



HE singing by the Union Station Choir is excellent, and during our visit recently to many places in the Dominion, and beyond it, we have heard it highly praised. We hope that our friends will rally to our meeting there at 3 p.m. every Sunday.

### ONLY A BRAKEMAN.

Only a brakeman! killed by the train;  
Only a brakeman! by accident slain.  
Onward, rush onward, no time for delay;  
Blow the shrill whistle and hasten away.

Only a brakeman! cries the wild throng;  
Only a brakeman! been called by death's gong.  
Why should the eye glisten? Why should the heart ache?

'Tis only a brakeman who's set his last brake.

Only a brakeman! is flashed through the air;  
Only a brakeman! for his body prepare;  
On the morrow 'tis shipped as poor common freight—

As only a brakeman who has gone to his fate.

Only a brakeman! the editors write;  
Only a brakeman! 'twas late in the night,  
He was doing his duty—the train broke in two,  
When down to his death, the brakeman fell through.

Only a brakeman! but the pride of some heart;  
Only a brakeman! but in some busy mart  
Are eyes that are weeping, and homes that are hushed,

Becare a poor brakeman was yesterday crushed.

Only a brakeman! but a true-hearted boy,  
Only a brakeman! but some mother's joy,  
For whom there's no muffle for the coarse iron wheel

That grinds on her heart as on the grooved steel.

—Everett A. Budd.

### HOW THE RAILROAD WORK BEGAN.



IN the *Y.M.C.A. Watchman* the following short sketch is given of the inception of the Railroad work, a bit of history that is of general interest now that this work has grown to be one of the most important branches of Association effort.

Christian work among railway men commenced at Cleveland, Ohio, in the year 1870. A prayer meeting was inaugurated in one of the offices in the Union Passenger Depot. Five or six employes, Christian men, met one night in the week after train hours. This was continued for a number of months during that year. One Sunday morning an accident occurred to one of the men. He was being carried on a stretcher through the depot. Two citizens who saw the man asked who he was. The answer came. "He is a railroad man." Other inquiries were made of these two citizens as to who the injured man was, they replied, "He is only a railroad man." This remark made in the presence of the injured man's comrades, caused one of the railroad boys to stop and think. He finally made up his mind that something should be done for railway men. Upon his own responsibility a city pastor was invited to preach to the railway men in the waiting room of the depot the following Sunday. Permission was granted, the boys notified, and Rev. Win. H. Goodrich, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, preached.

The attendance was large and the meeting interesting. For a number of Sabbaths the meeting was conducted either by delegations from the Cleveland Young Men's Christian Association or by one of the city pastors. Near the close of the year 1871, the chief train-despatcher of the Lake Shore Railway was converted in these meetings, and at once inquired, "Why cannot something be done for the railway men in our depot? Where three roads center and we have a large number of young men that are not reached, why cannot something be done?" Mr. Lang Sheaff, then Secretary of the Cleveland Association, with their President, H. A. Sherwin, called upon J. H. Dev-