

A NEW YEAR'S DREAM.

IN the cosy depths of an armchair  
On New Year's eve, I mused alone.  
"Welladay!" thought I. "And deary  
me!  
This world is a fairly good world, I own,  
But how much better indeed 'twould be  
I, 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 freight's  
gleam,  
And I fell asleep—  
or so it would  
seem—  
And dreamed this  
very remarka-  
ble 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  
I tasked,  
And each, I saw, with an equal zest,  
Was doing the same for all the rest.  
Such consideration and thoughtful zeal,  
Such delicate tact, I could but feel,  
In the president, bland on his lofty  
seat,  
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 newsboys called the Times and  
Post  
in tones like a cooing dove's—almost.  
The plumber offered  
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  
parks  
tried to see that the boys—such  
as they—  
did not play on the grass, and the teachers  
bright  
only—as children know is right—  
shortest lessons and highest marks.  
Whichever printer sent out in the kindest way  
the editors always took the rhymes  
of the poets sent at all possible times.  
To please the fisherman down by the  
brook  
The fish came swimming to catch the  
hook.  
The oysters 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 puffs  
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 nightly 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 pails,  
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.

LOCAL ITEMS

Word was received here this week stating that J.W. Booth, a well known land owner in Gilliam and Sherman counties, died in Los Angeles on Dec. 24.

Principal Jesse H. Bond of the Gilliam County High School, and assistants Misses Comings and Young all departed last Saturday to spend the holidays at their homes in Eugene.

The Christmas Dance given by the Athletic Club was largely attended last Friday night with the result that the building fund of that Institution was increased considerably. The Wheat City Orchestra furnished excellent music for the occasion.

O. C. McCollis passed through this city Tuesday on his way from Fossil to his home at Bay View.

J. W. Burns left Tuesday for Portland where he will transact business for a few days.

Geo. Miller of Mayville passed through this city Tuesday on his way to Portland.

Wm. Welsh and Alex Johnson of Fossil were outgoing passengers on Tuesday mornings train bound for Portland.

R. R. Butler left on Wednesday for Moro where he will attend to legal business for a few days.

Mrs. Dave Russell went to Portland last Saturday to spend the Christmas day with her little girl who is in St. Vincent's hospital. The child has infantile paralysis.

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Tieruey who has been sick with pneumonia for the past two weeks, is greatly improved and is now out of danger.

John Magee left on Thursday for Portland where he will visit for a few days.

We wish to call attention to the fact that a large number of turkeys disappeared on Christmas day and also to announce that many of them were trimmed down to convenient sizes with carving sets purchased at our store.

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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, yea or nay—  
carry him with shut eyes so blindly.  
Whether he bringeth joy or fear,  
like him; God sends him, this good  
New Year.  
—Dinah Maria Mulock Craik.