



XI.

Christmas Day.

"Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesu, to Thee be glory given."

HOW bright and clearly it dawned over the village of Enmore; how joyfully the bells from the church rang out in the clear frosty air; how cheerful were the greetings which were exchanged in the different homes, and nowhere were they more so than in the rectory.

A merry party were assembled round the breakfast-table, and everything seemed gleaming with Christmas sunshine.

It was arranged that the presents were to be given in Reginald's room afterwards, and when breakfast was over, Ernest and