

From degradation dire and sin supreme,
 The warm sun laves the sunny Southern Isles,
 Sweet breezes blow and laughing nature smiles;
 But the blue heavens look down on foulest crime
 Whose records blacken all the book of Time;
 And ever pain and wretchedness increase,
 While all unknown the gentle Prince of Peace.
 "The Isles shall wait for Him!" How long? How long.
 O Christians, ere the glad triumphal song,
 "The Heathen have been given unto Him;
 "The lustre of His name shall never dim;
 "His vast dominion is from sea to sea;
 "Our Christ is King, and shall forever be!"
 While the whole world redeemed from Satan's thrall
 Exults to crown our Saviour, Lord of all!

Baltimore.

BAND WORK.

At the first Annual meeting of the W. M. S. of the Methodist churches of St. John, N. B., held in Portland St. church in March (hereafter to be held in the Autumn) one very interesting part of the programme was the reading of three minute papers by leaders of Bands, on:

"Histories of Mission Bands and discussion of their modes of work."

As we are so often asked for help on this subject we purpose to cull from these papers any new ideas or whatever we think will aid in this good work.

EXTRACTS FROM PAPERS.

"Different means have been taken to make the meetings interesting; such as, having each member recite a verse of scripture on paying the membership fee; or tell the various ways in which the money had been earned; a programme of readings, recitations or solos; a lesson or talk on one of the Mission fields. Members write letters to Foreign and Home Missions, also to other Mission Bands, and the answers are read at the meetings. Since the first of the year the Field Study in PALM BRANCH has been taken up, which is both interesting and instructive.

JESSIE CHIPMAN M. B.

North End.

We subscribe for twenty copies of the PALM BRANCH and find it very helpful. The children take great interest in the puzzles, one member is appointed to put them on the blackboard, while the others guess the answers. Another interesting exercise is to divide the Band and appoint a captain for each side, give them a number of Bible questions and see which side will answer most. We also have a Birthday Box, which is presented at every meeting, and anyone who has had a birthday, during the week, is supposed to drop in as many cents as they are years old, while the Band sings: "Hear the pennies dropping."

Carmarthen St.

CHEERFUL TOILERS.

MISSION BAND WORK.

THE PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MISSION BAND WORKERS.

OUR privileges, as workers for God in the Mission Band, are inestimable. If used aright, these privileges will prove a blessing to us, an open door to the Master's service, a little niche wherein those who

"Cannot cross the ocean and the heathen lands explore," may be doing real missionary work for the Lord, in teaching the children how to work for Him in His vineyard. In the Mission Band work we are instilling the first principles of missionary education into the minds of the rising generation, laying the foundation on the Rock which cannot be moved. But the crowning privilege is that God allows us to be co-workers with Him; the privilege of helping carry out the plans of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, whose kingdom reigneth over all, whose banner over us is love. "For we are laborers together with God; ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building," 1 Cor. 3-9. If we are trying to do God's work in His strength, He can bring our mistakes and even our seeming failures to work for His glory.

On the other hand, these privileges if rejected and treated with indifference, bring upon us a great responsibility. If we neglect these golden opportunities, it were far better for us to have never had them. "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Ont.

(To be continued.)

A. B. C.

ONE BY ONE.

"The Cheerful Toilers Mission Band of Carmarthen Street Church has met with a great loss through the death of one of its little "Toilers," Ella V. (Nellie) Seymour. She was always in her place at the meetings—always ready to do her part, whatever it might be, and was anxious for the prosperity of the Band. She was taken suddenly ill, Friday, July 3rd. Physicians were called in, and pronounced it Diphtheria, and gave no hope of her recovery. She expressed a desire to live until Sunday. God heard her little prayer, and permitted her to live until 9 o'clock Sunday morning, July 5th. She was only twelve years old, but was a member of the Church and Sunday School, and left a wonderful testimony behind. She said she was "going to a beautiful place, to be with Christ, and be seated on His throne;" wanted her loved ones to live good lives, so that they would meet her bye and bye; said "she would like to live for Papa and and Mama's sake," but that she was "satisfied." She also prayed for the girls engaged in temperance work. Our hearts are overwhelmed with grief by the great loss, but we know that our loss is her eternal gain."

So they leave us—our dear little Workers! "One by one they are gathering home." They go from the work *here* to the work *there*. Can we doubt it? "Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"