

**CHRISTMAS IN THE
OLDEN TIME, OR,
THE WASSAIL BOWL**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649548705

Christmas in the Olden Time, or, the Wassail Bowl by John Mills

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOHN MILLS

**CHRISTMAS IN THE
OLDEN TIME, OR,
THE WASSAIL BOWL**





Christmas
In The Olden Time

OR

THE WASSAIL BOWL.

BY

JOHN MILLS,

AUTHOR OF "THE OLD ENGLISH GENTLEMAN,"
"THE STAGE COACH, OR THE ROAD OF LIFE,"
"ENGLISH FIRMSIDE," "THE SPORTSMAN'S LIBRARY,"
"THE OLD HALL, OR OUR HEARTH AND
HOMESTRAD," &c. &c.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY DUNCAN,
ENGRAVED BY LINTON.

H. HURST, KING WILLIAM ST., STRAND.

1845/1210.



Fig. 1.

21

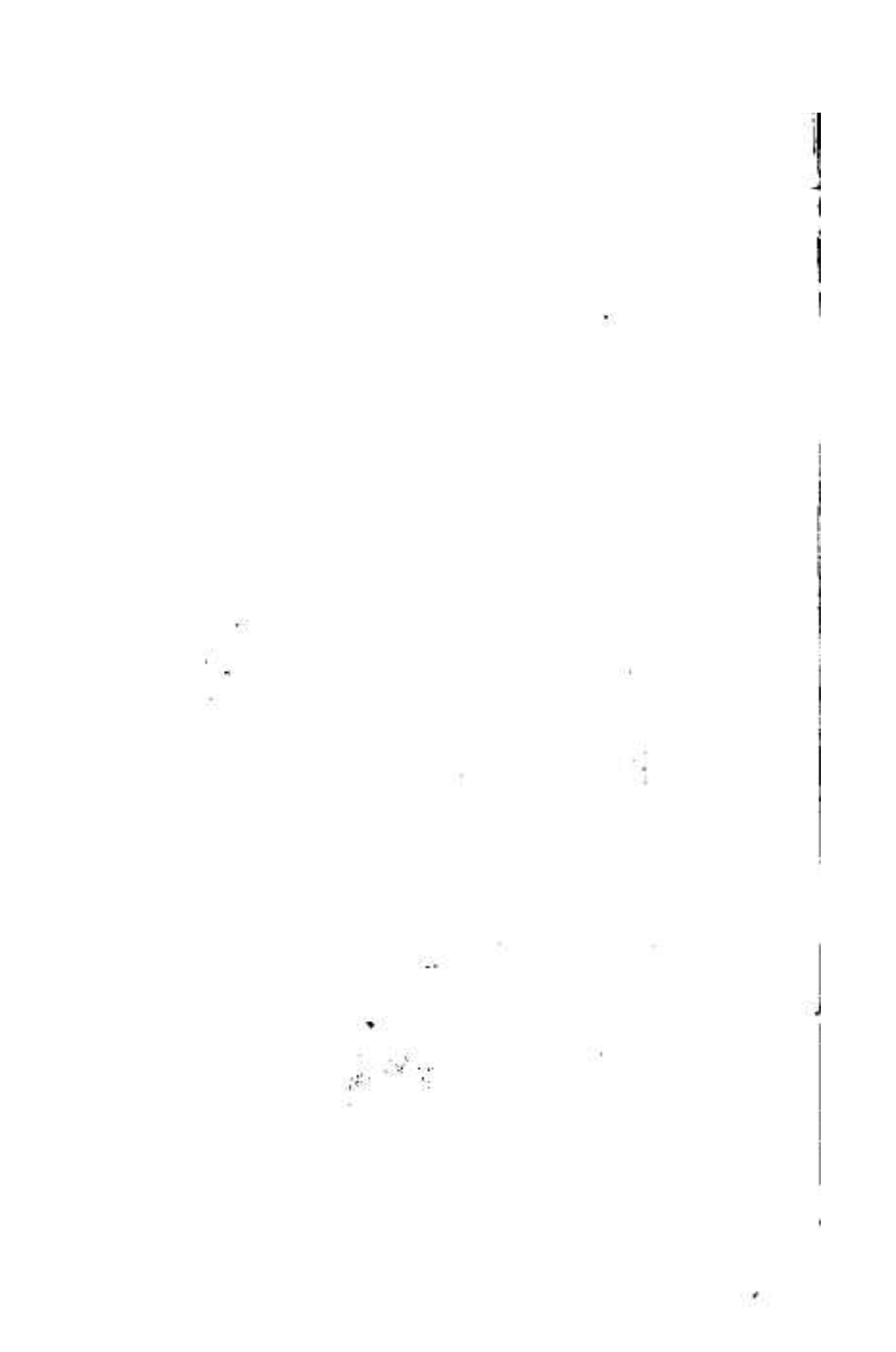
of the Great Lakes basin. The study was conducted in 2009, 2010, and 2011. The study was conducted in the Great Lakes basin, which is a large body of water that covers a significant portion of the northern United States and southern Canada. The study was conducted in the Great Lakes basin, which is a large body of water that covers a significant portion of the northern United States and southern Canada. The study was conducted in the Great Lakes basin, which is a large body of water that covers a significant portion of the northern United States and southern Canada. The study was conducted in the Great Lakes basin, which is a large body of water that covers a significant portion of the northern United States and southern Canada.

22

"Some say, that ever 'gainst that season comes
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated,
This bird of dawning stageth all night long:
And then, they say, no spirit dares stir abroad;
The nights are wholesome: then no planets strike,
No fairy takes, nor witch hath power to charm,
So hallow'd and so gracious is the time."

PREFACE.

IN submitting a Christmas Story, and blending with it the sports and pastimes of the olden time at this festival period of the year, the writer has endeavoured to "point a moral to adorn his tale;" and should some links in the chain of events require a reference to the fertile imaginations of his readers, let them remember that it is one of fancy and not of fact. Assured, however, that if he has failed to please to the full bent of his earnest desires, at least he cannot have given offence to the most fastidious of tastes; and therefore, with both hope and confidence, he trusts for that encouraging and lenient consideration on the part of his critics and patrons, with which his humble efforts hitherto have been received.



CHRISTMAS IN THE OLDEN TIME.

CHAPTER I.

"'Tis winter cold and rude!
Heap, heap the warming wood;
The wild wind hums his sullen song to-night:
Haste, boy! this gloomy hour
Demands relief; the cheerful tapers light."

'Tis Christmas! the season of hope, of joy, and revelry! see where he comes, hoary-locked and bleached with age, crowned with wreaths of winter evergreens! Ivy, holly, and rosemary are twined and blended in his crown. In his hand he bears the wassail bowl; deep and full. From his lips quaint ballads, carols, and ditties are crooned, and good old customs rummaged from the stores of his memory. 'Tis Christmas, right merry Christmas! Light, glad hearts beat the lighter to his approach, and those sinking