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Prosperous New Year.

Best Christmas for a Boy

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

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AS ONE boy to another—for I have never gotten over being one, although I am getting as gray as a billy-goat around the ears—I want to give it as my opinion that a Christmas anywhere but in the country is no Christmas at all!

A city Christmas is a make-believe, a hollow mockery, a false alarm, an imitation. I have tried both kinds, and so I know. A city Christmas has all the tin and tinsel, and that is all. By the time you get as old and feel as young as I am, you find most of the plate worn off.

Honestly, boys (and girls), I don't think Santa Claus himself ever feels very much at home except on a rural route! He has a mighty poor job in a big town, with flues instead of chimneys, and everything. And it is hard to see where he gets room to turn a tiny

you that there is a great difference in snow—that is, there is a great difference between country snow and city snow.

We may not have snow this Christmas, but we'll just suppose we do. Isn't a good, old lively snowstorm great? Perhaps it is one of these lazy snowstorms, with the big, white flakes just floating down like feathers and slowly turning the roads and roofs to white, like a coat of good white paint. Maybe there will be enough of it to make good coasting on the hills and good sleighing on the roads.

And, by the way, do you know there are boys in the big cities who have never seen a sleigh? Because a sleigh is getting to be a scarce article in the cities. You see, as soon as a little snow comes the street-cleaning department gets busy and sweeps it up, before it gets a chance to melt into slush.

In the country the winter wheat needs it, and the ground takes care of it. But in the city it just means slop and slush. So they sweep it up and carry it away and uncover the ugly pavement as soon as they can.

But they let you keep your snow in the country. When a warm wind comes along it will pack fine, and you can have your snow-men, and your snow forts, and your snowball battles. (Only please don't use your artillery on older folks, or girls, or me.)

Or perhaps this snowstorm is one of the blizzardy kind, with the wind zipping around the house and piling

this ha... chance for the driver of... drawn vehicle to recover... even though the fault may... been that of the operator... mobile with good lights.

In darkness, it is almost impossible to see a carriage or wagon moving along the highway in the country and a motor all but crashes into it before it is shown up by the automobile lights. It should be a point of self-protection for the man driving the horse to carry a light at night. It might mean the saving of life, and at any rate it would offer him a better chance to recover damages in case his rig was damaged.

All records were broken in the great Christmas rush at Chestertown postoffice, Wednesday. The north-bound truck for Elkton was loaded to the top with Christmas mail, and equally as much had collected before the outgoing morning train. The postoffice force handled the rush efficiently.

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