

## It was the night before...

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# It was the night before...

'Twas the night before \_\_\_\_\_ Proper Noun, when all through the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;

The \_\_\_\_\_ Determiner were hung by the chimney with care,

In hopes that \_\_\_\_\_ Proper Noun soon would be there;

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,

While visions of \_\_\_\_\_ Noun - Plural danced in their heads;

And mamma in her \_\_\_\_\_ Noun, and I in my \_\_\_\_\_ Noun,

Had just settled down for a long winter's nap,

When out on the lawn there arose such a \_\_\_\_\_ Verb - Past Tense,

I

sprang from the bed to see what was the Adjective.

Away to the window I flew like a Determiner,

Tore open the shutters and threw up the Noun - Plural.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen Verb

Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects Determiner,

When, what to my wondering eyes should Determiner,

But a Pronoun Noun, and eight tiny Noun,

With a little old Noun, so lively and quick,

I knew in a moment it must be Proper Noun Proper Noun.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,

And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;

"Now, \_\_\_\_\_! now, \_\_\_\_\_! now, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_!"

On, \_\_\_\_\_! on \_\_\_\_\_! on, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_!"

To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!

Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,

When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,

So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,

With the sleigh full of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ too.

And then, in a \_\_\_\_\_, I heard on the roof

The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

As I drew in my head, and was turning around,

Down the Noun Proper Noun came with a bound.

He was dressed all in Preposition or subordinating conjunction, from his head to his foot,

And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;

A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,

And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His eyes -- how they twinkled! his dimples how Adjective!

His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a Verb - Non 3rd Person Singular Present!

His droll little mouth was drawn up like a Noun,

And the beard of his chin was as white as the Pronoun;

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his Noun,

And the smoke it encircled his head like a Noun;

He had a broad face and a little round Proper Noun,

That shook, when he laughed like a bowlful of Pronoun.

He was Pronoun and Preposition or subordinating conjunction, a right jolly old Preposition or subordinating conjunction,

And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;

A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,

Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;

He

spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,

And filled all the Noun - Plural; then turned with a jerk,

And laying his finger aside of his nose,

And giving a nod, up the Verb - Past Tense he rose;

He sprang to his Noun, to his team gave a whistle,

And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.

But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,

"Happy Proper Noun to all, and to all a good-night."