

## **The Rockwood Review.**

### **A CANADIAN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.**

When frost is on the window pane, and snowflakes fill the air,  
And the jingle, jingle, jangle of the bells is everywhere,  
When all the halls and corridors are bowery and gay  
With wreaths of shining evergreens in honor of the day,  
And the fragrant scent of pines and firs comes mingled with the flow  
And flavor of the toothsome goose a-roasting down below,  
And spicy smells of pies and tarts and other Christmas cheer,—  
O then it is on every side the kindly words we hear,  
Of "a merry, merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

"There is a sound of revelry"—of children home from school,  
For the mercury's at zero, and the ice is on the pool,  
And the gleam of steel is shining, and the clear ring of the skates,  
And the schoolboy's shouts and laughter, halloing to his mates;  
While youths and maidens robed in furs along the country roads  
Are singing gaily as they pass in most hilarious loads:  
So then it is on every side the greeting kind we hear  
Of "a merry, merry Christmas, and a happy New Year."

I think it is in northern lands the warmest hearts are found,  
Where keen northeasters nip the ears and send the pulses round;  
The mercury drops down apace, the long nights early fall,  
But round the cheerful firesides in cottage and in hall  
With books and music, work and games the evening hours are spent,  
And Northern folk in Northern homes are blissfully content,  
For then the gladsome Christmas time is fullest of good cheer,  
And the merriest merry Christmas, and the happiest New Year.

K. S. McL.