

# THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1891.

TEN CENTS A COPY

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O'er the mountains wild comes a little child,  
And all the untrodden ways  
Are blooming bright, 'neath his steps of light,  
And the valleys ring with his praise;  
And the morning glints on his brow, and tints  
His cheek with its rosy rays.

His bright eyes beam and his tresses gleam—  
Shot with the sunshine's darts  
That mark his way through the gates of day—  
As the dying year departs.  
And the vacant throne is now his own,  
And his kingdom is human hearts.

The songs he sings, and the joys he brings,  
Are wonderful, sweet and rare;  
And the future glows like a fragrant rose  
'Neath the wand that he waves in air.  
And with kisses sweet, and with smiles, we greet  
The beautiful, glad New Year;

And cover the head of the old year, dead,  
With a cold, cold shroud of snow.  
Life is sweet, but time is fleet,  
And the years must come and go;  
The beautiful years, with their smiles and tears,  
The years that we all love so.

Kisses and tears for its joys and its cares—  
The year whose steps have passed  
Into silence sweet, where no fall of feet  
Is heard in the Dim and Vast.  
To the Old—his due; but we love the New—  
The sweetest rose is the last!—F. L. STANTON.

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