

Children's Department.

A Happy New Year!

"A happy New Year! a happy New Year!" and little Violet and Walter Mildmay came dancing into their mother's room.

"Thank you, my chicks, ; the same to you both," answered Mrs. Mildmay, as she stooped to kiss their rosy little faces.

"I do think Christmas and New Year is the very jolliest time of all," said Walter, throwing himself on the soft rug and gazing at the bright fire. "It looks so white and pretty outside with all the snow on the ground."

"Yes, dear, it is very nice to look at when you can sit by a bright fire, and when you have good warm clothes and comforts; but I think some poor little children will be glad when the winter is over, and the warm summer comes."

"I wish we could warm them all, mamma," said tender-hearted little Violet earnestly. "You have been making a lot of warm clothes and things for the poor, haven't you? We can't do anything, because we are too small," she added, shaking her head sadly.

Walter's sunny face grew serious too, as he sat pondering over the question—

"Would you like to do something to make to-day a happy one for somebody, my darlings?"

"Yes, yes; do tell us how, mamma!" and both children fixed their blue eyes on their mother's face, waiting eagerly for her reply.

"Well, in a little cottage just the other side of the common there lives a poor woman, who has three little children. Her husband is away at sea, and one of the boys is a cripple, and has to lie on his bed nearly all



Mr. Chas. N. Hauer

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day. The mother can only give them potatoes or dry bread for dinner, and they think it a great treat to get milk sometimes. Would you like to go and take them a basket of nice things, so that they shall have a happy New Year's day?"

"Oh, that we would indeed!" cried the children in chorus, and Walter began to jump about in glee. "What shall we put in the basket, mamma?"

"A beefsteak-pie and a plum-pudding, and I will put in some warm cuffs and stockings, and a packet of tea and some sugar. Do you think you would be able to carry all that?"

"Oh, yes; put in as much as ever you can!" cried Walter, feeling very strong indeed.

"Shall we have to go inside all alone, mamma?" inquired Violet, who was rather a shy child.

"No, dear, not unless you like. You can knock at the door, and then leave the basket outside. I will write Mrs. Maclean's name on it, so she will know it is all right."

"Oh, what fun! She will think it is a fairy," exclaimed Violet. "Do make haste and get it all ready, please, mother."

The basket was soon packed, and after superintending this, Violet and Walter ran to get on their warm things

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Two rosy little muffled-up figures, Jack Frost saw it was no use trying to nip them with his icy fingers. Violet's red cloak lined with fur, and Walter's thick winter coat, fur cap and warm gloves, kept him at a distance; so off he flew to try and find some little blue fingers to pinch.

The children carried the basket between them, and were obliged to put it down every now and then to rest, for it was a heavy weight for the two small people; but they had declined the offer of the gardener's boy to carry it for them, and bravely struggled on to their destination.

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While they are on their way, we will take a peep inside Mrs. Maclean's cottage, and see what is going on there. In the tidy little kitchen a boy about seven years old lies on his mother's lap. He is thin and pale, unlike two other noisy children that are in the room.

"Why do the bells keep ringing on, mother?" asks the sick boy.

"They are ringing to welcome in the New Year."

"People are wishing each other a Happy New Year, mother, and look so merry and cheerful," said little Lucy. "And the shops are so gay, and full of pretty things—'New Year's gifts' they call them. Don't you wish you were rich, mother, to buy some?"

"Rich, dear? Well I don't know so much about that; but I'd like to be

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dough until half an molasses and water. ts over the dough. ieeces. To glaze rusk ses and water while

BEVERAGE.—Menier real cup of Choco-Chouillou, Montreal, sections.

uncheon dish may be remnanté of a roast large, long potatoes, a brush, out off the centers with a thin a wall in taking out neat, season it highly t. Bake in a quick r celery, and serve meat gravy.

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