

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT HOME.

The observation of the Christmas holiday is mainly two-fold. One is the devotional, the other the louder rejoicing in which all the household become children. We have chosen for our Christmas engraving a scene of the former character, because upon this rests the deepest, truest significance of the day. We lead our readers into a happy home where the

occupy the highest positions in honor and usefulness, and to advance the common interests of our country by their sterling man and womanhood.

One can easily imagine that it is Christmas eve in the home we illustrate, and that, by the divisions of the bible as it lies beneath the eye of the grandfather, the group is listening to the story of Christ's birth as told by St. Matthew. Already the youngest of the flock has fallen

little reader think his little friends in the picture will sleep! Does he think those bright roguish eyes which are looking straight out from the paper can close until the early morning light? Yes, they will try to keep the watch and listen for the tramp of the reindeer on the roof, but tired eyes will close, and boys and girls will be hushed until the morning. And the morning! Our little readers know best the joys that the little ones in the picture will feel



## CHRISTMAS IN THE OLD HOME.

aged grandfather reads the story of Christ to the listening children and grandchildren. It is a home scene where true love dwells. Homely and rude are its adornments and the memory of the olden time dwells in its large open fireplace. The clock upon the high mantel, the light of the fire and the candle, the high case of drawers and the rude chairs are all things around which the minds of our older readers will weave memories. From homes like that we illustrate have gone out men and women to

asleep in her grandmother's arms. After the evening prayer has been pronounced there will be a general hanging of stockings around the fireplace, which is so wide that Santa Claus with his largest packs will have no trouble to come in. The line upon which the linen is hanging will become a row of little stockings, and even the sleeping baby's stockings will be there, although she little understands the ceremony. When the stockings are hung there will be a hasty scampering for bed. Does our

as they rush to the fire-place in the gray dawn and seize the well-filled stockings and wake the household with their loud rejoicings.

A WOMAN who was having her first introduction to the telephone yesterday, was told by the operator to place the instrument to her ear and listen to the words the wire would speak to her. "And now," said she, in all innocence, "shall I talk with the other ear?"