

The Christmas Spirit

The following excellent poem was written by Miss Sybil Barrett, and it secured the first prize of fifty dollars, offered by the Greater Portland Association:

"Well, now," said Uncle Eben, as he filled his pipe of clay, "You want to know about Santa Claus who comes on Christmas day?"

Well, now, I'm not a sayin' that there ain't a Santy man, Who brings to all good children all the joy he ever can, Who wears a cap and fur trimmed suit, all red and bright and gay,

Who drives a herd of swift reindeer, all hitched up to a sleigh, Who simply loves the cold North wind, and likes the ice and snow,

But who comes only once a year, then is quick to go. Now maybe there's a Santy Claus from whom your gifts are sent, But since you've asked, I will say this: I've never seen the gent, But seems to me if he brings

cheer and chases out the woe, We need his coming oftener than with the Christmas snow, Why, sometimes when the mometers say ninety in the shade, And folks will fret 'bout this and that--no cheer is being made--

Why doesn't Santy with his smiles come down here in his sleigh And take the frowns from off our brows, and chase the gloom away?

I'd rather think of Christmas time, with all its joy and mirth, With good will toward your fellow men, and peace on all the earth, Is governed by a Spirit bright who has no human ills, Who needn't bundle up in furs for fear she'll get the chills, But who can sing a glad some song that fills the hearts of men;

Then if you need her next July, is quick to come again, That seems to me to be a plan in keeping with the times And suited to the happy time that started Christmas chimes. At night it was, and golden stars

all sparkled in the sky. Good shepherds watched upon the plains, their sleeping flocks close by; The shepherd heard the sweetest song that ever reached the earth. And angels told the wond'ring men about the Savior's birth. Then God took lots of golden light and made the brightest star--

He put it in the sky to guide the wise men from afar; 'Twas thus they came to Bethlehem to see the new born King;

The r' hearts were filled with happiness 'til they just had to sing. They brought the baby Jesus gifts, all rich and rare and fine,

Since then there's always Christmas gifts, just as a good will sign. The Christmas Spirit hovered near with happy, loving face, But Santa Claus in Bethlehem would seem quite out of place;

And so I say I'd rather think that Christmas now's the same As far as Christmas Spirit goes, as when the Savior came. The Spirit creeps into your heart and sings a song so gay. It makes you like your fellow-men and cheer them on their way.

The plan's worked out by Providence, and clear beyond our ken. But Christmas Spirit does good deeds with help of Christian men. So don't be disappointed if our fur-trimmed Santa Claus Turns out to be a human man who wears clothes like your pa's;

The Spirit is singing in his heart, and you'll just want to sing. For this glad Spirit is the one who watched the infant King."

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New four room modern bungalow, best river view in the city, hard surfaced street and connected with sewer. My price on this one is \$2500, pay me \$250 cash, balance like rent.

Five room modern bungalow, one of the best in St. Johns, well located, close in to business center, lot is 50x100, street improved and paved. My price for this one \$2800. You pay \$100 cash, the balance like rent. You should see this one to appreciate it.

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Nifty five room modern bungalow. This is a new one. My price \$2000, pay \$500 cash, balance like rent.

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