

make known unto you—I send him to you, together with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of yourselves.” “Give my salutations to the brethren in Laodicea and when this epistle has been read among you, cause that it also be read in the church of the Laodiceans and ye also read the epistle that I am sending to Laodicea.”

## II

So the two messengers start for Colossæ, Tychicus to present his epistle to the church, Onesimus to face the master whom he had wronged, carrying with him his precious letter of apology. Here we regretfully bid Onesimus farewell. We should like to know how he turned out afterwards, for Paul had a great belief in the lad. History tells of a bishop of Berea named Onesimus, and some think that he was the former slave. It is only a conjecture.

But Tychicus had another letter to carry and thereby hangs a tale. We have seen that Paul speaks of an epistle to the Laodiceans which he was sending at the same time. Now we have in the Bible no epistle with that title, wherefore many have concluded that it is lost. But we have an extremely important one called the Epistle to the Ephesians. It is rather puzzling, since it has none of the personal references which we should expect in a letter to people whom he knew so well for three years and amongst whom he had such an exciting time. It might have been written to any church. The personal element is quite absent. Some passages look as if he had only a hearsay knowledge of the people. One is inclined to doubt if it was really addressed to the Ephesians.

In addition to this we have statements from sev-