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WHITE AND CLEAN IS THE NEW YEAR

BY I. A. EDGERTON

White and clean is the new year When it is ushered in. What shall it be in a twelvemonth-Darkened and soiled by sin? If we could keep it always white, How would the world be filled with light!

Bright and sweet is the new day When on the hills 'tis born. Cleansed in the fires of sunrise, Washed by the dews of morn. If it were sweet till the coming eve. What a glory on earth 'twould leave!

Fair and pure is a new life Seen at the gates of birth. What will it be at the ending-Soiled with the dross of earth? If from taint it were ever free, What a joy to the world 'twould be!

All God's years are stainless: All His days are white; All His numberless eons Spotless as is the light. Fair are His worlds as they wheel and run, Bathed in the light of their central sun.

Only man in delusion, Hatred and wrong and pain Sees with an evil vision, Being divided in twain, Looks on a life misunderstood. Makes it evil that erst was good.

Center the thought on the noble. Whiteness of mind and soul: See the world as God made it. Virgin and clean and whole: Look on Him with a single eye, So let evil and error die.

Then shall the year be beauteous As when it came to earth; Then shall the eye be stainless As was the day at birth: Then shall life on its brighter side Unto the end seem glorified.

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