



RIGHT HON. EARL OF CROMER,
Great Britain's Minister Plenipotentiary in Egypt

Lord Cromer commenced his career in the army, entering the Royal Artillery at the age of seventeen. Within three years he was aid-de-camp to Sir Henry Storks, in the Ionian Islands, and four years afterwards he was appointed secretary of the inquiry, held in 1865, into the celebrated Jamaican outbreak, in which Governor Eyre was involved. He thus naturally drifted into diplomacy. Upon his uncle, the Earl of Northbrook, becoming Viceroy of India, in 1872, he was appointed his private secretary, and here he acquired that knowledge of Eastern affairs which has rendered him such a successful administrator. He was appointed a commissioner of the Egyptian Public Debt, in

1877, when in the interest of the European bondholders international action was taken. When Ismail was deposed by the Sultan, in 1879, and Lisbon Tewfik became Khedive of Egypt under the dual control of France and England, Sir Evelyn Baring was appointed one of the two Controllers-General whom France and England nominated. In conjunction with M. de Blignieres, he continued the practical administration of the affairs of Egypt until 1880, when he again entered the service of the British Government and was appointed Finance Minister of India, under the Marquis of Ripon. In this capacity he framed and carried through three successful budgets.

On every hand the Earl of Cromer is acclaimed a wise and successful public administrator. The vast reservoirs which he is building, for storing the overflowing waters of the Nile, and the extensive area of waste land that he means to reclaim and enrich by irrigation from these reservoirs, will be a most enduring monument to his greatness. His continuance in active official life is perhaps the best possible guarantee that England can have for the future control of Egyptian affairs.

In 1882 he was appointed to succeed Sir Edward Malet as minister to Egypt, which office he has since continued to fill.

In 1892 he was created a Baron, a Viscount in 1898, and quite recently King Edward conferred an Earldom upon him.



A Visit from St. Nicholas.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all
through the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;

The stockings were hung by the
chimney with care,



In hopes that St. Nicholas soon
would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their
heads;