

NOT LOST ON THE AIR.

A very interesting incident occurred in the early ministerial life of Mr. Spurgeon, and which he verified to the person who made it public. Thirty years ago or more, he was invited to preach in the vast Crystal Palace at Sydenham. Would his voice fill the immense area? Resolving to test it, he went in the morning to the Palace, and thinking for a passage of Scripture to repeat, this as he reached the stage came to mind: "It is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Pronouncing the words, he felt sure that he would be heard, and then repeated the verse in a softer tone. More than a quarter of a century later Mr. Spurgeon's brother, who is also a pastor, was called to the bedside of a man, an artisan, who was near his end.

"Are you ready?" asked the pastor.

"O yes," answered the dying man with assurance.

"Can you tell me how you obtained the salvation of your soul?"

"It is very simple," said the artisan, his face radiant with joy. "I am a plumber by trade. Some years ago I was working under the dome of the Crystal palace, and thought myself entirely alone. I was without God and without hope. All at once I heard a voice coming from heaven which said 'It is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.' By the means of these words I was convinced of sin; Jesus Christ appeared to me as my Saviour. I accepted Him in my heart as such at the same moment, and I have served Him ever since."

God honors His Word. Suppose Mr. Spurgeon had used a secular sentence to try his voice. What surprises await the faithful when results are known.—*The Watchword*.

News from Russia states that three Armenian Protestant missionaries residing in Tiflis have been exiled to Siberia. One of these, who had many followers and pupils, and who had translated the English Bible into two Eastern languages, was extremely popular and had reached the age of sixty years. Just before Easter all three were arrested, imprisoned like criminals, and sent on their way to Siberia.—Pres.

DECAY OF FAMILY LIFE.

An English journal deplors the tendency of modern life to be drawn from home by an endless variety of concerts, lectures, classes, temperance meetings and missions, whereby each member of a family becomes dependent upon external excitement for happiness. They meet only at hurried meals, and an evening at home without an engagement is almost unportable. Concerning a similar state of things in our own country the *Christian Advocate* remarks:

The description of the state of things in London applies to thousands of families in this country. Let it be carefully read, and the happier they will be who do not find in it a description of their ways of living. Wise will those be who, finding it a true description, at once lay the ax of common sense at the root of such a poisonous tree. The division of life into seasons for country and city has much to do with this state of affairs. Churches and societies feel that they have but little time in which to work. Nor is this condition of things confined to cities. The large towns, and even the rural districts, speedily imitate, as far as they can, and reproduce the life of cities. Many a family has no time for morning prayer, the late hours of the preceding night compelling very late rising; and the day begins with hurried dressing, hurried breakfast, and then a rush to business or to school. Do not be driven into such a way of living by fashion, by business, by philanthropy, by the Sunday-school, or even by the church.—*Sel.*

LOOK TOWARD THE LIGHT.

A weary and discouraged woman, after struggling all day with contrary winds and tides, came to her home, and flinging herself into a chair, said:

"Everything looks dark, dark."

"Why don't you turn your face to the light, aunty dear?" said a little niece who was standing near.

The words were a messenger from on high, and the weary eyes were turned towards Him who is the light and the life of men, and in whose light alone we see light.

One of the sayings of the old Jewish rabbi, was "God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers!"