

GIRLS AND BOYS

MISSION BAND STUDY.

Subject—"William Carey."

(Those taking part—Leader and several boys, 6 or more).

Leader—"Well, boys, what man are we going to talk about to-day?"

1st Boy—"William Carey."

Leader—"Now, I wonder who he was! Anybody know?"

2nd Boy—"Oh, he was a great missionary, don't you know?"

Leader—"Was his father a missionary, too?"

3rd Boy—"O, no, his father was the village schoolmaster, in the place where they lived in England. I guess we wouldn't think it was much of a school, for it was just a little building, and the seats were just halves of logs, the flat side up, with wooden pegs driven into the other side for legs."

2nd Boy—"Say, I don't think I'd like to sit all day on a bench like that!"

Leader—"Did this Carey boy like to study?"

5th Boy—"Oh, yes, but he liked to play too, just like other boys, and I read that he had a great collection of stuffed birds, butterflies, bugs and all sorts of things, so all the other boys used to come to him when they wanted to find out about any of these things."

6th Boy—"Well, I know one thing he was, anyway, and that was *persevering*. Whenever he started to do anything, he never gave up, no matter how hard it was. One day he started to climb a tree that none of the other boys would try. He got part way up, lost his hold, and came tumbling to the ground. He was pretty badly hurt and didn't climb any more that day, but as soon as he was able, he tackled the same old tree, and *this time*, he got to the top." (Boys applaud).

Leader—"He must have had good stuff in him. I suppose when his father was the schoolmaster, that he could go to school as long as he liked?"

7th Boy—"Oh no, they were poor, and when he was only 14 years old he had to

get out to earn some money, so he went about 5 miles away."

Leader—"Well, it was too bad that he didn't get any more education than that."

1st Boy—"Oh, but that *wasn't* all he got. He *wanted* an education, and he never gave up. Books were scarce in those days, but he would beg or borrow, and he always had an open book around where he was working, or sometimes he would pin a printed sheet up on the wall, so he could read it bit by bit as he worked. One day he got hold of a book called 'Captain Cook's Voyages,' telling all about his adventures in the Southern Pacific. Carey became so fascinated, he started to make a map of the world on bits of paper pasted together. He tacked this home-made map up on the wall where he could see it while he was working, and *this* was really the beginning of his wanting to be a missionary."

Leader—"Was he a Christian at this time, then?"

9th Boy—"Well, he was about 18 years old at this time, and had been working beside a young fellow who was a Baptist, and whose quiet, consistent, Christian influence was the means of Carey's conversion, though he wasn't baptized till he was 22. Before long, he was asked to speak in meetings, at the little Baptist Chapel where he attended, and that soon led to preaching. They didn't pay very much for preachers in those days, and for three years he preached at a place six miles away and he had to walk *both ways* too. In the next church where he preached, his salary was \$75.00 a year. Well, he was married by this time, and of course he couldn't keep a family on that, so he had to start making shoes again to pay expenses while he was preaching. He kept right on with his studies, too, and in seven years he could read his Bible in six different languages."

Leader—"Dear me, that meant *some work*, didn't it? Do you know the lan-