

# Our Mission Union.

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## Work Among the Prisons. No. 4.

AN UTMOST SAVIOUR.



SOON after writing last week's article about the Blue Ribbon, I saw at one of our Mission Union meetings a pleasant-looking elderly woman with white hair neatly smoothed over the forehead, who welcomed me with a grateful smile when I addressed her. She commenced to talk at once about the blue ribbon, and said, "Ah, sir, how wonderful are God's ways with us. I never thought to have taken the ribbon when I did. I was just counting the days until I should get out, and I was saving up my little allowances and earnings, determined that I would have a big spree so soon as I was at liberty. I thought God had deserted me, and it didn't matter what I did. But on that night something within me seemed to urge me to put on the blue ribbon, and I all at once determined, with God's help that I would, and He has helped me. I am so happy." This poor woman had for years been just going in and out of jail, and had lived a wretched life; had failed in every effort towards reformation, until

she quite despaired of there being any help for her. She is now working as a nurse, and pleases greatly those that employ her, and has quite a little sum in the Savings Bank. When she spoke of depositing the money, she said, "I have wasted thousands in my life; on one occasion £50 in a single debauch." How glad we all are in the work, that she has Christ Jesus to be an uttermost Saviour.

But the reader will say, "You may tell us of the cases who have reformed, what of the others?" We have, indeed, a sad and dark list. In the great majority of cases the intention of doing better has been genuine, but the grace of God has been absent. I have no hesitation in saying, that with the open dram shops, I do not think that there is any hope of reformation enduring in any except converted men and women. The struggle is terrible between good and evil, but the continuous, never absent temptation of the saloon finally conquers. I could enumerate many cases where for nearly a year, and in some cases for over a year, a respectable position has been maintained by unconverted ones, but the last end of these has been worse than the first. It is awfully sad to see the gradually weakening resolution, the increasing indifference to better things, and then the helpless ones struggling hopelessly in the mire. O, dear reader, pray God that these, too, may look up and find in Jesus, as Mrs. R. did, "an uttermost Saviour."

W. H. H.

**H**ELLOW SINNER! why will you die? There is grace in the heart of God to forgive you in His one and only way. There is power and fullness in His salvation to deliver and keep you, and present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. Now is the accepted time, this the day of salvation.

## OUR WATCHWORDS.

Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe.—Psalm cxix. 117.

I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.—Isaiah xli. 10.