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Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men

QUOTATIONS COMPILED BY O. H. BISHOP
in The Charlotte (Mich.) Republican

Let us away with strife at this season. Now is the time to speak kindly words. Let us not carry into the new year the embers of contention. Let not the harsh notes of contention come into the heavenly song of peace. Christ came to give peace, and from Heaven's throne today He bends to give peace to all who trust Him. He was the only person ever born into the world who had his choice as to how He should come. He might have come man as did the first Adam. He came a babe. He inserted himself into our race at its lowest and weakest point. If He were to lift the race, He must get under it. He glorified the cradle. He beautified boyhood. He sanctified motherhood.—Rev Robert S. McArthur.

Christmas is indeed the season of regenerated feeling—the season for kindling not merely the fire of hospitality in the halls but the generous flame of charity in the heart.—Washington Irving.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.—Luke II. 11.

The bellies of all Christendom now roll along the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will toward men.—Longfellow.

It is the most human and kindly of seasons, as fully penetrates and irradiates with the feeling of human brotherhood, which is the essential spirit of Christianity, as the month of June with sunshine and the balmy breath of roses.—George W. Curtis.

Never deny the babies their Christmas! It is the shining seal set upon a year of happiness. Let them believe in Santa Claus, or St. Nicholas, or Kris Kringle, or whatever name the jolly Dutch saint bears in your religion.—Marion Harland.

We ring the bells and raise the strain. We hang up garlands everywhere. And bid the tapers twinkle fair. And feast and frolic, and then we go. Back to the same old lives again.—Susan Coolidge.

Today the whole Christian world prostrates itself in adoration around the crib of Bethlehem and rehearses in accents of love a history which precedes all time and will endure through out eternity. As if by an instinct of our higher, spiritual nature, there well up from the depth of our hearts, emotions which challenge the power of human expression. We seem to be lifted out of the sphere of material endeavor to put on a new life and to stretch forward in desire to a blessedness which, though not palpable, is eminently real.—Cardinal Gibbons.

The church bells of innumerable sects are all chiming-bells today, ringing in sweet accordance throughout many lands, and awakening a great joy in the heart of our common humanity.—E. H. Chapin.

Heap on more wood! the wind is chill; But let it whistle as it will, We'll keep our Christmas merry still.—Scott.

The kindness of Christmas is the kindness of Christ. To know that God so loved us as to give us His Son for our dearest Brother, has quickened human affection to its highest tide on the day of that Brother's birth. If God so loved us, how can we be loving one another?—Mattie Babcock.

Hark! the herald angels sing. Glory to the new-born King: Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.—Charles Wesley.

This day shall change all griefs and quarrels into love.—Shakespeare.

I have always thought of Christmas time when it has come round apart from the Victorian era to its earliest name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time.—Charles Dickens.

The church may go through her dark ages, but Christ is with her in the midnight; she may pass through her fiery furnace, but Christ is in the midst of the flame with her.—Charles H. Spurgeon.

Blow, bugles of battle, the marches of peace; East, west, north and south let the long quarrel cease; Sing the song of great joy that the angels began, Sing of glory to God and of good will to man.—John G. Whittier.

The universal joy of Christmas is certainly wonderful. We ring the bells when princes are born, or toll a mournful dirge when great men pass away. Nations have their red-letter days, their carnivals and festivals, but once in the year and only once the whole world stands still to celebrate the advent of a life. Only Jesus of Nazareth claims this worldwide, undying remembrance. You cannot cut Christmas out of the calendar, nor out of the very heart of the world.—Anonymous.

The earth has grown old with its burden of care, But at Christmas it always is young; The heart of the jewel burns lustrous and fair, And its soul, full of music, breaks forth on the air When the song of angels is sung.

It is coming, Old Earth, it is coming tonight! On the snowflakes which cover thy sod The feet of the Christ-child fall gentle and white And the voice of the Christ-child tells one with delight That mankind are the children of God.—Phillips Brooks.

The chief charm of Christmas is its simplicity. It is a festival that appeals to everyone, because everyone can understand it. A genuine fellowship whose source is our common life—the fellowship whose source is our common share in the gift of the world's greatest life which was given

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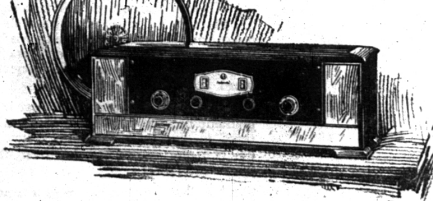
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