

# Canadian Missionary Link.

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Vol. VII., No. 5.] "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."—Is. lx. 3. [JAN., 1885

## "Abide in Me and I in You."

(JOHN XV.)

How simple and how sweet this word "ABIDE!"  
So plain, that common things its meaning show;  
And yet how oft we reason it away,  
Making a mystery where all is clear,—  
Lord Jesus! let Thy light upon it shine,  
And to these wayside thoughts Thy blessing give!

Where does *the heart* abide? Where trustfully  
Its deep affection's rest—where love long tried,  
Meets with an answering sympathy each thro'p  
Of joy or pain, and strengthens where it soothes.  
No effort needed, satisfied and glad  
In such love it *abides*.

Where does *the child* abide? Where day by day  
With tender, thoughtful care his wants are met;  
From school or play to the dear shelter,  
Well-filled board, warm hearth, and pleasant smile  
He comes—in weariness lies down to rest,  
And knows he is at *home*!

Where does *the labourer* stay? Where labour  
Brings him profit; where he finds the tasks  
Which suit his mind, allotted by a Master  
Kind and good, who pays him well, and works  
Beside him, too. He would not change his place  
But willingly *abides* with such a lord.

O Saviour! Is it so with things of Earth?  
Then teach us by them as we raise our thoughts  
To higher things, how strangely we are drawn  
To *abide* in *Thee*!

O who can utter Thy surpassing Love,  
Great in its sacrifice, its mighty work—  
Divinely strong, yet tender unto tears!  
Thou weepst with us, precious Lord! and dost  
Rejoice when we rejoice. Thy touch is healing  
To our broken hearts; and with our little tales  
Of little things we come to Thee—for Thou  
Dost bend Thine ear to hear unweariedly!  
Then when we silent lie—our hearts awake—  
How lovingly Thou whisperest words of cheer  
And teaching—ever welcoming our trust.  
O what a FRIEND Thou art! we would *abide*  
In conscious fellowship, dear Lord, in Thee!

And is it less a joy in our deep need  
To know that Thy full hand holds the supply?  
We hunger—Thou dost bring the Heavenly food;  
We thirst, and come to Thee for drink. We faint,  
Thine own strong arm sustains us: shelter, rest,  
We find it all in Thee; and as our wants  
Increase, and importantly draws near  
To ask for greater things, Thou dost not chide  
But ever givest more. O what a HOME Thou art,  
Thy poor and needy ones would closer come  
In childlike trust; beneath Thy shadow dwell,  
Drawing their life from Thee!

And shall we not abide with Thee, our LORD!  
Is not Thy service good—a pleasant yoke  
To willing hands and hearts! for Thou dost come  
And work beside us, cheering us in toil  
With whispers of a future glorious reward;  
Whilst giving even now the earnest sweet  
Of Thine approval, for such little acts,  
As seem *not worthy* of Thy thought! Other lords  
In days gone by dominion had o'er us,  
But now, by Thee alone, we mention make  
Of such a name! To know Thy blessed will  
That we may serve Thee more is all we want.  
O what a MASTER art Thou!—We *abide*  
Beneath Thy yoke in calm content and joy.

No mystery now—O Spirit of our God!  
Do Thou Thy work—take of the things of Christ,  
And show them unto us! His heart of Love  
Reveal—and to that Heart attracted, we  
Will closely cling, nor for a moment wish  
From such a Home and such a Lord to stray!

—Selected.

## At Ease in Zion.

"The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea." Yes: "The earth shall be  
full of the knowledge of the Lord." God has said it,  
and His word cannot fail of fulfillment. Neither the  
apathy of professing Christians, nor the wickedness of  
the world, nor the malice of hell can prevent it. His  
kingdom will come. Christ "shall see of the travail of  
His soul and shall be satisfied." And to you, my sister,  
who are doing nothing to evangelize the world, I would  
say, God can afford to do without you. His power and  
His wisdom being infinite He cannot lack means to bring  
about His designs. But can you afford to be idle? Is  
it wise to keep your talent wrapped in a napkin and  
buried in the earth? It may be very little that you are  
able to do, but is not the doing of that little as obliga-  
tory on you as if you could do a great deal? Whatever  
your talent may be, whether time or influence, or intellect,  
or money, or a very small portion of all these, let it no  
longer lie unemployed. Be entreated to exhume it and  
put it out to usury. Else what will you do when God  
riseth up, and when He appeareth what will you answer  
Him? M. L. T. W.

Canning, Nova Scotia.

## Make it Interesting.

"DOUBTLESS, our readers have heard the words before,  
heard them perhaps *ad nauseam*. The quality they com-  
mend was never in more general or urgent demand. On  
every hand, in home and school, in college and club, in  
church and chapel, the advice is given, "Make it inter-