#### Poetry.

#### THE CHRISTMAS STORY.

DAWSON BURNS. Upon the ear and eye of Night A sudden sound and splendor fell : Around her flames Angelic light.

Angelic praise and blessing swell-"Let glory now by all be given To God enthroned in highest heaven Let peace on all the earth be shed. Goodwill among all men be spread! So shall it be, for on this morn A Saviour, Christ the Lord, was born: The sceptre and the diadem Are His-the Child of Bethlehem!

Night's dusky face the brightness caught, And shone effulgent as the day; Exulting in the message brought

She choes back the joyous lay. The bending stars this anthem learn, And chant it out to dateless Time : The Ancient feels his spirit burn,

And gives response with voice sublime. His mighty sons the Ages, hear, And they to all the years make known, That they shall guard with sacred fear, And safe transmit, each hallowed tone.

And so it comes to pass again Upon this happy Christmas-day, We listen to the angelic strain, We join to sing the angels' lay-"Let glory now by all be given To God enthroned in highest heaven; Let peace on all the earth be shed. Goodwill among all men be spread!' So shall it be, for on this morn A Saviour, Christ the Lord, was born; The sceptre and the diadem Are His the Child of Bethlehem!

### The fireside.

#### MR. AND MRS. SANTA CLAUS.

BY SARAH CONANT. Much has been said and written about Sants Claus, but nothing about his wife. In fact, the world has acted as if there was no Mrs. Santa Claus, and it is high time that it should be undeceived. It can hardly be possible that the genius who chooses all pretty and useful gifts, who knows so much about good things, should know nothing of what is universally considered the best thing in life-a helpmeet. It is absurd to maintain the opinion that while Santa Claus supplies the rest of the world with happiness, he has left himself forlorn; therefore, without more preliminaries, I in-

troduce to you Mrs. Santa Claus. If you ask where she came from, I ask from whence he appeared, and we will solve our problems together; nevertheless, here she is, fully as much flesh and blood as he, and quite as indispen

The year plodded on and on, well aware that this morning." Time stood not far off, ready to receive its dying form. The nights stretched forth their hands to gather more of the day's treasure, while they in sister meant. But he only replied, "Was he not? turn ever withdrew, shrinking within themselves I did not notice him certainly." until they were as small as possible. The fruits of the earth were stored plentifully, the work of the year seemed well done, when there came a cry through the frosty air, "Christmas is coming?" The trees shook their giant limbs, and proudly

stood erect, for even the shortest of them might be lonely to-day, I cannot help it, and I do not care wonder-bearing trees, and the tallest would surely it is only what he richly deserves. hear the chimes first. The mistletoe waved its green, the holly-berries glistened and shone among coming !"

The joyful sound was everywhere, growing louder and louder, until Mrs. Claus Santa laid to show to Charles that I hate the thing of which h down her knitting, and said to her husband "Kris, it's time for us to be stirring."

He winked and nodded in reply as he went on covering Christine Nilsson's wax face and flaxen braids with tissue-paper, looking on the mantelpiece for a hairy donkey to put in the same sack. "Won't you take me down first with the reindeer, and then you come back. It requires some drew out her needle and began another row.

anything," and away he went to harness the deer. Mrs. Santa Claus rose when she heard the bells, and wrapping herself up in furs, put on a pair of red mittens; then, taking a bag of kitchen utensils to put under the seat, and a box of spices, she was or he never could have answered the questions he ready.

" Have you that box of plums, Kris?" "Yes."

"The ones from the back kitchen?" "Yes, and there's a bunch of holly in behind for the puddings.'

Then away we went. What a ride ; down through already through his conscience." the stars by the slopes of moor.light, over the snow and ice, skimming the river swifter than swallows. "You'll come for me!" she cried as he left her. "And Kris, I made the sweets and put them up

for you in the old china-closet.' . 'You're a treasure! Don't be late!" he shouted,

and he was gone. Mrs. Santo Claus tucked up her skirts and walked on. There was not a farm-house, a cottage, a palace, a room, that she did not visit that week. She was in every kitchen, over every store. The snet, meat, and apples she chopped, the citron and lemons she sliced, the oranges, she squeezed, the loayes of bread and barrels of crackers she crumbed, the nutmegs she grated, the eggs she beat, the raisins she stoned, the currants she washed, would take a lightning calculator to compute. Over the shoulders of rosy-cheeked country girls she picked numberless turkeys, chickens, geese; and ducks; by the side of their plump mother she whipped delicate cake until it was perfect, rolled flaky pie- | Frank stopped him. crust and shaped pots of butter as yellow as the cups which test chubby chins. She set jar after jar have a Christmas-tree and other things." Frank sugar. If this receipt is strictly followed it will reof pickles in the store-closet, boiled hogsheads of hesitated a moment, and then added; "And we quire only a single trial to prove its superiority cider apple-sauce, and made wonderful gingerbred | shall be glad to see you." men for the children. Behind the panting, red "Glad to see me?" cried Charles, in astonishcook in the city kitchen, she concocted dainties men. "I feel as if the sight of me must be hateful which would cause the mouth to water. She had to the whole world, and that everybody must desher finger, her whole hand I may say, in every pise me as I despise myself. I dare not ask for graph. Christmas-pie, and never tasted once, for she knew your forgiveness, Frank, though I have been longhow it was all to be done. And she never paused | ing for it ever since we broke up; but I will tell in her work until in every pantry in the land there you what I have done to atone. I wrote yesterday in a splainly as a plainly as a pl

cited the pigmies of the land almost beyond endur-Besides all this, Mrs. Santa Claus swept, dusted, and cleaned every house which she entered. She scoured silver, tin, and pewter, until, if one's eyes should have done so but for the anthem. It was give her your hand, and when she says, "How do had been open, he could have seen her motherly so splendid, and you know it is all about peace and you do?" answer, "Very well, I thank you," or face reflected in them. She made beautiful dresses, goodwill." did up snowy linens, working so fast that on Christ-

yellow slopes, tarts of every description, from the

looking one Tommy made for the cat; pans and

mas Eve all was in order. Just before twelve at night, December 24, she tucked everyone in his bed and then listened for her husband:

Hark! he was coming, sure enough, for far away she heard bells. How he shouted to his team, me, Clara?" " All right?" he asked. "Yes, now for you."

And for him? How he did cram those stockings; if there fad been an old one among them he would have burst it.

Mrs. Santa Claus waited until he had been over the world, and then together they surveyed their God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill work; the pantries, the stockings, and trees.

Did you ever imagine that Santa Claus' broad face, with twinkling eyes, peeped over your shoulder Christmas morning while you examined beautiful

Did you ever think his merry laugh sounded in the mirth of the games ? Well, his wife was there, too, just as much pleased as he at the success of their joint work.

The reindeer waited all that day, for the old couple were looking at the fun. They clapped their hands at the joy of the children, laughed at the jokes as much amused as any one, kissed under the mistletoe, and after a whole day of happiness, when the world was once more asleep, sprang into their sleigh and rode away until next year.

Now, if any one does not believe this story, would like to ask him whether plum-pudding mince pie, apple-sauce, and turkey, are not so real as the ontents of the stockings, and if they are, pray who attends to them?

#### THE CHRISTMAS ANTHEM

A STORY FOR CHILDREN. 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, on arth peace, on earth peace, goodwill towards men, earth peace, and goodwill towards men."

Frank Seymour and his sister Clara sang the anhem as heartily as any one. They were fond of nusic, and they had good voices, and it would have been a trouble to them to have to remain silent

while other people were singing. But when the anthem was over, any person who had been watching would have seen that they were very particular not to meet each other's eyes, or at east that Frank studiously kept his fixed in an opposite direction from that in which his sister

When the service was over, and the two went home together, Frank seemed very anxious that he and his sister should not be alone. He invited four different persons to walk with them; but Stephen Allman said what the others seemed to feel: " Not to-day, thank you, Frank; home is the best place for us all to-day, and we must hasten to the friends whom we have left there.'

So after all, Frank and Clara had to walk the greater distance alone.

"I know what she is thinking about, but I don't nean to do it," said Frank to himself.

"I wonder if it is any use to ask him; I am very auch inclined to try," said Clara to herself. They walked in silence for about a minute, then Clara began, "Was not the anthem nice this mornng, Frank?

"Very. The singers did it better than usual, and the congregation joined in it heartily.' "What a beautiful anthem it is!

"Yes, the music is very fine." "But I was thinking most of the words." "The words? Oh, certainly, the words are per-

"I could not help thinking of what they mean

Did you, Frank?' "They are not difficult to understand, I think! "And perhaps they are not very difficult to obey.

At least I should like the spirit of the anthem to be in all we do to-day. Charles Smith was not present Frank did not ask what Charles Smith had to de with the anthem, for he quite understood what his

"Frank, dear, how many years have you and Charles spent Christmas together?' "Three.

"I am afraid you will miss each other to-day. "That does not matter. If he should feel dull and

"But we often get better treatment then we de serve. We certainly did not deserve that Jesus pointed leaves, while all echoed, "Christmas is should come down to our world, and suffer and die for us, but He came.

"But that is so different, Clara. I think I ough has been guilty. "But you have shown that already."

"I shall continue to show it. "On earth peace, on earth peace and goodwill owards men," said a voice in Frank's heart, but it was only the anthem that spoke.'

"You know, Clara," he said presently, "Charles obtained his prize and his good position in the class time to make mince-pies ;" and Mrs. Santa Claus by fraud. I can give it no other name than fraud. And that which he did was at my expense. If he "Bless you," he cried, starting up, "why didn't had remained where he was, I should have been in you speak before. I wouldn't miss mince-pies for the place which he now occupies, and I assure you, Clara, that I honestly deserve it."

"I have no doubt of that, Frank." "I know he copied. I saw him with a little book just under his desk. He had a help of some kinddid. I should like to have denounced him then and

there, only you see it was myself against whom he was sinning. "And you could not tell tales of him. That was right. But you know he sinned most against God. and I have no doubt that He has punished him

Again there was silence for a few seconds. Then Frank spoke, and his voice had a gentler ring in it

"Clara, I do not wish to be unkind and hardearted on Christmas day; but how can I be friendwith a boy who has behaved dishonestly? Should not seem as bad myself?"

bad or dishonest boy. He must have been greaty tempted, or he would not have done what he did. But even if he were a wicked boy I think it would be still your duty to forgive him, and try to make him better. The anthem still kept ringing in Frank's memory.

On earth peace, goodwill toward men." "Frank," said Clara, suddenly," There is Charles

He looked as if he would rather have met any one than the two Seymours. He tried to pass them with an easy bow, but

"Charles, will you come up as usual to-day? We

stood a row of dishes filled with some kind of good to Mr. Harris and the other masters, confessing all ing as plainly as anything else in manners. Open Gown Flannels. Yarns! Yarns!! Yarns!! Yarns!! thing. Red moulds of cranberries, mountainous to them, and asking that if I'm allowed to re- the door wide enough to walk squarely in without thing. Red moulds of cranberries, mountainous to them, and asking that it is anowed to rechicken-pies, with crusty rabbits reposing on the turn to school at all, which I do not deserve, I think enough of yourself to give your body room to the late of them, and asking that it is anowed to rechicken-pies, with crusty rabbits reposing on the turn to school at all, which I do not deserve, I think enough of yourself to give your body room to late of them, and asking that it is anowed to rechicken-pies, with crusty rabbits reposing on the late of them, and asking that it is anowed to rechicken-pies, with crusty rabbits reposing on the late of them. proudly marshalling the green parsley over their which I have dishonestly won."

kind that Jack of Hearts stole, to the funny, grimy fellow. Come home at once with Clara and me." pots of indescribable goodies, and whole shelves feel that I can. I deserve to spend my Christmas and stand by her side till she says, "Mrs. So and so,

covered with white napkins and towels, which ex- time alone." "Nonsense! You must come with us. Clara wants you, and so do I."

"I am surprised that you spoke to me at all."

"Yes, and about Christ's coming. I wonder what He must think of me." " I will tell you what He says," said Clara, softly " 'I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy trans-

essions, and as a cloud thy sins : return unto Me, for I have redeemed thee. "Do you think that is His Christmas message to "I do indeed, Charles,"

"Then I will return to Him, and perhaps He

will forgive me. "Come with us, now." said Frank. But Charles wanted to be alone for a little time; still he spent the greater part of the day with his friend after all, and in the evening they once more

BOYS WANTED. Boys of spirit, boys of will, Boys of muscle, brain and power,

Fit to cope with anything-These are wanted every hour Not the weak and whining drones, That all troubles magnify-Not the watchword of "I can't." But the noble one, "I'll try."

Do whate'er you have to do With a true and earnest zeal ; Bend your sinews to the task; " Put your shoulder to the wheel." Though your duty may be hard,

Look not on it as an ill;

If it be an honest task.

#### Do it with an honest will. WHERE THEY COME FROM.

You'll be shocked, I fear, when I tell you that your doll come out of the rag-bag, her curls from the back of a goat, and her elegant tea-set from a mud-hole.

But what will you say to it when I tell you that your jelly is made out of old boots, and that your delightful perfumery is made from horrid-smelling

You don't own all the made-over things n the family either. Johnnie's new beaver eloth overcoat was worn out on the back of a beggar, and, perhaps, even played the part of a scarecrow in some farmyard before it began to rise again. The table gelatine, which every one of the family likes to eat, once did duty as the skin that covered the back of a rat!

It is really wonderful to trace things back, and see where they come from and which has reason to poast of his ancestors. Queer stories would you hear if the things around ou could tell their history.

There's your tatting shuttle. It once made itself aseful as a bone in a horse, while the very dice in the backgammon board adorned the jaws and helped to crush the oats of another of the same race. The pearl of your paper knife lined the shell ouse of a modest little creature at the bottom of the sea. And mama's shell comb was once the

comfortable roof over a sea tortoise's back. Your guitar strings were once indispensable t he eternal well-being of some poor pussy or unfer unate sheep, and your piano would be but a dumb wooden box without some of the same sort of the aternal arrangements of a horse.

Your nice hair brush first saw the light on the skin of a hog. The crinoline that stiffens the bottom of ladies' lresses was used originally to switch flies from the backs of horses, and the matresses on which you sleep so comfortably served the same use before it fell into manufactures' hands.

Your dainty toilet soap-dear me, how can I tell you ?—was made from dead cats and dogs found in the streets.

The bitter almond which so delightfully flavours your candy is made from horrible-smelling cold tar. The choicest ale is deliciously flavored with putrid cheese. - Home Guardian.

MR. RUSKIN TO YOUNG LADIES. - Do you want to be better dressed than your school-fellows ! Some of them are probably poor, and cannot afford to dress like you; or, on the other hand, you may be poor yourself, and may be mortified at their being ressed better than you. Put an end to all that at once, by resolving to go down into the deep of your girl's heart, where you find, inlaid by Christ's own hand, a better thing than vanity-pity. And be sure of this, that although in a truly Christian land every girl would be dressed beautifully and delight fully, in this entirely heathen and Baal-worshipping land of ours not one girl in ten has either decent or healthy clothing; that you have no business now to wear anything fine yourself, but are bound to use your full strength and resources to dress as and wear proudly and prettily, for their sakes; but, so far as in you lies, be sure that every day you are laboring to clothe some poorer creatures. And if you cannot clothe, at least, help with your hands. You can make your own bed, wash your own place, brighten your own furniture-if nothing else. "But that's servants' work?" Of course it is. What business have you to be better than a servant of servants? "God made you a lady?" Yes, He has put you, that is to say, in a position in which you may learn to speak your own languages; to behave with grace; tact, and sympathy to all around you; to know the history of your own ountry, the commands of its religion, and the duties of its race. If you obey His will in learning these things, you will obtain the power of becoming a true "lady;" and you will become one if, while you learn these things, you set yourself, with

servant; enter thou into the joy of the Lord." OLD PLAN FOR CURING MEAT.—As the season has arrived when curing meat is in order, we resublish, as of old, our famous receipt for curing beef, pork, mutton, hams, etc., as follows: To one | Containing the usual information, and also the Tariff gallon of water, take one and one-half pounds of "No, Frank ; you know that Charles is not really salt, one-half pound of sugar, one-half ounce of salt-petre and one-half ounce potash. In this ratio the pickle can be increased to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. Then throw it into a tub to cool, and when cold pour it over your beef or pork. The meat must be well overed with pickle, and should not be put down or at least two days after the killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre, which removes all the surface blood, etc. eaving the meat fresh and clean. Some omit boiling the pickle, and find it to answer well, though the operation of boiling purifies the pickle by throwing off the dirt always to be found in salt and over the common way or most ways of putting down meat, and will not soon be abandoned for any

all the strength of your youth and womanhood, to

serve His servants, until the day come when He

calls you to say : " Well done, good and faithful

other. The meat is unsurpassed for sweetness, delicacy, and freshness of color. - Germantown Telego through without crowding. Do not rush in or "Have you, Charles? Then it's all right, old creep in, but hold yourself straight, and look directly at the people in the room. Do not hesitate, "Thank you. You are very kind. But I do not but if you do not know the visitor, go to your mother this is my daughter Adelaide;" then move a step forward and bow, or courtsey if you have been taught to do so. You are not to hold out your hand unless the lady offers to shake hands with "Well, to tell you the truth, I do not believe I you; then it is your place to walk up to her and

Not very well," as the case may be .- Mrs. Powers. NEVER Do IT. - Never reply to father or mother

Never speak to mother unkindly. Never act ugly to brother or sister Never correct father or mother when they are telling anything in public. Never steal anything, or tell an untruth, or speak ugly words, or circulate scandal.

Never seek play when you can be more usefully Never say, "I can't," or "Let Jim," or "I don't want to," when you are told to do anything." Never go to sleep without a prayer, as it may be the last chance you will have.

each night from 1 to 12 weeks may be restored to sound health, if such a thing be possible. Sent by mail for 8 letter stamps. I.S.JOHNSON & CO., Bangor, Me. An English Veterinary Surgeon and Chemist now travelling in this country, says that most of the Horse and Cattle Powders sold here are worthless trash. He says that Sheridan's Condition Powders are absolutely pure and immensely valuable. Nothing on earth will make hens lay like Sheridan's Condition Powders. Dose one teaspoonful to one pint food.

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