

HOLIDAY SUPPLEMENT

A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
1899

A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR
1900

A CHRISTMAS BELL



T' wasn't a very big belfry, but roomy enough for the bell. For it swung away out to the breezes when it hed anythin' ter tell. An' often it seemed ter sing for me, when I pulled ther worn old rope. A soundin' some holy message that was full uv blessed hope.

An' its tones was sweet an' soft-like as a woman's when she tries To hush the wee ones cuddlin' down, an' close their sleepy eyes. Yes! Tender as some soft lullaby that mother used to sing. 'Twould make er boy uv me again, to hear the ol' bell ring.

On Christmas we w'iz wedded, an' 'twas then the bell was hung. I recollect how full uv joy it sounded when it rung. So many things it said to us so clear an'

ON HISTORY'S PAGE.

Some Notable Events that Have Taken Place on the Christmas Date.

Some important events in the world's history have taken place on Christmas day. Two notable coronations occurred on Christmas, that of Charlemagne, as Emperor of the West, in the year 800, and that of William the Conqueror, at Westminster Abbey, in 1066. Clovis, the first Christian King of France, was baptized on Christmas day, 496.

Sir Isaac Newton, whose grand discovery of the law of gravitation resulted from the simple fact of his seeing an apple fall to the ground, was born on Christmas day, 1642.

In 1776 Gen. Washington celebrated the day by performing one of the most hazardous and most brilliant maneuvers in the annals of war. Under cover of the night he crossed the Delaware at McKonkey's ferry, amid the perils of storm and ice, and marched his brave little army to Trenton, where on the following morning, he routed the Hessians.

It is a significant fact that no great battles were fought on Christmas day. They have occurred on the 24th and 26th

The Christmas Story

By Charlotte Wilcox

The robed and sandalled prophet stood
And prayed, 'neath Eastern skies
God to reveal some coming good
To his dim and ageing eyes
He spoke,
endowed with prophecy:
Loth ye! For war shall cease!
The Wonderful!
The Counselor!
Shall come as Prince of Peace!



The weary years
rolled on apace,
The prophet's tongue
was stilled,
But 'neath the blue
Judean skies

DRESSING THE TREE.

It Can Be Prettily Decorated with Material Found in Every Home.

One form of Christmas giving that always pleases the child is the time-honored but ever-new Christmas tree, with its myriads of twinkling tapers, its gift-laden branches, its shining, sparkling ornaments. It is a marvelous creation, and the children's joy and delight repays the elders for their work. It is not so much work to dress a tree, either, and one pities the parents or the grown-up members of the family who begrudge the labor—that is a pleasure, too—required to prepare it.

Expensive decorations are not essential: a tree can be very prettily decorated out of material found in every home. Yards upon yards of popcorn can be strung in circles, or in long lengths for festoons; and the ruby red of cranberries contrasts very prettily with the white, while the children will make a pastime of stringing them, and of making chains of many-colored papers for the same purpose. Cotton batting laid on some of the branches and frosted with mica powder will resemble snow, but do not use

OLD YEAR, FAREWELL!



LEETING year!
Ah, me! how swift!
The heavy clouds
of memory lift
And gleaming
through their
leaden haze
The changes of
past hours and
days
Peer out, like pic-
tures, rich in tint,
Somber, or bright
with sunny glint:
Brief visions of
past joys and
woes—
They call me at the
old year's close—

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY SANTA CLAUS.



Call me once more to turn and dwell
On days gone by. The sad farewell
Comes slowly from my aching heart
And silently the tear drops start.
A picture here of merry times
When life rang out its golden chimes,
When friends and welcome, home and
power,
Filled with delight each passing hour.