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CHRISTMAS comes as it has for centuries, in spite of all the jarring voices that war against its gracious message. Its song of "peace on earth" rang out into a world that had little welcome for it; that denied even the right to live to Him who translated its music into a human life. It was a song of faith. Drowned a thousand times by the discordant shouts of hate and war, it has not faltered in the calm confidence of the truth it was given to proclaim. Again and again as the tumult and the shouting have died away, it has been heard still flooding earth and sky with its holy melody.

It is the song of the world's great optimist. There were ears that heard it even amid the darkness which fell upon that "green hill far away without a city wall." Ears there are that will hear it this year despite the clash of hostile armies and the roar of a thousand cannon. Multitudes there are who will sing it with the same confident faith as in those days of peace when they trusted reason was soon to take the place of war. To doubt the final triumph of the truth sung to the world in the "Glad

Here's wishing you a very Merry Christmas and may the New Year be one of Peace, Prosperity and Happiness to you and yours.



In order that the Public Ledger force may take a few days recreation there will be no paper issued during the Holidays. The office will be open all the week to greet friends. The Public Ledger will come to you with renewed vigor on Wednesday, January 5, 1916.

Tidings" of its first Christmas day, is to sail a sea without a bottom or a shore, chart and compass lost.

We do not hesitate then to send out our Christmas greeting. The things that are seen are temporal. It is in the realm of the unseen that we must seek just now that which abides in the Christmas message and which no night of war, save for a time, can dim with its primeval darkness. Perhaps only such horror as this could forever sicken the world of war.

If we dare not wish our readers a Merry Christmas, we do wish them all the gladness homes and hearts may know when faith and hope and love still live. To all little children who look forward to the day with joy we send our wish for a very "Merry Christmas." Notwithstanding the pain and loss the year has brought, we shall find the Christmas joy just in proportion as we strive to kindle it in other hearts. Never was need greater since time began that each of us live out toward all men everywhere the spirit of the imperishable song: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

