

"Well, the other man was taken, and both of them pleaded guilty. The keeper did not die, but he was maimed for life, and lost the sight of one eye; and that night ended in the transportation of the two who had waited and called for me at the gate when I was fast asleep in the hedge.

"It was a long time before I could do anything else but thank God for the prayer of the dear lass that had saved me; but whatever the fright of that night did for me there was one medicine that did me powers of good, one joy on which my heart grew strong and glad again: it was to see the roses coming back once more upon the lass's cheeks, and to see them beginning to grow upon the little lad's too. And they crept even outside the house, and began to grow about our door, as you may see them to this day, climbing right away up to the roof.

"So that New Year ended as well as it began; and better, too.

"And now, lads, the New Year is close upon us again. You can settle, by God's grace, what it is going to be. Grip your good thoughts and shape them while they are hot. Bend the New Year right while it is new. I wish you all a happy New Year; but a happy New Year is a thing that takes more than wishing. Every man has got to beat that out on his own anvil, and to make it with his own arm. You can't begin it better than the way I began it five-and-thirty years ago—sign the pledge and ask God to help you."

Then old Nath lifted his eyes, and a glad smile greeted a new-comer who stood in the door-way.

"Here's mother to say that supper's ready. Eh, lass, I have been telling the chaps about you. Come on, Tommy, let's have done. And so, God bless you all."

ANOTHER YEAR.

ANOTHER year is dawning :

Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting ;
Another year with Thee ;

Another year of leaning
Upon Thy loving breast,
Of ever-deepening trustfulness,
Of quiet happy rest ;

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace ;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of Thy face ;

Another year of progress,

Another year of praise ;
Another year of proving
Thy presence "all the days ;"

Another year of service,
Of witness for Thy love ;
Another year of training
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning :
Dear Master, let it be,
On earth, or else in heaven,
Another year for Thee.