

I will go in the strength of the Lord God.
Psalm lxxi. 15.

GOSPEL AND SONG SERVICE

EVERY SUNDAY EVENING,

AT 8 O'CLOCK.

ALL WELCOME.

THE CHEER OF PRAISE.

Praise the Lord all ye Gentiles; and laud Him,
all ye people."

MUCH of our work for Christ is too barren of all joy and enthusiasm, and we need the cheer of praise. The English ploughboy sings as he drives his team; the Scotch Highlander sings as he labours in glen or moor; the fisherman of Naples sings as he rows; and the vintager of Sicily has his evening hymn. When Napoleon came to a pass in the Alps where the rocks seemed impassible for the ammunition waggons, he bade the leader of the bands strike up an inspiring march, and over the rocks on a wave of enthusiasm went the heavy waggons. Earthly battlefields have resounded with praises from bleeding Christian soldiers, and pain has been forgotten as the lips of the dying have sung, "When I can read my title clear," and "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds." Martin Luther has well said, "The devil cannot bear singing," and we know that David's harp drove the evil spirit out of King Saul.

BIBLE CLASS

FOR S. S. TEACHERS,

Conducted by Mr. S. H. Blake,

EVERY SATURDAY,

AT 4.30 P.M.

Subject—INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

THE GIFT OF GOD.



GWRITER in the *Fountain* said: When I was coming out of a preaching service I saw an old man looking very unhappy. So I said, "My friend, you are not happy." "No," he replied, "I am not." I added, "You are not saved." "No," said he; "I have been praying for it for twenty years." "What!" I said; "praying for it for twenty years! Let me tell you a story, for you remind me of the circumstance: I saw a gentleman the other day who was paralyzed on one side, and was wheeled about in a Bath chair. As he was out one day he saw a poor man sitting by the roadside, afflicted in the same manner, and calling out, 'O, for God's sake, give me a ha'penny!' The rich man told his servant to wheel him over to the poor man. He did so, and the gentleman held out half-a-crown to the beggar. But the man still kept crying, 'O, for God's sake, give me a ha'penny!' He was blind. The gentleman said, 'Here, my poor fellow, is half-a-crown for you.' But the poor man was deaf, and still he kept calling out for a half-penny. The servant wheeled the gentleman nearer: and at last he made the poor man hear, and then he thankfully took the half-crown. Now, my friend, this is just what you are about. God is offering you salvation, as a free gift, through the blood of Jesus Christ; but instead of taking it, and thanking Him for it, and rejoicing in it, you keep on asking for it." "What?" said he, interrupting me, "can I have salvation without asking for it?" "Of course you can," I replied. "The gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord; and the thing to do with a gift is to take it, not to pray that you may have it. 'He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.'" "O, sir: I see it all now!" he exclaimed, and turned away comforted.

Study to shew thyself approved unto God.

2 Tim. ii. 15.