

Jimmy went on about his errand, and when he got back it was high bed-time and a little past ; so, after the usual amount of teasing to wait for just another game, and grumbling at the injustice of sending a boy to bed before it was dark, when all the other boys in the town could sit up until ten, he stumbled up the stairs in a very bad humor.

He got out of his clothes, but how, no one but a boy in very bad humor and a hurry to have it over can tell. How he was to get into such a tangled criss-cross mess the next morning was another puzzle.

"Blessings on the man that invented sleep ! would have been a very appropriate motto to tack on Jimmy's bed that night ; for embraced in its arms, he soon forgot Dick's felonious intentions on his bat, the pending settlement with Sue of the "nabbing" case, and the ill humor of the last moments, aroused by his sense of ill-treatment, and was living again the proud moments in the merchant tailor's room, where the soft, handsome folds of the "pin check" goods were being admired, and the hum of the tailors voice, as he said, "Open your vest, please ; now lift your arms, so ; stand straight please : fourteen, twenty-four ; that will do." etc., rang in his ears.

Presently it became indistinct and confused. Then it began to ring out again with new distinctness :—

"Stand straight, please. Humph ? Very much shrunken calves, these. One, two,—only two errands for mother to-day and a good deal of growling over those. Open the vest, please. Thirteen breast measure ; small heart inside ; cold and selfish ; wants everything for himself. Some boys with generous hearts measure twenty-five. Stand straight, please ! Nineteen high ; good deal of a baby yet ; whines and pouts like one. A boy with sense and manliness enough to take things reasonably ought to measure thirty.

By this time Jimmy was rolling and tumbling at a precious rate. Great beads of sweat stood on his brow, and some-

thing suspiciously like groans broke from his lips.

"Pretty crooked, shriveled specimen this. Hard to make the robe look decent at all. Got in by the skin of his teeth."

You would have thought Jimmy was trying to put himself through a knothole, he shrank into so small a ball in one corner of the bed.

"Cut a sorry figure before the throne. If he'd only thought as much of how his spirit grew, as having a well shaped bod"—

A long, low, gurgling sound came from under the bed clothes, which were gripped tight in both Jimmy's fists. Tiptoe, tiptoe, came footsteps down the hall, and a light gleamed along the hall and then shone into Jimmy's face.

"Oh how it shines ! Let me go away, away back, please. Mr. Recording Angel ! I'm so un"—

"Jimmy, Jimmy ! Wake up ! What's the matter boy ?"

"Oh ! Mr. An—Why, Uncle Harry ! I'm so glad ! I—I guess I've been dreaming ; but I tell you it was mighty natural. Don't go yet !"

But what about the recording angel ?

Why, don't you know what you said last night about—about"—

"Taking your measure, eh ? As good as Smith's ?"

"No ; but I mean to make it so, Uncle Harry."—*Rev. J. Cowan in S. S. Times.*

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NEW YEAR IN CHINA.

"PAI NIENG !" the first man says, and "Pai nieng" the second man replied. This is the New Year greeting in China, and is about the same as our "Happy New Year !" Sometimes the Chinese wish each other a prosperous year ; but if they are Christians, they wish each other peace : that is, "Ping ang !"

The Chinese New Year does not come, as ours does, on the first day of January, but about a month later. They count by the moon, and sometimes the first moon comes in February.