

A NEW YEAR'S DREAM.

IN the cozy depths of an armchair
On New Year's eve, I mused alone,
"Welladay!" thought I, "And stony
me!"

This world is a fairly good world, I own,
But how much better indeed 'twould be
If, putting aside his natural pride,
Each living thing in the world so wide
Would honestly try his simple best
To be obliging to all the rest!

With a little more
kindness and
sweet civility,
Courtesy, patience
and amiability—
Ah, welladay, and
deary me,
What a highly
agreeable world
'twould be!

Then softly faded
the freights
gleam,
And I fell asleep—
or so it would
seem—
And dreamed this
very remarkable
dream:

I stood, methought,
in the same old
world,
With the same old ocean round it curled,
But a singular state of things I found
As I rubbed my eyes and looked around.

Each man and woman, each chick and
child,
Wherever I met them, bowed and smiled,
And answered my questions before they
were asked
And with my errands their memories
linked,
And each, I saw, with an equal zeal,
Was doing the same for all the rest.
Such consideration and thoughtful zeal,
Such delicate tact, I could but feel,
From the president, bland on his lofty
seat,
To the dear little cricket that chirped at
my feet.

There was not a thing in that land so fair
But lived to oblige. With the tenderest
care
The ragman muffled his bells, for fear
They might awaken some sleeper near,
And the newstays called the Times and
Post
In tones like a cooling dove's—almost.

The plumber offer-
ed the pipes to
mend
"Just as a favor,
to please a
friend."
The lawyer begged
that his little
bill,
Unpaid, as it hap-
pened, be un-
paid still.
And the worthy
parson, consid-
erate man,
Finished his ser-
mon before he
began.

The cook made
tarts each day
in the year,
And nobody thought
it the least bit
queer.

The kind police-
men in all the
paris
Just stayed to see that the boys—such
larks!
Kept on the grass, and the teachers
bright
Gave only—as children know is right—
The shortest lessons and highest marks.
The printers sent out in the kindest way
A new children's magazine every day,
And the editors always took the rhymes
That the poets sent at all possible times.

To please the fisherman plumb by the
brook
The fish came swimming to catch the
hook.
The synters smilingly opened their shells.
The buckets sprang merrily up in the
wells.
And the little dogs gathered the downy
brood
And helped the chickens to scratch for
food.

The currants and blackberries picked
themselves
And stood all canned on the pantry
shelves.
The sun sat willingly up all night
To cheer the earth when it needed light.
The babies their natural cries suppressed
For fear of break-
ing their par-
ents' rest.

And the dear lit-
tle, kind little,
sweet little boys
Refrained from
making the
slightest noise,
But quietly played
with their harm-
less toys
And washed their
hands without
being told.

To please their
mothers, as
good as gold.

The breeze came
blowing in gen-
tle gales
Whenever 'twas
wanted to fill
the sails.
The prisoners stay—WASHED THEIR HANDS
ed in the un-WITHOUT BEING TOLD,
locked jails.
And the mice sat up on the balcony rails
To let the kittens play with their tails,
And the old cats stifled their nighty wails,
And the little fish danced to tickle the
whales.
And the brown hawk hurried to warn the
quails,
And the butterflies loitered to help the
snails,
And the hammers were gentle and kind
to the nails,
And the mops took care not to scratch
the walls,
And—

Here the wonderful story falls,
For I, breathless, woke. It was New
Year's day
The world wagged on in the same old
way.
"It was only a dream!" said I. "Dear
me!
But I'll be as obliging as can be,
And the world may be better for that—
we'll see."
—Margaret Johnson in St. Nicholas.

The New Year,
Who comes dancing over the snow,
His little soft feet all bare and rosy?
Open the door, though the wild winds
blow.
Take the child in and make him cozy—
Take him in and hold him dear,
He is the wonderful New Year.

Open your heart, be it sad or gay,
Welcome him there and use him kindly,
For you must carry him, yes or nay—
Carry him with shut eyes so blindly,
Whether he bringeth joy or fear,
Take him: God sends him, this good
New Year.
—Dinah Maria Mulock Craik.

THE MANZ CASE.

Ohio Girl Charged With Murder Takes
the Third Degree Calmly.

A sixteen-year-old girl is the principal figure in one of the most remarkable murder cases the Ohio authorities have had to deal with in many years. She is Catherine Manz of Mansfield, who is charged with the murder of her sister Elizabeth by administering to her a strychnine capsule.

This slender, blue-eyed miss, scarcely more than a child in appearance,



ELIZABETH GITTING AND CATHERINE MANZ
faces her neighbors with a calm and indifference strangely out of place with the charge that is laid against her. She admits giving a strychnine capsule to her sister, but claims she was told to do so by a man and thought the capsule contained quinine.

Elegies For Old Year.
"Of all sounds of all bells, most solemn and touching is the peal which rings out the old year," wrote Charles Lamb. "I never hear it without a gathering up of my mind to a concentration of all the images that have diffused over the past twelvemonth, all I have done or suffered, performed or neglected, in that regretted time. I begin to know its worth as when a person dies."

Longfellow, too, looks at the solemn side of the old year, for he says in his "Midnight Mass For the Dying Year":
Through the woods and mountain passes
The winds like anthems roll,
They are chanting solemn manes,
Singing: "Pray for this soul!"
"Pray, pray!"

Tennyson's "Death of the Old Year," however, looks more to the New Year and the sentiment of the "icing is laid, long live the king." It is not well to dwell upon the mistakes of the past.
He was full of joke and jest,
But all his merry quips are o'er,
To see him die across the waste
His son and heir doth ride posthaste,
But he'll be dead before
Every one for his own.
The night is stormy and cold, my friend,
And the New Year, blithe and bold, my friend,
Comes up to take his own.
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