

## NEW YORK

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"This," said Mr. Pickwick, looking round him. "this is, indeed, comfort." "Our invariable custom," replied Mr. Wardle. "Every body sits down with us on Christmas eve, as you see them now \_\_\_\_\_\_" servants and all; and here we wait till the clock strikes twelve, to usher Christmas in, and while away the time with forfeits and old stories. Trundle, my boy, rake up the fire." Up flew the bright sparks in myriads as the logs were stirred, and the deep red blaze sent forth a rich glow, that penetrated into the farthest corner of the room, and cast its cheerful tint on every face.

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"Come," said Wardle, "a song\_a Christmas song. I'll give you one, in default of a better." "Bravo;" said Mr. Pickwick. "Fill up," cried Wardle. "It will be two hours good, before you see the bottom of the bowl through the deep rich colour of the wassail; fill up all round, and now for the song." Thus saying, the merry old gentleman, in a good, round, sturdy voice, commenced, without more ado,















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But my song I troll out, for Christmas stout, The hearty, the true, and the bold:
A bumper I drain, and with might and main Give three cheers for this Christmas old.
We'll usher him in with a merry din That shall gladden his joyous heart,
And we'll keep him up while there's bite or sup, And in fellowship good, we'll part.
Let the summer sun to his bright home run, He shall never be sought by me;
When he's dimmed by a cloud I can laugh aloud, And care not how sulky he be. In his fine honest pride, he scorns to hide One jot of his hard\_weather scars.
They're no disgrace, for there's much the same trace On the cheeks of our bravest tars.
Then again I sing 'till the roof doth ring, And it echoes from wall to wall \_\_\_\_\_\_
To the stout old wight, fair welcome to\_night, As the King of the Seasons all!
Let the summer sun to his bright home run, He shall never be sought by me;
When he's dimmed by a cloud I can laugh aloud, And care not how sulky he be.

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G.W. Quidor EngVr