

THE BLESSING OF SONG.

"What a friend we have in Jesus,"
Sang a little child one day;
And a weary woman listened
To the darling's happy lay.

All her life seemed dark and gloomy,
All her heart was sad with care;
Sweetly rang out baby's treble—
"All our sins and griefs to bear."

She was pointing out the Saviour,
Who would carry every woe;
And the one who sadly listened
Needed that dear Helper so!

Sin and grief were heavy burdens
For a fainting soul to bear;
But the baby, singing, bade her
"Take it to the Lord in prayer."

With a simple, trusting spirit,
Weak and worn she turned to God,
Asking Christ to take her burden,
As He was the sinner's Lord.

Jesus was the only refuge,
He could take her sin and care,
And He blessed the weary woman
When she came to Him in prayer.

And the happy child, still singing,
Little knew she had a part
In God's wondrous work of bringing
Peace unto a troubled heart.
—*Christian Observer.*

INTEREST IN MISSION WOKK.

There are two means we would have employed by those who are doing foreign mission work at home, the Christian members and families of our Churches. We would have them understand and take an interest in the human side of the work by reading about definite lands, peoples, missions and missionaries, so as to appreciate the condition of progress and become *personally* interested in this or that part of the field of labor. We would have them love *personally* the All-conqueror, and be led about in their own circles as the personal captives of Him who is to make all peoples His slaves, and would have them read up and fill their hearts and imaginations with all in the New Testament that will kindle a personal zeal for the spread of His Kingdom. These methods are old, of course, and both carry high Apostolic authority

with them, otherwise we could not be sure that they are real and reliable. The secret lies in this, that they be pursued systematically and determinedly, with this assurance in our minds—that only thus can that zeal which alone is potent, and which always is the forerunner of Christian conquests, be gained by the mass of Christians as well as by the select few; that zeal which is not vague, and, therefore, dependent for its strength on the sympathy of others, but which is definite and personal, and, therefore, unquenchable.—*Rev. W. D. Mackenzie.*

THE WONDERFUL WONDER.

"God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." We can conceive of no greater wonder than this. Doubtless the angels have never heard of a greater. It is in the contemplation of this that they wonder and adore. These are the things that, above all others, they "desire to look into." Doubtless in all time, and in all eternity, and in all worlds, there has never been a wonder so wonderful as this. What a Gift! and to what creatures! An unspeakable gift," and to the most unworthy!

Reader, God gave His only begotten Son to die for you. Have you accepted this wonderful gift, and by faith been enabled to say, "The Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me?" "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift!"

SIN OF OMISSION.

The story has been told of a soldier who was missed amid the bustle of a battle, and no one knew what had become of him; but they knew that he was not in the ranks. As soon as opportunity offered the officer went in search of him, and to his surprise found that the man, during the battle, had been amusing himself in a flower garden! When it was demanded what he did there, he excused himself by saying, "Sir I am doing no harm." But he was tried, convicted and shot. What a sad but true picture this is, of many who waste their time and neglect their duty, and who would give their God, if demanded, no better answer than, "Lord, I am doing no harm."