

BOYS AND GIRLS.

GOOD NEWS FOR BAND MEMBERS AND BAND LEADERS.

1. We are to have a course of lessons again this year, beginning in January and continuing for four months—January, February, March and April.

2. We are to have a book to study from, and it is to be that "perfectly lovely" one we talked about in July-Aug. LINK—"Around the World With Jack and Janet." It is a trip through all the queer countries like Egypt and Ceylon and India, and China, etc.

3. Who do you think is going to be our guide? We are just as fortunate as we can be, for it is "Sister Belle," who has promised to take us all through the trip. We know she will help us to see many things we would miss altogether without her. She has been doing just that for us all for years, and we could not have anyone with us whom we would love and listen to more eagerly.

Parry Sound—Our Mission Band held a sale on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 9th, of vegetables, cakes, cookies, a few dolls and wash cloths. We realized \$10.55. In September we sent a little over eight pounds of Sunday School cards and postcards and one picture roll to India to Miss Hatch, costing us 81 cents to send it. Our Band has taken a deep interest this year, and we hope to do better next year.

Sarah Green, Sec.

STORY OF A CHRISTMAS HYMN.

"Good news from heaven the angels bring."

It was Christmas Eve, Luther had retired to his study, where he was earnestly engaged preparing his Christmas sermon for to-morrow while his wife, Katie, was busy attending to her household duties. But these, on that particular evening, proved too numerous and required so much time and attention that, feeling unable to do all that was to be done, she popped her head into her husband's study and, almost out of breath, said in a trembling voice, "Dear doctor, I can not possibly get through with my work, of which there is still so much to do. Please oblige me by taking your seat beside the cradle in the nursery and watching little Paul, so that I can go on with my work unhindered." And Luther, without making any excuse as to what he had yet to do in prepara-

tion for his sermon for to-morrow, rose up at once, took his Bible, followed his wife into the nursery, and sat down at little Paul's cradle, just as Katie had requested him. And as he sat there gazing at the frail and helpless babe sleeping so sweetly, the sight so affected him and so filled his heart with thoughts of that other heaven-born child, whose birth they were about to celebrate, that he could no longer refrain his lips from giving utterance to the joy he felt; and so, taking down his lute from the wall he began to play and sing, and sing and play, until he had translated the story of the Saviour's birth, into a beautiful hymn, heading it with the superscription:

"A Children's Christmas Song of the Little Child Jesus." (Written in 1535.)

Good news from heaven the angels bring,
Glad tidings to the earth they sing:
To us this day a child is given,
To crown us with the joy of heaven.

This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will himself our Saviour be
From all our sins to set us free.

All hail, Thou noblest Guest, this morn,
Whose love did not the sinner scorn;
In my distress Thou comest to me;
What thanks shall I return to Thee?

Were earth a thousand times as fair,
Beset with gold and jewels rare,
She yet were far too poor to be
A narrow cradle, Lord for Thee.

Ah, dearest Child Jesus, holy Child,
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for Thee.

Praise God upon His heavenly throne,
Who gave to us His only Son,
For this His hosts, on joyful wing,
A blest New Year of mercy sing.

—Selected.

A PRESENT FOR JESUS.

A little girl at Christmas time had ten cents given her—ten bright new pennies. "This," she said, laying aside one, "is for Jesus; and this is for you, mother; and this for father," and so on to the last one. "And this is for Jesus," she said. "But," said her mother, "you have already given to Jesus." "Yes," said the child, "but that belonged to Him; this is a present."—Selected.