

THE NEW YEAR.

What does it mean? And musing thus, I see
A child close to a pictured window-pane
Breathing the frost away: And down the lane,
A group of boys and girls in romping glee
Dash through the open gate: And merrily
The pealing bell ushers a bridal train
From yonder church: And memory lives again
The golden past. Ah, surely unto me,
The white-robed herald of a new-born year
Cometh with gifts of wonder, joy, and love,
And hope, and faith, and peace, as I draw near
The valley and the shadow which shall prove
My soul! And turning to the common things
Of life revealed this day, my glad heart sings.