

CHRISTMAS

High swells once more the joyous strain
Through every clime, o'er every main,
Of this wide world see once again
Comes Christmas with its festive train.
The cheering choirs, with carols bright,
Doth serenade the peaceful night;
The merry bells, with utmost power,
Proclaims the feast from every tower.
The winds blow cold, the frost doth bite,
And snow lies round so crisp and white;
The village pond is frozen o'er,
And boys slide on its glassy floor.
And every cottage pane doth show
The holly and the mistletoe,
And down the village as you go,
The winds doth drive along the snow;
But the kitchen fire it blazes high,
And sparks fly upward to the sky,
And round the hearth old friends are come
To keep the feast in every home.
All things the good host can afford,
Is laid upon the festive board;
The smoking joints, the puddings fine,
The nut brown ale, the rosy wine,
The old man's joke, the young ones song,
So glides the gladsome day along.
The mystic bough hangs 'mid the scene,
And oft our young man's eyes are seen
Fixed on the sacred bough so keen,
He looks around, but where's his queen?
She hides herself behind the screen;
And now a rush, and now a scream,
Although with mirth her eyes doth beam,
And soon the youth her slender form
He catches in his longing arm,
And there upon her blushing brow
Imprints a kiss beneath the bough.
Tables and chairs are stow'd away
And every countenance is gay.
The village fiddler he is there
In a corner perch'd upon a chair,
With violin beneath his chin,
He scrapes away with merry din;
And young and old embrace the chance
To join the merry Christmas dance.
Thus joyously throughout the night,
They dance away in mad delight;
And many are the tales that's told
At this glad feast, by young and old.

Such presents everywhere abound,
And to kind friends are sent around,
So plenteous are the wishes kind,
This festive season brings to mind,
May love, and joy, and peace be sent,
May every heart be well content,
A merry Christmas wisely spent,
To all men is the compliment.