

CHRISTMAS CHIMES.

Gems of Poesy on the Glad Day.

The Poets, known and unknown, contribute their wealth of fancy.

I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old, familiar, carols play;
And mild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

The ringing, singing on its way,
The world revelling from night to day,
A voice, a chime,
A chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Novell! Novell! in this hall,
Make merry I praye now alle;
On that childe we we call.

Christ was born on Christmas day,
Wreath the holly, twine the bay.

To Thee then, O Jesus,
This day of Thy birth,
By glory and honor through heaven and earth;

True Godhead Incarnate, Omnipotent Word;
O come, let us hasten
To worship the Lord.

The time draws near the birth of Christ;
The moon is high, the night is chill;
The Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other in the mist.

This is the month, and this the happy morn,
Wherein the Son of Heaven's eternal King,
Of wedded maid and virgin mother born,
Our great redemption from above did bring.

Sweet the Christmas bells are ringing,
Sweet the clear young voices singing,
For the Child is King!

Earth looks like a child in white,
Crowned with frosty jewels bright,
For His welcoming.

It is the Christmas time;
And up and down, 'twixt heaven and earth,
In glorious grief and solemn mirth,
The shining angels climb.

Be merry all, be merry all,
With holly dress the festive hall;
Prepare the song, the feast, the ball,
To welcome merry Christmas.

His place of birth a solemn angel tells
To simple shepherds keeping watch by night;
They gladly thither haste, and by a quire
Of squadron angels, hear His carol sing.

Oh! lovely voice of the sky
Which hymned the Saviour's birth,
Are ye not singing still on high,
Ye that sang, "peace on earth?"

To us yet speak the strains
Wherewith, in time gone by,
Ye blessed the Syrian swains,
O! voices of the sky!

The happy Christmas comes once more,
The Heavenly Guest is at the door;
The blessed words the shepherds thrill
The joyous tidings: peace, good-will!

How bright thy lowly manger beams!
Down earth's dark vale its glory streams,
The splendour of thy natal night
Shines through all time in deathless light.

Wherefrom His throne exalted,
Came He on this earth to dwell;
All His pomp, a humble manger,
All His court, a narrow cell;

From that world to bring to this,
Peace, which of all earthly blessings
Is the brightest, purest bliss.

Let us ne'er, since He was poor,
Turn the needy from our door—
Poverty is holy;
For His sake at Christmas tide,
Gladly we will all provide
For the poor and lowly.

'Tis the calm and solemn night:
A thousand bells ring out, and throw
Their joyous peals abroad and smite
The darkness-charmed and holy now!

The night that erst no name had worn,
To it a happy name is given;
For in that stable lay, new born,
The peaceful Prince of earth and heaven,
In the solemn midnight,
Centuries ago!

"Be this, good friends, our carol still,
Be peace on earth, be peace on earth,
To men of gentle will."

Christmas, the joyous period of the year
Now with bright holly all the temple
strow,
With laurel green and sacred mistletoe,
O thou whose glorious and contracted
light,
Wrapt in night's mantle, stole into a
manger;
Since my dark soul and brutish, is Thy
right,
To man, of all beasts be not Thou a
stranger.

The heart must ring thy Christmas
bells,
Thy inward altar rise;
Thy faint and hope thy canticles,
And its obedience praise."

How shall we celebrate the day
When God appeared in mortal clay,
The mark of worldly scorn:
When the archangel's heavenly lays,
Attempted the Redeemer's praise,
And hailed salvation's morn?

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Bro. William Allen, on the 27th October.
Sister Allen was the daughter of John
and Elizabeth Treble, who, like Zacharias
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Went up on the heavenly side.

Thus passed home in the 40th year of
her age, Elizabeth Ann, beloved wife of
Bro. William Allen, on the 27th October.
Sister Allen was the daughter of John
and Elizabeth Treble, who, like Zacharias
and Elizabeth of New Testament
fame, were "both righteous," having
been converted to God in their youth
amongst the Wesleyan Methodist in Eng-
land, and subsequently uniting with the
Bible Christians in the township of Col-
borne, Ontario, where the subject of this
sketch was born.

Possessed a gentle and amiable dispo-
sition, Elizabeth Ann early manifested
an interest in spiritual things, attending,
with her parents, the social as well as the
public means of grace, but it was not till
her 16th year that she experienced that
change which enabled her to cry, Abba
Father. This blessed experience was re-
ceived during a gracious revival in the
Colborne circuit, under the united labors
of the late Father Green and Bro. H. J.
Nott, much of the fruit of which still re-
mains. From this time forward Sister
Allen was an exemplary Christian, and
devoted her energies in body and mind
to the cause of Christ. She was married
to Wm. Allen about 13 years ago, and
our brother now mourns the absence of a
true helpmeet, yet he sorrows not as
those without hope, but speaks of the
sustaining power of that grace which
fitted his beloved partner for the skies,
and the anticipation of a happy re-union
by-and-by. By the death of our dear
sister six little ones are, in their years
of helplessness, deprived of that greatest
of earthly boons, a pious mother, but
that mother committed them with the
fullest confidence to the care of that
Friend who ne'er betrays a trust. Seven
years of the married life of the deceased
were burdened with the incessant care of
an afflicted child, whose condition de-
manded the most vigilant attention both
day and night, and this told heavily up-
on her constitution; yet when the little
sufferer was called away about 15 months
ago, so far from feeling a sense of re-
lief, the mother mourned as only moth-
ers can mourn, but when she received
the message to follow her child to the
better land, she magnified the wisdom
and goodness which had removed the lit-
tle one first.

Sister Allen's illness was not of long
duration, but her sufferings were severe.
For some three or four weeks she had
been feeling worse than usual, but still
kept around till within about two weeks
of her death, when getting advice of a
physician he pronounced it chronic in-
flammation of the liver, kidneys, &c.
Other doctors were called in, and all that
medical skill could do, but the blow
might not be warded off. When it be-
came evident that she must die she felt
no fear, but calmly commended her soul
and those loved ones whom she must
leave behind to the All Father. I visited
her about a week before her death and
found her rejoicing in the God of her
salvation. I said to her, "Did you feel
no alarm when you first thought you
should die?" "Oh, no!" she said, "I
had not a fear. For two or three days
previous to her death she was in a semi-
unconscious state, but continued to pray.
Having taken leave of her husband and
friends, and bidden them meet her in
heaven, she seemed only waiting till the
Master should come. Her remains were
taken to Zion church, where the writer
addressed those who had come to pay
their last tribute to departed worth upon
the conflicting desires of the Christian,
Phil. i. 23, after which she was follow-
ed to the Colborne cemetery by a large
number of sorrowing friends. Besides
her husband and children she leaves an
aged mother, several brothers and sister,
and a large circle of friends, who feel
the poorer for her removal from earth. But
remembering that it is but a little while,
may they patiently submit and faithful-
ly labor, and so all meet her in the Father's
house above.

A Paralytic Stroke.
W. H. Howard, of Geneva, N. Y.,
suffered with palsy and general debility,
and spent a small fortune in advertised
remedies, without avail, until he tried
Burdock Blood Bitters. It purified and
revitalized the blood, caused it to circu-
late freely, and quickly restored him to
health.

Some parties have in the past been in
the habit of trotting their horses over
the bridge, which action is rather danger-
ous as the bridge is not considered safe;
besides the statutes state that such ac-
tions are unlawful. One of the cattle
dealers from Goderich has on more than
one occasion been guilty of disregarding
the law in this respect, and though fre-
quently warned against doing so per-
sisted the other day in offending again. The
result is that he will have to interview
the dispensers of the law.