a renewed hope and proclaim to all you meet this day and forever, the love of Christ and the miracle of His Birth which has made your life and hopes complete. May this Christmas season and morning awaken His Love and His Peace within you. Merry Christmas.

Your Brother in Christ,

Apostle Norman D. Lyles

Christmas Greetings



They Shall Mount Up With Wings as Eagles

Elder Dan Santangelo

Isaiah 40:31 promises strength in the Lord to those that wait upon him, and more than strength; beyond what a person could even know. That's what the Lord promises. Where man lets off, God hasn't even begun.

Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of his understanding.

“He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. “
—Isa. 40:28-31

I wish I could put the full emphasis on those words that I know is there in these scriptures. HAST THOUGH NOT KNOWN? HAST THOUGH NOT HEARD? He IS the Creator. He DOESN'T faint. He is NOT weary, and he is so far beyond man that there is not even any searching of his understand-

ing.

Ah, but we get weak, we get tired, we lose our strength, we can faint and be weary from the things of this world, but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles.

Waiting on the Lord; new in the Lord, and the first thing he does is cause you to soar, to fly, to go beyond what this body can do. He starts where others wouldn't even think to end. Then he gives strength to run and not be weary, and to walk and not faint. It's backwards in man's thinking. Man would walk and then run and then wish he could fly.

Years ago I had a dream, twice I dreamed this: I was flying, flying like an eagle. I've had opportunity to see a lot of beautiful places in the USA and always appreciated every one of them. In my dream I flew over those places to see them again in the fullness of their beauty. That was the entire dream. I was flying, soaring like an eagle over these beautiful places. It was vivid and colorful and alive.

Some might say it was just my memories taking off in a dream, I know it was a spiritual dream, though. His signature was on that dream. So why did God give me that dream? The answer is quite simple, because he is

God, and he just plain decided to bless me.

There are times when God gives his Spirit that we will just soar over the things of this world, not even seeing the things that might have us down, but being lifted up in the Spirit to see the things of the Creator of the ends of the earth.

I've done little running in my life, but actually quite a lot of walking. There were times when physically, I could in fact walk and not faint. I was in very good physical shape, and it seemed like as long as I had water, I could just keep walking and not stop. But we look to the spiritual. May the Lord give you the wings of an eagle to soar above anything of this world that might try to bring you down and to see his glorious creation in your life, to have you run like the wind and laugh; walk with him, walk with him forever with a strength in the firmness that only he can give.

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Wait on the Lord, be of good courage and he will strengthen thine heart. Wait I say on the Lord.

Elder Dan Santangelo

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” — Luke 2:14;

“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” — Matthew 1:18-23;

May the Joy of His birth give you Peace this Holiday Season

— Submitted by the Editor

The Message of Christ Today

Message 133

On May 11, 2021, the Lord sent the Messenger unto me at 3am this morning in Kitale, Kenya in my room where I was sleeping. He appeared unto me with a radiance that filled the entire room. He said the Lord had sent him with a Message for the Church and handed me a tablet and a pen and commanded me to write.

He spoke slowly, firmly and with authority. He would pause as I corrected what was written in a few places. He was with me for a little over an hour. He said to give this Message to the Brothers and the Church.

I read the message over and then prayed and lay back down until the rest of the house began their morning activity.

—Norman D. Lyles

1) Behold, arise and take the Message I shall give you; for it is to all nations, creeds, and tongues. I come from the presence of the Lord, at His direction, and at His time. The words I bring are His Words, are His Will, and at His authority.

2) I am the Elijah, the Messenger of the Lord's covenant. I am sent at His Will and I come not of myself. He has sent me with His Words for this day and this time. I am the prophet of the Lord.

3) Hear ye nations and repent of your sinful ways. The heart of man is filled with iniquity and the Lord will not spare him who continues in selfishness and greed. The days of trouble are before you, even as you witness the plagues which are rampant upon earth today. See how the ways of sin have brought forth horror upon the entire earth.

4) The time has come that judgment has begun at the house of God and it shall begin with His people. What shall be the end of them who obey not the Word of God?

5) The Word of God is quick, powerful, piercing the soul and Spirit.

It discerns the heart and thoughts of man. It knows the intents of the heart. Do not doubt the power of the Lord. Man cannot deceive the lamp of the Lord, nor can he escape judgment.

6) I have come with instructions and directions in the past, and come now with a warning. You see the work of the pale horse sent to awaken mankind. You witness the pain and suffering and loss caused by the plagues upon the earth caused by man's turning from the commandments and laws of God. What more must the Lord do to awaken mankind?

7) See those who deny my coming and make light of the instructions I bring. See those who pretend to represent the Lord's Church, yet lack in the Lord's Spirit and Word. He will surely reprove you. Have you not heard His Words? Will you accept His promises, or persist in the imaginations of your hearts and minds?

8) Harken ye nations of the earth, for your sins have come up before me. You have heaped upon yourselves your traditions and forgotten the commandments of the Lord God and gone your way with the harlots of the world. Satan has filled your hearts with doubts and unbelief. Come out of her lest you suffer with the ungodly.

9) The Lord has set before thee life and death, blessing and curses: therefore choose life, that you might have life and life everlasting, both thee and thy children.

10) The Lord hath not spoken in secret or timidly, rather with boldness and firmness to awaken thee. For now is the time of the coming judgment and it is not His desire for His children to suffer.

11) He has sent forth his ambassadors unto the nations with His

Word, His Will, and His instructions that mankind might be warned and have salvation, but will mankind heed or will their ears be closed and their hearts be hardened?

12) The work thus far of those sent to the foreign fields has been pleasing unto the Lord. He knows the time is short. He knows the sorrow that shall soon come upon the earth, which will make the plague now happening, seem as drops of rain upon a dry earth.

13) God has decreed His Plan and it shall be fulfilled. This is the closing time when the vineyard is being pruned, and when it is complete, America will be Zion.

14) The Lord has given instructions to the American nation to build locals. It is His Will, that a cleansing may spring forth and the nation may indeed be Zion. Therefore as the way opens let Bishop Norris Purifoy and Bishop Willie Coffey be placed and assisted in the mission field to labor in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama. The Lord will bless them in their efforts, yet let them linger long enough to set up elders to care for the locals in those areas and insure that all are teaching and preaching the doctrine and laws of the Lord. As they labor let those of the Apostles who can assist them be about the Lord's will and plan.

15) Let Dan Santangelo when he comes unto the church be baptized and ordained as an elder. The Lord will bless him and give him strength to be about the Lord's work.

16) The Lord is aware of the trials and hardships of those laboring in Africa, however let these who labor understand it is Satan who hinders and yet the Lord who has overcome and will continue to overcome Satan and his actions.

17) In India there is much hardship and suffering to that nation. The Lord is pleased with the Bishops who have sought with much sacrifice to strive in aiding their plight and suffering. Let those in India know the Lord is mindful of their plight and shall place his hand of mercy upon them. The hardship and suffering they feel and endure is as that of much of the world, because of the sins of man. The Lord shall send guidance and help as the conditions and governments permit. The Lord will not forsake or leave His servants and His people without hope and help.

18) Let all seek the Lord and know the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being comforted by His overcoming death and sin in His resurrection and the promise given to each who believe and obey his commandments.

19) As the brothers move forward in their journey, let them be certain to engrain the Word as contained in the Articles of Faith and Practice in every nation which they set foot. Let them hold fast to the Word of God and His promises for mankind.

20) Let none partake of the Lord's supper who have not covenanted with the Lord through baptism of those with the authority of the Church of Christ with the Elijah Message. Let those who have rejected the Message be removed least Satan allow them to defile the Word of the Lord. Remember the Lord's Church and Work must be holy.

21) Let those in the Philippines prepare their hearts and minds to find obedience in the Lord and in His Word. Great is the work before you, inas-

much as you hold fast to the Word of God.

22) To the Apostles and Bishops: the burden of the whole Church has been placed upon you and unto all the nations must His Word be carried; however be of good cheer for the hand and power of the Lord shall be upon you in your obedience.

23) Thus saith the Lord, "I have sent my servant John the Baptist, and for this purpose was he born, that he might take my message and my covenants; that he would prepare the hearts of man for my coming." I have sent him with this message and will continue to send him, until I return to the earth in glory with all the angels of heaven. Peace be unto all who accept and believe. Amen.

Christmas Time

At Christmas, lights burn brighter,
and friendly hugs get even tighter.
The spirit of Christmas fills the air,
and people seem to really care.

Merry hearts are filled with cheer.
Families and friends all draw near.
The streets around are all filled
despite the cold winter chill.

Everywhere there's smiling faces,
giving and receiving warm embraces.
And for a time, sadness disappear.
Peace, joy and hope replaces fear.

All because God's love came down
and filled the earth all around.
So we celebrate at Christmas time
our Savior and Lord, holy, divine!

We honor Jesus throughout the year
so the Christmas spirit will linger near.
For the story of His birth is ours to tell -
that Jesus became our Emmanuel!

By Ronald Doe

Words of Encouragement

Apostle Edward Coffey

“Hear ye nations and repent of your sinful ways. The heart of man is filled with iniquity and the Lord will not spare him who continues in selfishness and greed. The days of trouble are before you, even as you witness the plagues which are rampant upon earth today. See how the ways of sin have brought forth horror upon the entire earth.” — Mess. 133:3;

The Lord has sent His messenger to warn the world and save the honest in heart. And he has continued to proclaim repentance and baptism to a world lost in darkness and sin. Truly, the Lord has told us throughout his word that when the wicked are fully ripened in iniquity they will be destroyed because He will not continue to spare those who turn a deaf ear unto His word. We can already see the destructions that have been brought forth upon the earth by the sinfulness of mankind today. They have forgotten the commandments of God and heaped unto themselves man-made traditions and doctrines that have no saving power. They call good evil and evil good. But God is true to His word and His word will not return unto Him void.

“You have seen that man is continually evil unless he is filled with the Spirit and goodness that cometh from God. Have no part with those that are full of contention. Walk not in the way of the scorner or he that contendeth against the word of the Lord, for such shall not be called his chosen at the last day. Let your minds be at peace. Fear not man whose heart is not right before God. Fear not those who speak evil of you. You will see the weakness and sin of man. You will see the evil powers struggle and lose in the end.” — Mess. 41:5;

“When the wicked are fully ripe in their iniquity, sudden destruc-

tion will come upon them. All their great speaking will come to naught. Watch therefore, and be careful in thought, in doctrine, for in truth the faithful shall endure, they shall stand. They that err in doctrine and do not respect my words, shall go down.” — Mess. 88:13;

“And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.” — Acts 3:23;

Again the Lord has warned us that the day of trouble is yet ahead of us. He has warned us of the destructions of the pale horse and we are witnesses to the beginning of the promised destructions of the fourth seal. We can see the movement among the nations as they build for war while planning peace. The Lord has allowed these things to be upon the earth because He desires to awaken mankind and turn man back unto the Lord or else mankind will be destroyed if they will not repent and return unto God.

“The greatest peril is on, and destruction upon destruction, suffering and evil, are everywhere, but the Lord shall be jealous for his people, for Israel shall be delivered and be made his elect through the knowledge of the Lord’s choosing, in their faith.” — Mess. 50:4;

“I have come with instructions and directions in the past, and come now with a warning. You see the work of the pale horse sent to awaken mankind. You witness the pain and suffering and loss caused by the plagues upon the earth caused by man’s turning from the commandments and laws of God. What more must the Lord do to awaken mankind?” — Mess. 133:6;

The Lord has told us of these things

in the past in the Bible and in previous messages brought forth by His servant, the Messenger of the Covenant, but now He is giving us a warning. Now we can look for these things to happen right now and not in some time in the distant future. And we will continue to witness the word of God being fulfilled today.

“The Lord hath not spoken in secret or timidly, rather with boldness and firmness to awaken thee. For now is the time of the coming judgment and it is not His desire for His children to suffer.” — Mess. 133:10;

“The work thus far of those sent to the foreign fields has been pleasing unto the Lord. He knows the time is short. He knows the sorrow that shall soon come upon the earth, which will make the plague now happening, seem as drops of rain upon a dry earth.” — Mess. 133:12;

The Lord does not seek to punish His children, but He also will not go back on His word. He promised that there would be great destruction and tribulation on this earth prior to His return, but He also promised that He would stand His children in holy places while the indignation passed over. So we must be rooted and grounded in the true doctrine of Christ to be able to endure the days ahead of us, as His servant the Elias makes the Midnight Cry.

“But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap.” — Malachi 3:2;

May the Peace of God be unto you all in Christ Jesus Name. Amen.

Your Brother in Christ,
Apostle Edward Coffey

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December 2021

Star Of The East

Star of the East, that long ago
Brought wise men on their way
Where, angels singing to and fro,
The Child of Bethlehem lay—
Above that Syrian hill afar
Thou shinest out to-night, O Star!

Star of the East, the night were drear
But for the tender grace
That with thy glory comes to cheer
Earth's loneliest, darkest place;
For by that charity we see
Where there is hope for all and me.

Star of the East! show us the way
In wisdom undefiled
To seek that manger out and lay
Our gifts before the child—
To bring our hearts and offer them
Unto our King in Bethlehem!

By Eugene Field

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/star-of-the-east-by-eugene-field>