

## Children's Department.

### THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

"FAREWELL, little children!" the old year said—

I shall leave you to-night when you're snugly in bed,

So come, let us gather around the bright fire,

I have something to tell you before you retire.

I leave you to-night, but with me I bear  
My record for each; I have drawn it with care,

Now listen: Each word you have carelessly spoken;

All promises made, and all promises broken,

Whatever unkindness you've felt or have shown

In action, in feeling, in word or in tone,  
Where'er you've forgotten, in warm, earnest prayer,

To thank our great Father for all His kind care.

Where'er you've neglected His pardon to plead

For sinful desires, for wrong feelings and deeds;

Where'er you've offended your father or mother

Been fretful or peevish to sister or brother,

All the grief you have caused, all the sorrow you've given

Are noted by me, and recorded in heaven."

Kneel down, little children, in deep sorrow kneel;

As you think of the record past years will reveal,

Ask pardon of God for each sin that is past;

On the mercy of Jesus your burdened soul cast,

Resolve that the New Year shall never record

So many offences in thought, deed and word.

Dear children, remember, and earnestly pray,

Where'er you are tempted to wonder astray,

Pray for light from above that will guide your young feet

O'er the rough road of life to that happy seat

On the right hand of God, where the ransomed ones claim

Peace, Pardon, and Love, in the dear Saviour's name.

### LEFT TILL CALLED FOR.

#### A TALE FOR CHILDREN AND OTHERS.

#### CHAPTER I.

"Here, look sharp with them boxes, Dale! Why, bless the man what's up now?" And old Brice the porter came shuffling along the snowy platform, lantern in hand, to peer over his mate's shoulder, as he stood looking into the window of a first class carriage.

There had been an unusual commotion that cold Christmas Eve at the generally sleepy little station of Briarly. It was not much more than a siding, midway between busy Ball's Road Junction and the Cathedral town of Dartminster, and had been opened chiefly for the convenience of the great folks up at Exleigh Park, who formed the long steep hills between Ex-