

THE

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## A NEW YEAR'S SALUTATION.

“A Happy New Year!” thus friend salutes friend,  
As they chance this glad morning to meet ;  
And to you, gentle reader, the greeting we send,  
Grace and peace upon all we entreat !

A Happy New Year ! may new favours divine  
Your daily thanksgivings employ,  
And forbid you to envy the corn and the wine  
Of the worlding's unsanctified joy !

A Happy New Year ! your home ever bright,  
Your children all guileless and gay ;  
With safety and peace for your portion by night,  
And comfort and plenty by day !

A Happy New Year ! was the old overcast  
With trouble, or sorrow, or pain ?  
May the future, all joyous, efface the dark past,  
Or turn all its losses to gain !

Happy New Year ! then work while it's day ;  
'Tis a blessing no *idler* can know ;  
The Master is calling, go point men the Way,  
And snatch them from ruin and woe !

A Happy New Year ! even now it grows *old*,  
Already it hastens to die ;  
Improve then its moments, more precious than gold,  
In laying up treasure on high !

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## ONLY A PRAYER-MEETING.

“It's only a prayer-meeting,” said one young man to another, as they stopped to listen at the door of a church in which a week night service was being held. Their estimate of it is perhaps not an uncommon one ; and yet there are few things more vitally important to the spiritual life and vigour of a church than its devotional meetings. The prayer-meet-