



M.G. Kettner '26

THE + PEACE + OF CHRISTMAS

BY + + + + + KATHERINE EDELMAN

THE peace of Christmas time is all over the land, the blessed, holy peace that the angels first sang over the far-off hills of Judea and which has echoed and re-echoed with added strength through each succeeding year.

“PEACE on earth to men of good will.” This is the secret of the peace that comes at Christmas time, for true and abiding peace can come only to men of good will, it can dwell in the heart only when all that is opposed to it has been driven out. And so it is that at this season, when man is at his very best, when his heart is filled deep with the spirit of love and service, of giving and doing, when everything of doubt and fear, of hatred and mistrust, of envy and malice, is cast out of his heart, this blessed and holy peace enters in and he knows a happiness so deep and sincere that it floods all his being, like sunshine flooding a darkened landscape.

PEACE—the word itself has a beautiful sound, a sweet cadence that delights the ear. It was a word that the Christ child used often when He grew to man’s estate. Once He told His disciples: “Into whatsoever house you enter, say peace be to this house.” What a wonderful salutation and how sweet it must have sounded falling from His lips!

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 enmities of the old. 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.

TO have peace within the heart and home is to enjoy sincere and genuine happiness. Without it no joy can be really satisfying, no pleasure or gain worth while. With peace lacking there is always unrest in the soul, always an unsatisfied yearning no matter what else one may possess.

TODAY, when the earth is wrapped in this beautiful mantle of peace, when it is enfolding the world and binding men and women more closely in a brotherhood of love and service, when its influence is filling all hearts and leading them to ways of happiness, let each one of us pray and hope that this beautiful spirit of peace shall endure long after the Christmas time is past and gone.