

LOST ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

CHARACTERS :

Mr. and Mrs. Manley. Bridget, a domestic.
Mamie } their children. Jack, a sailor.
Dot Mr. Johns, an amateur detective.

ACT I.

(Sitting room of Mr. Manley's house. This can be very simply arranged by spreading a rug on the platform, bringing in a chair or two, a small table with a few books on it, and perhaps a few flowers. A girl about twelve or fourteen years of age may personate "Mamie," and a very small child will answer for "Dot." This little girl must be particularly infantine in looks and manner, and it is probable that a little girl, too young for school, can be borrowed for the occasion.)

DOT : Mamie, what is Christmas ? Mamma says to-morrow is Christmas, and will Santa Claus come down and put things in little children's stockings ?

MAMIE : Yes, dear, to-morrow is Christmas day, and everybody expects a present then. Good Santa Claus comes down the chimney in the night, they say, and fills little boys' and girls' stockings with all sorts of nice things.

DOT : Does he, really ! and will he bring me a nice new dolly if I ask him ? Where can I find him ?

MAMIE : Oh, he comes in a sleigh drawn by eight reindeer. He rides over the house-tops. He carries a pack of toys on his back. But you must go to bed early, for Santa Claus has a great many children to visit to-night, and he wants them all to be in bed.

DOT : Yes, sister, I'll go—only I want to look for that good man that puts things in little girls' stockings, and ask him not to forget my new dolly.

(Exit Dot.)