

A CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Such a pair of black faces! Say's eyes grew tearfully bright. Mary looked rebellious, and stared angrily out of the window, where the hopeless prospect of a huge snowdrift levelled the garden, fields and roads, in one long, smooth undulation.

leisurely thawed herself in the cosy depths of a rocking-chair, and Susie was on her knees before the baskets, unpacking the white dresses, and looking up every now and then to answer Mary's string of questions.

partners for it were also partners for supper. As a matter of course neither of the young men would be disposed to resign his claim to the hand of the prettiest girl in the room, for either one or the other.

after them till the turn of the road hid them from sight. It was a brilliant moonlight night, the air sharp and frosty, every stray leaf and blade of grass decked with diamond points of fairy fret work, and glittering in the clear moon beams.

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