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Laurel shoots, fixed to sticks fastened here and there to the rails, are newer and prettier than the rope of evergreen fastened usually on the railing. The same plan may be utilized at the windows and chrysanthemums be worked into the ropes and wreaths. Flowers should be liberally used along the gallery and on the pulpit. Wreaths should be used on the latter, made of uniform size and of the smallest foliage. White flowers in clusters, such as Roman hyacinths, are handsomest, but if these cannot be had the cream-colored holly berries will be attractive. Fir clusters are showy in wreaths,

No other festival thus carries with it quite such a spirit of joyousness, apart from its own inherent reason for joyousness. The gaiety of the Fourth of July is that of a brief noise and excitement ; the gaiety of Thanksgiving is confined to one day only, but the gladness of Christmas begins in the sweet and hidden preparations for the gifts of others weeks beforehand and does not end with the giving of the gifts ; for the satisfaction of pleasant duty more than well done remains long afterward, and the gratification from the gifts received is an affair of permanence, an affair of far more permanence than the season of Christmas holidays that follows them.

To the young the years speed not fast enough ; to the old they are not too short. The young man employs the closing of one year in preparing for the next, the aged man muses over the events of past years, and contemplates the mysteries of the future. In the lives of many the year has proved a memorable one, while in those of others it has been marked with no special events. The hopes of one have reached fruition, the aspirations of another have fallen short of success. And thus the last day of December will bring alike pleasant and sad memories. There is a lesson to be drawn from the close of every year that may well teach us of the opening of the new one. It is by deriving profit from the past that we can improve the future. If we have undertaken enterprises during the present year that have proved unsuccessful, we