MIRAMICHI ADVANCE, CHATHAM, NEW BRUNSWICK, DECEMBER 19, 1895.

TWO CHRISTMAS EVES.

CHAPTER I.

her broad low forehead, full in HOW THE SECOND ONE WENT. the temples, rounded and symmetrical as it was. Then a flash from It was a bright, happy year for the youngsters, contrary to the laws of fiction, for they had love and hope and hard work to fill the time and good common sense to guide them, but old Eben had ne er re her deep, large, hazel eyes would fasten your gaze for a moment, till the perfect complexion and chise-led, classic features would coax it away, and the sweet glory of her away, and the sweet glory of her face would perplex you so with its multiplicity of charms that you would fall to wondering which of them was most to be desired. All this beauty, which his father had undertaken to deny to him, without even seeing it, made young Ehen desperate. "Then you want me to marry some other woman," he said lented, and there was a shadow was. One evening late in the year young Eben had come heme from his work and settled himself, as his habit was, to study, when he was suddenly interrupted. I want to talk a little while,"

said Mildred, pulling his book away and seating herself on his knee. "Good," said young Eben, smil-ing, "but you must pay for my he said. "No, no! Never !" she exclaimed imost wildly as she threw her perfect syms around his neck and

But after she had done that very began to sob at the thought. Her quick emetions were not the least of her charms. And that is why she did not take it well. She would, and she

it well. She would, and she wouldn't listen to either side of the Still she was silent a moment, as question. Young Eben must obey his father, and he must never cease to love her, or ever marry suy one else. And nothing was ever to induce her to waver in any respect. It was delightful—and somewhat

gave me the most precious gift in the world last Christmas. Anything

"If you won't settle the matter," he said finally, "I will." This, by else would seem very small after the way, was what he had intended that." "How lovely to say that !" she exclaimed, kissing him again. "And from the first

-lad in

hal ever listened to. "You can have no claim on me henceforth." "If we part," said the lad, his voice breaking, "let us part in kind-ness at least. I ask for nothing

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stepping under a light, he looked to see what it might be. Here was magic, if you please. The will that Alice had thrown "But Abner could not help smil-to be a base of the state of the s into the flames had been caught in the roaring draft of the old fashioned chimney and had been carried by the spirit of Christmas straight to the hands of the heir. It was scorched a little but not vet: and the father had to turn

over the little home, happy as it was. One evening late in the year injured. Straight to the hands of the held. Supposed band there had to turn bis back to hide a laugh, as Sammy trable every minute.

Marted.
Marted.
Young Eben glanced through it is back to hide a laugh, as Samup pinched the little fellow and whis a glad shout sprang forward again.
"A this father's door Alice met and would have stopped him, but he bag pape'll hear you."
"But the children were sent to pushed her aside with a laugh and marks to bed promptly at half-past eight, and the noiselessly entered to be you really want to gorge yourself with the take and guzzle the wine that is decicated to New Year's callers?
"My son! My son!" My son!" My son "My son "My

"My son! My son!" he cried had purchased. out eagerly. "Now I can die in When Mr. Withers went to bed are — " said Judge Peterby. He paused. She was gazing at he said to himself :-

"Die nothing !" exclaimed young Eben, with a cheery laugh. "God has sent you grandson and a son to-night. You'll have many a delight at daybreak would have awakened Rip Van Winkle him-set, and hasn't Frank been worrymerry Christmas yet with me and delight at daybreak would have

elf. He tiptoed to the door, however, Paaadise Lost, and hasn't Laura And so it was.

Deace

And so it was. Skeleton of a Lay Sernon for Ohristmas. First.—Young women who are thinking of giving Christmas re-membrances to their pastors should remember that the straight and narrow math is not an easy road to exclaimed. Self. He tiptoed to the door, however, and peeped through the keyhole. Sammy was mounted on his bicycle, and leaned against the wall for support while he tried on his skates. "Anit't they just boss?" the boy

"But, mamma, it's raining." "Of course it's raining. Is that the kind of weather to which you

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"Did you say we haven't had a splendid Christmas ?" she asked. "No; but-" SHERIFF'S SALE



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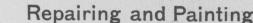
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ome alarm. "By marrying you," he said firmly, "but not just now. I will do noth-It must be said that the next

few months were pretty hard ones for the boy. He had set himself to mat till he should be of age, the next December, not with the gift, straight from heaven, and I'm thought of defying his father even hen, but because he would render is service loyally to the last day. So time went on. His duty was done at his desk in the counting Eben was too wise to try to stop. Old Eben might have been soft-ened a bit if he had known about room so well that his father could not complain, rigid taskmaster though he was. His sweatheart this, but, of course, he didn't. He kept himself well informed about was not neglected, and yet he found the lad he loved, but proud as ne time, or made it, to keep up his was to see that his son could make cted, and yet he found the lad he loved, but proud as he studies faithfully. his way in the world without help, he was sensitive enough to feel it

Of course, the birthday came in due time. Birthdays do. In the morning old Eben met him with

"It would be idle, sir, to try to you are doing a cruel injustice to thank you in words for this, or for

all your kindness to me all my life," he said. "But I have something else to ask. Even this princely gift of money seems small compared to that."

Old Eben's face darkened. He d not like to hear money spoken ightly, and it seemed an ungray and with all sincerity. hat is it, my son ? You are not likely to ask anything that I could refuse to-day." and good will. As the year drew to a close old Eben grew weaker and more infirm. Day after day he sat alone, careless of his business thinking always of his ruined

The dark face grew rigid. "Let is understand this now" said the pour obedience so long as I play the part of a father. I have no legal claim, I know"— "Don't talk of a legal claim, father," said the son, interrupting the sat alone, careless of his business thinking always of his ruined he sat alone, careless of his business thinking always of his ruined hopes and eating his heart. On your obedience so long as I play the part of a father. I have no legal claim, I know"— "Don't talk of a legal claim, father," said the son, interrupting the sat alone, careless of his business thinking always of his ruined hopes and eating his heart. On your obedience so long as I play the part of a legal claim, father," said the son, interrupting

exclaimed, kissing nin again. And to say it as if you meant it. But that is just what I am afraid of." This was bewildering. "What are you afraid of?" asked young Eben. "I think"—she faltered. "that the rifts way provide the result of the right of the

travel at all times, and therefore stout walking shoes may be more apppropriate than embroidered slippers. Second.—Measure the value of the gifts you receive by the mo-tives of the givers and not by their intrinsic value. Oftentimes when the the proper standard is used the humblest gift, costing but a

the angels are going to thing year about Christmas time—a blessed afraid you'll love it more than you r do me." Then came a floed of tears — happy ones that young real worth than the richest, most expensive present. Third.—If you have made up ael's cherubs—as he added : "You Rooms in F bet he got it ! I put it in one of Water Street.

your mind to give So-and-so a his own envelopes a purpose," Christmas gift just because you William Henry Siviter, in Puck. think you are going to receive one from that quarter, you would bet-Peterby's Stormy Christmas. ter abandon the idea altogether.

Last year the Peterby family had Christmas gifts prompted by anya Christmas tree, as usual. Mrs. thing but a desire to confer a real best go ungiven. Thing but a desire to conter a teat pleasure upon the recipient had best go ungiven. The recipient had best go ungiven. The recipient had the

the time. Birthdays do. In the morning oil Esen met him with is anger increasing week by The said, "as anxiously as you. You have been a good son and I believe you always will be. I'm proud of you, and I believe you will it is yours to do with as you like." This was a check for a small "This was a check for a small to time. He took it from his poc-tet as he spoke and handed it to the young man who fighed with surprise and perfectly natura-nlessure as he looked at it.

The eldest son, Frank, got a your son." It was a crafty speech, for she knew that the old man would re-sent the charge of injustice, and her eyes flashed again when he said harshly, "I have no son. I had one, but he left me. Never mention him again." The member that the recording angel is likely to make a bigger entry to,your credit on his books because of the gift of a half worn overcoat to a shivering fellow man or a din-ner to a half starved and possibly grimy urchin, than because of a costly jewel given to a favorite of fortune. The source of the gift of a half worn overcoat to a shivering fellow man or a din-ner to a half starved and possibly grimy urchin, than because of a costly jewel given to a favorite of fortune. This is the very thing I have been waiting for for years," he ex-claimed. "What magnificent illusremember that the recording angel

And so the breach seemed hope-less, but Christmas was coming all the year on which the lovely it all the year on which the lovely been waiting for for years," he ex-claimed, "What magnificent illustrations! How true it is that a boy has got no friend like his mother !"

again, and strange magic is work-ing everywhere in the Christmas season, softening men's hearts and quickening all impulses to peace and good will. As the year drew to a close old Eben grew weaker He was about to examine the pictures more critically, when Mrs. Peterby wrenched the book from his hand, asking with amazement;

"My son, have you lost your A Letter to Santa Clause.

"Don't talk of a legal claim, father," said the son, interrupting in his turn. "Very well. It is not a claim, but I am still your father, and so of this folly. I will never so this marriage. Do you "The source of the son, interrupting in his turn. "Strange magic of Christmastide, and every-where it worked, penetrating even old Eben's mansion, despite the barred doors, and reaching his stony heart as he sat thinking of the son, and of the wife of his youth, so long dead. It was another stormy Christmas ave. Suddenly he rang for a ser-

Then we may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well part now, " The base document of the may as well part now," The base document of the may as well

The star parts in a super start of and i and

"Then we may as well part now," id eld Eben, stung beyond endur-ice by the first defiant words he

The Million

sneers and growls. You are always



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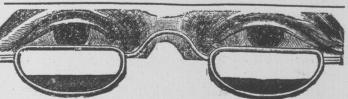
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