

Poetry.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Cold winter's coming, with tempest and snow;
He's a jolly old fellow, as all of us know;
He fizzes our fingers, and pinches our ears,
But then, oh, he brings us such happy New
Year!

He storms, and he blusters, and shakes his
grey head;
He roars down the chimney to scare us to bed,
And all the long evening his voice we can hear;
Perhaps he is saying, "A happy New Year!"

He walks thro' our gardens, and withers our
flowers,
He turns into icicles all our bright showers,
He busts the brooklet, whose song was so
clear,
And then he will bring such a Happy New
Year.

Cold winter is coming, 'tis hard to be poor,
Theills and privations of want to endure;
To harry the future look cloudy and drear,
And never to welcome a Happy New Year.

A Month with the Rebels.

Blackwood's Magazine for December has a paper entitled as above, which will be read with interest as the testimony of a recent visitor to the Southern theatre of war. The writer's sympathies are evidently with the Southerners; but there is no violence in his style. He begins by admitting that Kentucky is not altogether Secessionist. Her Legislature is still strong for the Union. Whole counties are the same. Distinguished men, opposed to the Government, still adhere to the stars and stripes. The mature and honored judgment of the venerable Crittenden is yet against "the rebels," but where are Murdoch, Buckner, Preston, Breckinridge? The following extracts may not be unacceptable to our readers.—*Witmer and Smith's European Times.*

SPECIMENS OF SOUTHERN SPIRIT.

"Our party at the little inn broke up on the arrival of a train, and we found standing room in a car crowded with soldiers. Few were dressed in uniform, but all were well armed. One beside us, not a bad sample of the rest, had a breech-loading carbine slung over his shoulder, two revolvers in one side of his belt, and a Bowie knife in the other. What a contrast these men presented to the soldiers we had hitherto seen! Determination and reckless daring marked every feature and gesture. 'Do you think the Yankees are going to whip us, sir?' inquired our friend, looking like an infernal walking machine. 'Well, they have a fine army, and will do their best, I think.' 'Don't care, sir; they can't do it. If they beat us in the field, we'll take to the woods, and shoot them down like squirrels. Look here, sir; see what they have done to me. I am a shoemaker by trade. They tried to arrest me in Elizabeth Town; I got away, but they took my wife; so by —, I'll take five-and-twenty Yankee scalps, or they shall have mine.'

"Being disappointed in finding any of that Union feeling in the south of Kentucky of which we had heard so much in New York, we proceeded to Nashville, in Tennessee. More camps, more soldiers, more drilling. Men, women and children think of nothing but the war. Fathers of large families are frequently seen serving in the ranks; as privates, side by side with their sons. Ladies make soldiers' coats and trappers, while children knit their stockings. Trade is in a great measure at a stand-still; but the rapidity with which the people, hitherto dependent upon the North for every manufactured article, however simple, are beginning to supply their wants for themselves, excites at Nashville a curious exemplification. A few weeks ago a boy discovered a method of making percussion caps, which the army was then much in need of. A few weeks ago, it was forthwith established, that now turns out some millions per week."

The "Ancient" City of Annapolis. The Annapolis correspondent of the New York Post, writing under date of Dec. 24, says:

"There is an air of antiquity about Annapolis which might be charming to the newly elected secretary of some historical society, but there are those who can view ancient things without an overweening respect—cheese may be very old, and be venerable. The 'City Hotel,' where Gen. Burnside is staying, was one of the five hundred 'headquarters of Washington,' and was built in 1750. It has undergone but little change since its erection. The old State House is another unchanged institution, and the Senate chamber presents the same appearance as it did when Washington resigned his commission there. A really fine picture of the event adorns the Senate chamber. The view from the dome is superb. Beneath are the few streets, radiating from the knoll on which the State House stands, like spider-legs. The city, what there is of it, can be taken in at a glance—with one eye shut at that. But the look seaward is grand, and the bay now, in black with the expedition transports, while westward for two miles the ground is white with the tents of twelve thousand men. The removal of the naval school was a severe blow to Annapolis. It literally took away the 'life' of the place. 'And now that Maryland is lost,' and 'considering the vast expanse of ground and buildings, it would not be impolitic, perhaps, to re-establish the school there when the rebellion is crushed out.'

In Scotland when the word corn is used it is universally understood to signify oats; in England it means wheat and in the United States maize.

MAGISTRATE'S BLANKS, of every de-

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