

Class VIII

The Best Christmas Present in the World. Part 2

NCERT SOLUTIONS

1. Who had written the letter to whom, and when?

Answer:

Jim MacPherson a captain in the British army had written the letter dated December 26, 1914 to his wife, Connie.

2. Why was the letter written—what was the wonderful thing that had happened?

Answer:

Jim wrote the letter to tell his wife about a wonderful thing that had happened on Christmas day. The British and the Germans were engaged in a war, yet on this day, both the troops met in no man's land. It was a thing of wonder because right in the middle of a war, the warring soldiers were making peace.

3. What jobs did Hans Wolf and Jim Macpherson have when they were not soldiers?

Answer:

Before joining the army Hans Wolf played cello in the orchestra and Jim Macpherson was a school teacher

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4. Had Hans Wolf ever been to Dorset? Why did he say he knew it?

Answer:

No, Hans Wolf had never been to Dorset. He had only read about Dorset from Hardy's novel 'Far from the Madding Crowd'.

5. Do you think Jim Macpherson came back from the war? How do you know this?

Answer:

No, Jim Macpherson never came back from the war. Perhaps therefore his wife Connie had preserved his letters.