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A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

*(Manner of the Thirteenth Century.)*

BY CHARLES PELHAM MULVANY.

SHEPHERDS abiding without in the cold,  
(Wind on the wave and snow on the shore)  
Why come ye hither so far from your fold?  
(Maidens and men rejoice evermore).

Kings from the East that are led by a Star—  
(Wind on the wave and snow on the shore)  
Red gold and incense why bring you from far?  
(Maidens and men rejoice evermore).

We sail over sea from the land of the Jews;  
(Wind on the wave and snow on the shore)  
Of God and our Lady we give you good news—  
(Maidens and men rejoice evermore).

Dark on the village the night had gone down;  
(Wind on the wave and snow on the shore)  
Bleak the night-blast blew on Bethlehem town  
(Maidens and men rejoice evermore).

Suddenly, sweetly the angel-host sings,  
(Wind on the wave and snow on the shore)  
Flashing through gloom with a gold-gleam of wings—  
(Maidens and men rejoice evermore).

Sweet is the song that they sing to us still:  
(Wind on the wave and snow on the shore)  
"Peace upon earth unto men of good will"  
(Maidens and men rejoice evermore).