

ning souls, leading us to spend and be spent for Christ. Has the farm, and the lot, and the store, and the house been first, while the closet and the prayer-meeting have been second? If you would win souls, prayer,—important, fervent, believing prayer,—must wing its way to heaven. Then comes action—heartly and vigorous action. For, as the gold digger does not go to sleep on his claim, but earnestly strives to win the treasures hid in the earth, so to win souls demands vigilant and incessant toil. The work is not to be left in the hands of ministers alone. They have a great work, but they are vastly assisted by devoted efforts on the part of Christ's people. Too many think that for the success or failure of Christ's cause they are not responsible. They imagine that the connection they hold with the Church is of a similar nature to that formed with a political association, or a temperance society: forgetting the Divine nature and authority of the institution. Their covenant engagement places them in a solemn position of personal accountability. It was to win souls that Christ appointed a Church. In the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, they shine as lights in the world. Winning souls can never result from a mere perception of what requires to be done. A man almost crushed to death beneath the ruins of a fallen house, is not rescued by a theory as to the weight above him, but by the removal of the load. The sins of the soul can only be removed through the merits of Christ's atoning blood. The truth concerning Jesus must be applied. The word—the instrumentality of man—and the agency of the Divine Spirit are engaged in delivering the soul from death. The Saviour marshalls his soldiers by the cry, let him that loves me follow me; and attracted by his love, and animated by his example, they go forth to win souls to the standard of the cross.

He that winneth souls is wise. A high value set on the profit of this holy enterprise indicates the presence of wisdom from above. For an earthly crown men have covered their names with infamy, but the souls of those redeemed through our instrumentality, become our glory and crown. The tooth of time eats out the story of warlike deeds, although inscribed on monumental marble; but there in the land of glory, is the everlasting memorial of a ransomed sinner. The stars that bedeck the sky may grow dim with age; but should these stars go out in darkness, they that are wise and turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever.

IMPORTANT TO THE CHURCHES.

The period approaches at which the Churches that receive aid from the Missionary Society usually meet to consider what they can do themselves, and to what extent they must be further dependent on its funds. As important modifications of the past course of our Society, are insisted upon by the Colonial Missionary Society, it seems needful that all the members of such churches should know what they are, that efforts and arrangements may be made accordingly. It is supposed that all the members of our Churches read the *Canadian Independent*, hence a convenient channel is afforded through which to have communication with those concerned.

On the transmission to England of our schedule of grants for the current year, a correspondence arose, extracts from which, will place the matter dis-