

cause Jesus first loved him and Jesus still proves his love for Herbie by showing him how he can work for Him and in giving him this great interest in life. Let us all take the lesson home to our hearts at the beginning of the New Year.

### PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR.

WHITTIER.

Scarcely Hope hath traced for me  
What the future life may be,  
Other lips may well be bold;  
Like the publican of old,  
I can only urge the plea  
"Lord be merciful to me!"

Nothing of desert I claim,  
Unto me belongeth shame.  
Not for me the Crowns of Gold  
Palms and harpings manifold;  
Not for erring eye and feet  
Jaspur Wall and Golden street.

What Thou wilt, O, Father, give!  
All is gain that I receive.

Let the lowliest task be mine  
Grateful, so the work be thine;  
Let me find the humblest place  
In the shadow of Thy grace:  
Blest to me were any spot  
Where temptation whispers not.

If there be some weaker one,  
Give me strength to help him on;  
If a blinder soul there be  
Let me guide him nearer Thee.

Make my mortal dreams come true  
With the work I fain would do;  
Clothe with life the weak intent.  
Let me be the thing I meant;  
Let me find in Thy employ  
Peace that dearer is than joy.

From Andrew Nykman's Prayer.

### MISSIONARY GAMES.

There is always a demand in missionary bands for something new in the way of entertainment, and it may be helpful to learn some new games which may be played at the close of a week-day missionary meeting or at a missionary social. We find the following in a Sunday-school paper:

"Countries and Characters" may be played the same as "beast, bird, and fish." One player throws a knotted handkerchief to another and calls out "Africa," "China," "India," and then counts ten, if possible, before the second player can name some worker or place connected with the country specified.

Another game is to decide upon some letter for a starting-point, and have a contest to see who can write in a certain time the longest list of names of places or persons in mission countries beginning with that letter.

### "WHY HE WENT."

A Missionary being asked what it was that directed his thoughts toward the foreign field answered: "In coming home one night, driving across the vast prairie, I saw my little boy John hurrying to meet me. The grass was high on the prairie, and suddenly he dropped out of sight. I thought he was playing, and simply hiding from me, but he didn't appear as I expected he would. Then the thought flashed across my mind: 'There is an old well there, and he has fallen in.' I hurried up to him, reached down into the well and lifted him out; and, as he looked up into my face, what do you think he said? 'O papa! why didn't you hurry?' These words never left me. They kept ringing in my ears until God put a new and deeper meaning into them, and bade me think of others who are lost, of souls without God, and without hope in this world; and the message came to me as a message from the Heavenly Father, 'Go and preach in My name;' and then from that vast throng a pitiful, pleading cry rolled into my soul as I accepted God's call, 'O why don't you hurry?'"—*Selected.*

O little mission workers, why do you not hurry to send the precious tidings of great joy?—*Dayspring.*

### CURIOUS FACTS OF MANY LANDS.

The children of the poor in Japan are nearly always labeled' in case they should stray from their homes while their mothers are busy.

There are no undertakers in Japan. When a person dies, his nearest relatives put him in a coffin and bury him. The mourning does not begin till after the burial.

### IRONING IN COREA.

White clothing is very commonly worn in Korea, especially by the men. It is also the mourning color. This makes washing and ironing also very common. The gowns are ripped apart, and when ready to iron, the cloth is wound around a long, hard roller. Two women then sit down facing each other, having in each hand a round, hard stick, like a small baseball bat. With these they beat the cloth; rat tat tat! rat, tat, tat! they go, sometimes all night long. This pounding gives the cloth a fine lustre, which is highly prized. Korean cloth must be tougher than ours, or there would not be much left of it after such an ordeal.—*Exchange.*