

Our Mission Union,

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Original or selected articles intended for insertion in the paper, should be addressed to ALF. SANDHAM, Editor, at same place.

which has been the boast of Toronto,—an orderly, well-observed Sabbath. But above all, let us resist because we want to be honest. We have no respect for the man who owing all he has or enjoys to the kind provision made by a friend, yet deliberately lays plans for that friend. Such is the attitude of all advocates of Sabbath discretion in any form whatever. To rob God is the meanest kind of robbery.

Still Advancing.

COMMENCING with our next issue, we shall publish a monthly 4 pp. illustrated supplement, to be entitled "Our Young Folks' Mission Union." It is felt that every column of "Our Mission Union" will be required for the choice Gospel articles which have been promised, and for contributions from well-known Christian writers, whose services we expect to enlist. These, with evangelistic items, and seed thoughts for Christian workers, will be served up regularly and in greater abundance than heretofore. But we remember that the younger portion of the community have a claim upon us, and we therefore add these four extra leaves to our Gospel table. We intend, by God's help, that nothing but healthy food shall be served out and the form of service be such as shall induce appetite. In other words, "Our Young People's Mission Union" will furnish "Sincere Milk" for the young, while the leaves of "Our Mission Union" table will be spread with choice tid-bits from the Evangelistic field, combined with an ample supply of "strong meat belonging to them of full age".

"Our Young Folks' Mission Union" will be sent free to all subscribers to "Our Mission Union." It will also be published separately, and will prove a valuable paper for Sunday School and general distribution. With this in view, it will be furnished at the following low rates:—Per year, single copies, 15 cts.; 10 copies for 80 cts., or 8 cts. per copy; 25 copies for \$1.75, or 7 cts. per copy; 50 copies for \$3.25, or 6½ cts. per copy; 100 copies for \$6.00, or 6 cts. per copy.

NUGGETS OF GOLD FROM THE S. S. LESSONS.

By REV. JOHN McEWEN, Secretary S.S. Association of Canada.

[Jan 18.]

Paul's Farewell [Acts 20: 28-38.]

Last Sabbath we saw this Christian Hero calm and steadfast, in view of imprisonment, scourging and death. Counting his life not dear unto himself. The lesson also set forth the spirit of the worker, which is not less important than the work, and to gather it up for permanent use and review, he should be humble, tender, faithful, courageous, self-forgetting and joyful.

Now we have his farewell to the elders at Ephesus.

1. THE CHURCH OF GOD.—This is a precious description of the Church above and below. "A Flock—sharply defined from the fold that is only the enclosure of Flock." Read the revised version of Jno. 10: 16. A flock in many folds to be loved, fed, guided and protected by the One Great Shepherd of the flock.

2. THE ELDERS, OVERSEERS, BISHOPS.—This is a visible, organized and responsible body—with defined duties, and account is to be rendered to God who has given the flock to Christ for He has purchased it with His blood. Note well, the high motive, power and personal example—Paul, v. 33-35—then Christ, with one of His precious sentences rescued from oblivion. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

3. THE FAITHFUL WARNING.—Paul foresees trouble, not only for himself, but for the flock so dear to him. And for which he has made personal sacrifice. Stealthy but devouring enemies from without, unfaithful and disloyal persons within, will bring trouble and danger to the flock. These occasions of danger have not passed away, and in latter days the evils from within are greater than the dangers from without. Watch and beware.

4. THE COMMENDING TO GOD, and to the study of the gracious Word, The promises and privileges it brings. The precepts and ordinances it enforces. "You will see my face no more," FAREWELL. Gen. 31: 49.

[Jan. 25.] Paul Going to Jerusalem. [Acts 21: 1-14.]

1. THE VOYAGE AND ITS RESULTS.—After a very painful separation from the Elders at Ephesus, the apostle and his company set sail from Miletus to Jerusalem. They have a prosperous voyage to Ptolemais, proceeding to Caesarea, and by the good hand of God upon them, they are now in the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the seven deacons, Acts 6: 5, whose ministry is signalized by the instruction and conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch. Acts 8: 26.

It is suggestive to recall that he who at one time drove Philip from Jerusalem, by his persecuting spirit, is now his welcome guest. And we are helped in noting the possible fact, that it was here Luke received much material from Philip, that has been incorporated in the first seven chapters of Acts. Thus the Divine Spirit and Providence conspire to give us the account of the mind of God, and the facts of the Church's early history.

A WEEK'S STAY AT TYRE.—This is a wayside service that enters into casual opportunities, apart from the solemn purpose of going to Jerusalem. The Merchantmanship was unloading. We searched about and found disciples—by the Spirit they also beseech Paul not to go to Jerusalem—but necessity is laid upon him and what a picture. The disciples, men, women and children, convey him to the ship. The prayer and the parting, this is like an open door to see the devotion, sympathy and sincerity of the Primitive Church. "A MISSIONARY FAREWELL."

2. THE PERSONS OF THE LESSONS.—AGABUS—This man is somewhat distinguished by a former prophecy, concerning a famine. Acts. 11: 28, Here he is in the Church at Antioch, and this gave the early Church opportunity to shew their liberality to the suffering Christians in Judea. Now he distinctly foretells the trials that await Paul at Jerusalem, the act of taking Paul's girdle and binding his own hands and feet is symbolic, and an ancient method of foretelling the Divine will. 1 Kings 22: 11 "Thus saith the Holy Ghost." The power of a holy purpose for Christ's sake. "Ready for work or for sacrifice."