



VIII.

How the Christmas Message came to Silas Baldwin.

“Glory to God in highest strains,
In highest worlds be paid;
His glory by our lips proclaimed,
And by our lives displayed.”

MR. BALDWIN was a rich farmer, who lived alone in the dreary-looking house which Ernest had described. It was quite true he was miserly—not by nature, but by habit—his youth had been full of struggles, and his manhood had been saddened by severe trials, and now that he was surrounded with wealth, he did not know what use to make of it, and became close and niggardly. He had but one living relation, and that was his