

and re-fill your pack, from one end of the earth to the other. You will travel so fast, that you shall be able to visit every house in the world. And by all means, be sure and fill every little stocking you shall find near the chimney, as you have filled mine last night. Little Stella here will accompany you, on your merciful trips. She will be your guiding star, and hold the team while you skip into every house. Should you find some doors and windows barred against you, don't let that discourage you. You can step on the roof and in a flash pop down the chimney and fill the stockings. From henceforth your name shall be Santa Claus, the mention of which will kindle joy and happiness in the heart of every child."

Thus saying, the wonderful Child with His parents, took leave of St. Nicholas's humble home. They had been on their way to the city to register their names, as was customary at that time; night overtaking them they were guided by the bright light in the window of the stone house by the road, and decided to seek lodgings there for the night.

And thus, my dear children, is how it has come to pass, that on every Christmas night the stockings are filled by the wonderful visitor, who comes to every home, and whose pictures and letters appear in the newspapers during the first weeks of December, to warn the grown ups against closing their hearts on the poor, and to remind the children to hang their stockings by the chimney that night before going to bed.