

soon solved. Who could mistake those "Strange and beautiful things upon which the morning sun above, a wondrous beauty flings?"

With a bound he was out of bed, and for confirmation of his suspicions, glanced out of the window. His heart was pleased at the sight of the cold and frosty snow, for with it came visions of sleighing and skating. Seeing the old man below he shouted, "Hello, so late! What?" glancing at the clock, "Nine o'clock! Oh, why didn't grandmother wake me?"

While hastily dressing, he bestowed more than an occasional glance upon the mantelpiece, where his guardian angel rested serenely. It was the face of a girl, sweet almost as the face of the Virgin Mary, "The beauty of which melts and subdues the gazer." Turning and addressing the picture, he murmurs joyfully to himself, "This is the day we go skating together, for at the first snow I was to come around for you." His eyes sparkled and he thrilled with the thought.

With a bound of exultation, he rushed down the stairs. Hieing to the kitchen, he met his grandmother, and his face became illuminated with a look of reverence and love. With great tenderness, he kissed the wrinkled cheeks and smoothed the snow-white hair, exclaiming rapturously, "Who has such a good grandmother as I!"

"Oh, you foolish boy," she replied smiling, "One would think I was your sweetheart."

"So you are, Grandma." And then thinking of the other one, he added truthfully, "Except—"

"Except who? Except May?" and her bright eyes sparkled, for she loved to tease the boy.

"Come now, Grandma, and give me some breakfast. I am as hungry as a bear."

Breakfast was ready in a moment, and together they entered the pleasant dining room,—pleasant to her, because it commanded a view of the whole street and consequently of