

Our Mission Union.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1884. NO. 3.



Work Among the Prisons. No. 2.

CHARLOTTE,—a bright eyed, but plain featured little woman, brimming over with good nature and impulsiveness. I just wondered how she ever came to such a place. The old story, evil home associations and the drink, the drink. Every one that spoke to her liked her, and we were all greatly anxious for her conversion, but while she listened attentively we could never see that her heart was touched by the love of Jesus. Still we were hopeful that when she got out she would do better. But then she had not been out for a fortnight before the old habits re-asserted themselves, and our next glimpse of Charlotte was of a poor, limp, dishevelled creature, showing the marks of the terrible enemy of the poor and weak—liquor.

One day, some months after her discharge, I got a note asking me to call and see a dying woman, a former inmate of the Reformatory. At her bedside was Charlotte acting as nurse. After I had spoken to the sick woman, I turned to Charlotte and to my pleased surprise found that she was quite sober. In answer to questions she told me that "Tom" got her to quit drinking for a fortnight past, and then she confidentially informed me that "Tom" wanted to marry her. As Tom was in the next room I had a talk with him, and found him to be a good, solid, laboring fellow, evidently very fond of Charlotte. I strongly advised her to accept his offer, which she did. Our dear friend, Rev. Mr. K—, of —, having just been ordained, he per-

formed (for the first time) the ceremony. The newly married couple, although living at the other end of the town, became regular attendants at the Chestnut Street Mission Bible Class and shortly after their marriage were both converted. A brighter christian than Charlotte could scarcely be found. Her first and last word generally is: "Oh, I am so happy, and so is Tom." As for Tom, though he earns his bread by the hardest laboring work, he is a most earnest Christian man. Early as he has to go out he never leaves in the morning without gathering his household (for they have adopted a little boy) for prayer and reading of God's word. Little light face came to me the other day, and she said: "You know Tom wants to be doing something for the Master, and he thought that we might take a large house, and take in the poor girls that are discharged from the Reformatory, afford them a safe place to stay and work in, free from the temptations that beset them so fiercely on their first coming out. We don't want to make anything, but to do good." This was the very thing we had been praying for most earnestly, and so we gladly encouraged little Charlotte in her proposal, thanking Tom when we next met him for his good suggestion. He declined the credit, saying that it was all Char's. doing, when she replied briefly, "but I told you true, for are we not both one." I believe our good Lord will greatly use these two earnest souls for this work in bringing in the poor and the lost to the happy knowledge of His salvation.

W. H. H.

God's Terms.

IF there be one thing more plain than another in Scripture, it is this—that neither the procuring of pardon, the obtaining of salvation, nor possessing a title to heaven, ever was, or can be, a matter of bargain or merchandise.

OUR WATCHWORDS.

Whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.—Mark viii. 34.

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the Gospel's, the same shall save it.—Mark viii. 35.