

CANON WILBERFORCE'S PRAYER.

Lord, for to-morrow and its needs
I do not pray ;
Keep me, my God, from stain of sin
Just for today.

Let me both diligently work
And truly pray ;
Let me be kind in word and deed,
Just for today.

Let me no wrong or idle word,
Unthinking say ;
Set Thou a seal upon my lips,
Just for today.

From Thy Commandments, gracious Lord,
May I not stray,
But faithful and obedient prove,
Just for today.

So, for to-morrow and its needs,
I do not pray,
But keep me, guide me, love me, Lord,
Just for today.

"THE LONGED-FOR LEADER."

CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER NUMBER.

You must be a "Leader." It is not a leader's place to do all the work herself. It is hers to direct, suggest, plan, control. Therefore, every member of the Band can be utilized to further the success of the work. In its spiritual exercises, programmes, visiting, etc., each member can be made useful. Let the Leader arrange for her work and workers, previous to coming to the meeting, and except for the time and work spent in organizing, planning and directing, the carrying out of the work need not altogether devolve upon her. The members will feel all the more in love with and loyal to the cause, if they find they are needed for its advancement. But great care should be taken that the work be properly distributed, and to do this the Leader must know the members.

Therefore, be the *Friend* of each member in the Band. A child soon knows who cares for it. Your loving sympathy and helpfulness will soon win the heart of every member in the Band. It does not require great acts for you to prove your love to them. A visit, if one is ill ; a willing ear to listen to their troubles ; a kind word of advice or warning ; all will show that each individual is dear to your heart. And when you have won their confidence, respect and love, you will find willing feet to run with messages, ready hands to perform the tasks, loving hearts to sacrifice for the cause so dear to you all.

Let me here mention a few things that will help in the closing up of a successful year's work : Aim to have every member's fee paid as soon as possible after the beginning of the year ; keep the mite-box giving before the members—not that a few cents be placed in the box at the close of the year, but encourage them to small sacrifices on some true basis, such as that of the beautiful true story that comes into our Auxiliary this year. It will do you all good to know it.

In a dingy, back-room, without even the necessaries of life and none of its luxuries, sits a little crippled creature. Deformed from birth—without any power to use hands or feet—two bright eyes look out from a massive head, where, thank God, the reason is clear and bright to realize God's love and care for her. To this sister was given a mite-box. Some one now and then would give Nellie a cent for candy, for though a woman in years she is a child in many ways. She loves the bits of sweets, but some lady had told her of her heathen sisters far away, and she is bright enough to grasp the fact, that life without Christ would be sad indeed. What could poor Nellie do without the Saviour? So the poor trembling, shrunken hand drops the penny into the box, and each mite is a golden coin in the Master's sight. Sixty-seven golden coins ; they will soon be performing their mission. May we not hope great things from such a source? Only sixty-seven black coppers, but golden with the victory over self, that each represents ;

"Tis not what we give, but what we share.
For the gift without the giver is bare."

You, dear Leader, will strive to keep up the membership, by visitation, and enquiry after absent members. You need not always go yourself, your willing workers will often run on such an errand for you. Having your visiting committee, this work will be well and faithfully done.

Dear Band Leader, set apart for this year to be the Leader our cause has longed for, it means toil and self-sacrifice on your part, but the reward will be great, if, at the end of the year, you see God's blessing on your labors in the group of earnest, loyal, loving workers for Christ, whose toil and gifts are commensurate with their love.

How beautifully Whittier expresses the true, loving service :

Hands that open but to receive
Empty close. They only live
Richly, who can richly give.

Love that self-forgetful gives,
Sows surprise of ripened sheaves,
Late or soon his own receives.

In closing let me say, that, in order to make your Band a success for this one year, if it be possible, lay aside all that interferes with the devoting of yourself and time to that purpose. The failure of many is often due to overcrowded hands and minds.

The yoke is easy, and the burden is light for all who have with them the Christ of God. If He is thy Leader, Teacher, Friend, thou canst not help but be the Leader "beloved and longed for."

M. LOUISE D'ORSAY.

St. John, N. B, Sept. '97.