



### NO ROOM.

No room for the stranger, no room in the inn,

The friendless may lodge with the beasts of the stall;

The manger His cradle, the night for his screen:

No room in the inn for the Monarch of all?

No room in the inn; yet the wise men afar

See the sign of His coming whom prophets foretold;

And low at His feet, by the light of His star,

The sages are bending with spices and gold.

### CHRISTMAS, 1897.

Once more we approach the season which commemorates the birth of our Lord in human form. No other event in the history of the world can even begin to rank with it in the compass of its significance. That he who "thought it not robbery to be equal with God" should nevertheless have taken upon himself the "form of a servant" and been "made in the likeness of men," is so astounding a thought as to tax the utmost power of credence. But what a new glory it does add to human nature! To what great heights it does exalt man? Since the Son of God has associated himself with us, he has given a fresh meaning to our existence. Our life is larger and our destiny ineffably grander than before.

No wonder that the angels sang and shouted to one another till the Judean air was vibrant and tremulous with the heavenly melody: "Glory to God in the highest; on earth, peace, good will to

men." Shall not the glad anthem be repeated a thousand thousand times in this closing week of 1897? Let the tuneful choirs proclaim it to listening audiences as they gather in the house of God. Let aged saints with mystical vision of coming glories speak it through glad lips to the generation that is following after them. Let young believers, with their hearts aflame and their wills set to noble enterprises, take it up and repeat it with added volume: "Glory to God in the highest." It is the angels' song, but it belongs also to men. The celestial visitants uttered it on only one occasion, and then withdrew from the earth. Since that time it has been the possession of mortals. But the day is coming somewhere in the unfolding ages when the angels will come back and join once more with men in a jubilant antiphony. Gathering in the bright regions of the air, they will cry aloud in full-throated volume: "Glory to God in the highest;" and from the redeemed earth men will answer back: "On earth, peace, good will to men."

Encourage your pastor this year as never before. Be at the weekly prayer regularly, and take part in the exercises according to your place and ability. Work in the Sabbath School. Neglect no communion occasion. Be in your pew every Sabbath morning and evening, if possible. Be attentive to the preached Word. Improve upon what you hear. Ask people to church. Speak well of your minister. Pray for him and ask a blessing upon his labors. Give him a kind look and loving word. Sympathize with him in his work. Cheer him. Sustain him. Pay what you have promised for his support when it is due. Defend him when assailed. Attend the special meetings he may think it best to appoint. Try to make them a success.—*Christian Advocate.*

The man who does not put good reading matter in the hands of his children, has never done any real praying for their salvation.