

THE SUNBEAM

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GOD'S HEARING.

How do you think God can hear so far off?" asked a child of his mother. "O my darling, God can hear not only the words that rise from your lips, but the thoughts that rise in your heart. He has not ears such as we have, but the ears of feeling and sympathy. He is not far away from any of us. He is everywhere, and fills all space; and he wants to fill your heart. If you only let him in, don't you think he will be near enough to know all that goes on there, and to guide you, and to hear your prayers before they are spoken?"

"But, mamma, he does not always do what I ask him."

"Perhaps not. I do not always do what you ask me. But it is because I know better than you do what is good for you, and I sometimes say no. When God does not do what you ask him, never think he does not hear. He says: 'No, you do not ask the thing that is



DECEMBER.

THREE cheers for old December!
Month of Christmas trees and toys;
Hanging up a million stockings
For a million girls and boys,
Jolly, laughing, kind old fellow,

Loved by all the world because
Sleigh he sends and team of reindeers
For the graybeard, Santa Claus.
Santa Claus and old December,
Hip! hurrah! cheer heartily;
And for merry, merry Christmas,
Three more cheers and three times three

good for you, or go the right way to attain it. What I will do for you is to open the right way to reach the right thing."

RUNNING INTO SIN.

BERTIE and George took hold of hands one day and ran down the street to see an organ-grinder, though mamma had told them not to go out of the yard. "Guess she won't know it," said George. "May be she won't care if she does," said Bertie. But they both know better! Bertie fell into a mud-puddle, and went home with his nice new clothes looking like old ones. George had his pretty new hat knocked off by a rough boy, and a waggon-wheel rolled over it. All this was bad, but not half so bad as the sin of disobedience which led to all the trouble.

Two boys quarrelling: "My pa is a preacher an' will go to heaven." "Yes, an' my pa is a doctor an' can kill your pa."

Geo. C. Staples