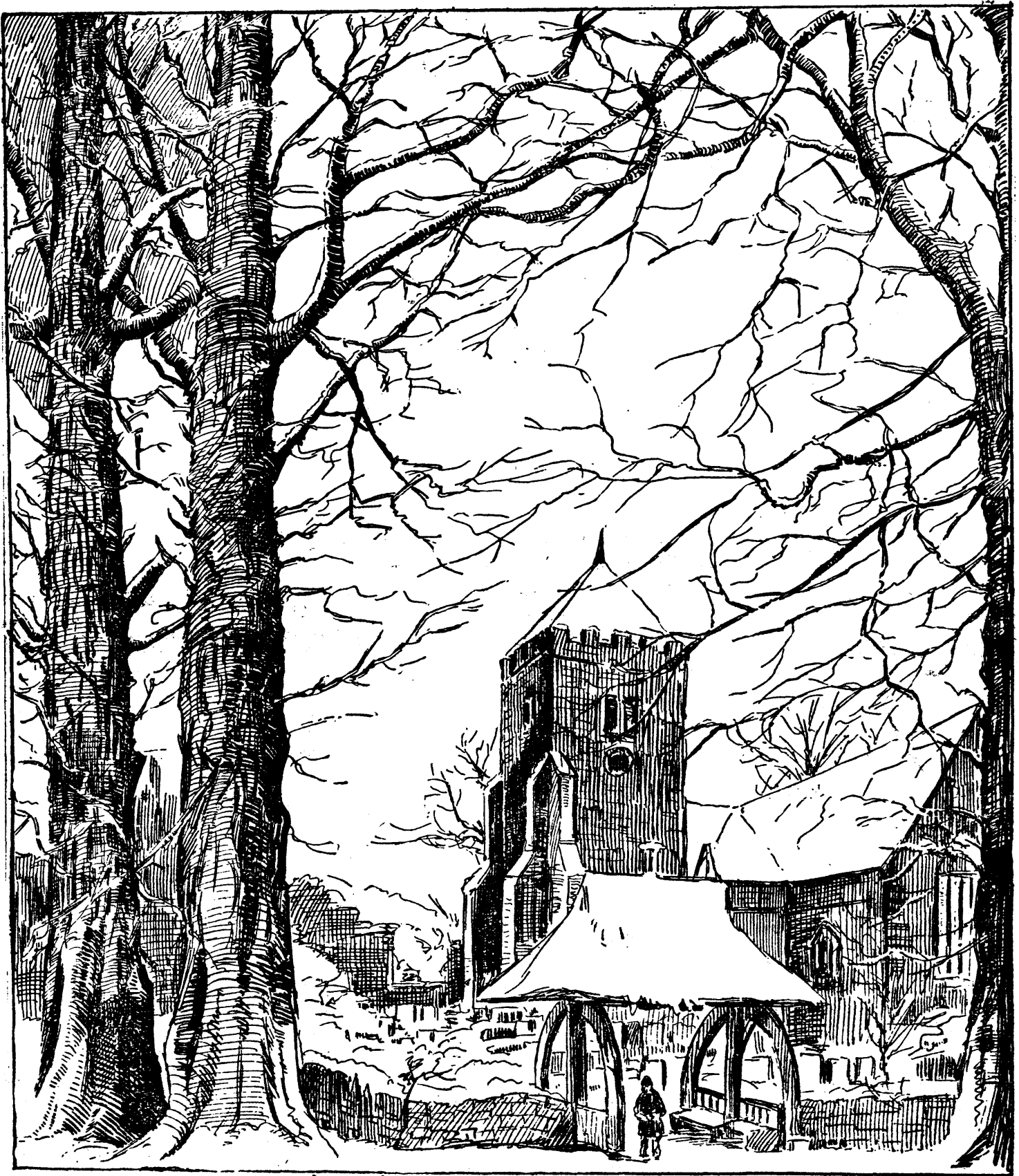


# Northern Messenger

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GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST.

'The Occident.'

## 'On Earth, Peace.'

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

(By Hope Daring, in 'American Messenger'.)

'On earth, peace, peace,  
Good-will to men,  
The angels sang,  
On earth, peace—'

Mrs. Sinclair rose, crossed the room, and

drew together the heavy crimson portieres which separated the library from the back parlor. A frown furrowed her brow, while her hands trembled nervously.

'How foolish I am!' she exclaimed to herself. 'I always enjoy Nora's music, but somehow the words of that Christmas carol irritate me.'

She went back to the hearth-rug and

stood looking thoughtfully into the mass of glowing coals.

When Margaret Sinclair had married, twenty-two years before, and had come to this beautiful home, she had brought with her, her only relative, a sister ten years old. Mr. Sinclair grew very fond of Bertha, and she had been like a daughter in the house. She was only eighteen when Har-