

"And just as I have often stood and watched  
To see you every morning pass our home,  
I'll stand in Heaven often at the gate,  
And ask the Angel, 'Has my dear Priest come?'  
I wanted so a missionary girl to be,  
But Mamma says God has some work in Heaven for me."

Years passed along; the seed the little hand,  
Had in such child-like faith, yet weakness, sown,  
E'er God had called the little toiler home,  
Had grown into a harvest. Not alone,  
The soul of him she loved was saved: the blessed light  
He carried unto others sitting in the night.

### Prayer for Missions.

Faithful prayer for missions is obedience to a supreme command. "Pray ye therefore" (Matt. xvii. 38), is as imperative as "Go ye therefore" (Matt. xviii. 19). It is but an enlargement of the petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Thy kingdom come." It is offered in the name of Christ and in His Spirit. It is in sympathy with the labors and entreaties of the great apostle of the Gentiles, and will have all the earnestness, perseverance and importunity belonging to that "effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man" which is commended in the Word of God.

"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds." The greatest workers in the Church have borne the strongest testimony to the all-prevailing power of prayer. Luther had, as he said, so much work on hand as to require at least four hours of the day for prayer. Queen Mary feared John Knox's prayers "more than ten thousand men."

It is not possible to measure the efficacy of prayer for missions alone by special instances of conversion or openings for the work which may sometimes be traceable to definite prayers in the Church at home or abroad, yet many such instances exist to confirm our faith. The experience of many missionaries abounds in such tokens. When Dr. Judson, in his last days, was listening to an account, read by his wife, of certain results flowing from his labors, a solemnity fell upon his face, his eyes filled with tears, and in reply to an inquiry for the cause of his emotion, he said that he was overcome both with joy and with awe, for somehow and somewhere he seemed always to have obtained what he prayed for in this work."

The particulars that should interest us in prayer for missions are numerous and varied. Some are alike for all fields.

1. We have the missionary himself, his isolation in heathendom or hardships in pioneer life, exposure to possible martyrdom or to the ills of the climate, the immense difficulties he often has to confront in the social system where he labors, and in his care for his converts. He is always saying, "Brethren, pray for us."

2. The converts from heathenism in their practical ignorance of the Christian life, their exposure to persecution and moral weakness.

3. The Mission schools through which alone the foundation can be thoroughly laid and the superstructure of a Christian society built up.

4. Conversions and the powerful ministrations of the Holy Spirit.

5. Providential openings which now indeed, on a general scale, have been secured in wonderful measure.

6. Reinforcements of thoroughly devoted soul-seeking men and women.

7. Contributions to the missionary treasury, for which there must be increasing need as the work for the 800,000,000 unevangelized grows in opportunity and variety. Large reinforcements and large contributions go together. Everything waits for these. Nearly every corner of the earth is open to evangelical effort. Said an eminent missionary secretary in 1867: "Doing great things for the heathen has ceased to be a question of power; henceforth it is simply a question of will." Let us pray above all for the will to do our part.

## OUR INDIAN STATIONS.

### Godavery Association.

#### A LETTER TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE.

BOYS AND GIRLS,—Were you ever at an Association? No. The big folks go, eh? Well, just get on your things and come with me to this Association. It is held this year with the church in Gunanapudi, 90 miles from Co-canada; 70 miles we go by boat and 20 by bullock carts. There are lots of people going, so the boats will be full, and we must be prepared for some crowding. Four ladies and three children with Bro. Timpany as captain, go on the Canadian. Three gentlemen with Bro. Craig as captain, go by the T. S. Shenston. Besides all these there are about 20 native Christians, preachers, teachers, and students on each boat. The boat goes on a canal, and along the side of this is a good road or a good path most of the way. We tie a long rope to one corner of the top of the boat, four men lay hold of the other end and walking on the road pull it along. They go about two and one-half miles an hour. Each man gets one cent a mile, and would have to pull 100 miles for a dollar! but then a dollar would feed a man nearly a month—not very good food you think—well, I guess most of you would think not if you had to eat it. Coolies (hired men) pulled the first part of the first night. (We started at night). After that Mr. Craig's Christian men pulled till daylight. We could get no coolies, and our men were very tired, so we asked some of the students to pull for a while till we could get men, but some of them thought the work was too mean for them, and refused. We told them the boat would be lighter if they were off, and that their absence would be good company; they went back; the others pulled like good fellows.

About 10 o'clock we reached the Godavery river. There is a great dam across it here which throws the water into the canal on each side. The river is three miles wide. We had to cross with the sail, as there was no place for the men to walk while they pulled. When we were about half way across a storm of wind and rain came up. The wind changed and blew against us; the rain came down in torrents; the boat was being driven down to the dam; the men were tired; the boat was leaking both above and below, and altogether we were in a bad fix. Several times we got stuck on sand-bars, groynes and all other sorts of things. All were out working hard, pushing, shoving, etc., missionaries, preachers, teachers and students—all except me—I had been quite ill all night and was afraid to go out; I had jumped out of bed the night before into three or four inches of water, which had leaked into our boat—that did not help the sickness any—however we got over at last in the evening, and away we went so smoothly, floating with the stream, down the beautiful, swiftly-flowing Ellore canal.