

[For OUR MISSION.]

"WHOSOEVER WILL." Rev. 22 : 17.

"NOW is the Accepted Time."

2 Cor. 6 : 2.

"Whosoever will" may come,
Jesus calls to-day ;
"Whosoever will" may come,
Open is the way,
Jesus calls, in joy and gladness,
Jesus calls, in care and sadness,
Jesus calls us now—to-day.
"Whosoever will."

"Whosoever will" may come,
Open is the gate ;
"Whosoever will" may come,
No one needs to wait.
Jesus calls from sin and sorrow,
Calls us to a bright to-morrow,
Jesus calls us now—to-day.
"Whosoever will."

"Whosoever will" may come,
There is naught to pay ;
"Whosoever will" may come,
Freely come to day.
Jesus calls us now to come,
To pardon, blessing, peace, and home,
Jesus calls us now—to-day.
"Whosoever will."

KATIE.

[For OUR MISSION.]

A Voice from a Jail Bird.

BY THE REV. T. BONE.

A JAIL Bird, what is that? Why, don't you know my friend? It is a man or woman who has broken the laws of our country, or who has been arrested on suspicion, and is kept in jail to await trial, and all over our country, every county has its cage or jail, and though they are clean and warm, yet it is a hard thing to be deprived of liberty, and to be locked up at night like so many wild beasts in a menagerie. These are some of the pay houses where men and woman get an instalment of their wages for *serviug Satan*. As I travel about in the winter, I visit a large number of these cages and tell the poor jail birds of something better than "*sin's wages*." The gift of God—eternal life in Jesus. And many have never heard of that gift before. They had been told that if they were good they would go to Heaven, but if they were bad that they would go to Hell. Some have heard of the sweet story of old, of Jesus and his love, but have wandered away, got caught in the snare of bad company, done something wrong, found out and put in jail, where they get time to reflect on their past lives, and by God's grace are sometimes brought back again to the paths of righteousness. I would like to tell of one who may be called the

Prodigal restored. In the middle of January last, I visited St. Thomas, paid two visits to the jail. (I may say that I am always courteously received by the jailor and allowed the privilege of seeing the prisoners whenever I call during the day.) Among one of these prisoners was one who seemed to be about the middle of life. He sat and listened with marked attention, and as I was coming away he warmly grasped my hand and with the tear in his eye said, "I thank you for coming and for what you have said to us, and by the grace of God I am resolved to lead a new life, for I am a backslider, I know better. He told me his name, and as I felt deeply interested in him, I wrote a letter full of Christian counsel and also sent a number of tracts to him, which he thankfully acknowledged, also expressing his gratitude for having helped him back to the fold again. He writes as follows :

"Dear Friend,—I received your books, tracts; also, your letter. With much pleasure I read them all. I remember you daily at the throne of grace, and I have no doubt that you are doing the same for me and my family. As you wished to know where I was brought to a knowledge of the truth, I may tell you that it was in Scotland, when a young lad of 19 years old. My father was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, always gave me good counsel, so did my dear old mother. I will never forget one night after I went to Edinburgh, I went into Crubber's Close Mission. I heard a man like yourself speak from the text, 'How often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, but ye would not.' These words came home to me in great power. I took pleasure in meeting with God's people, would take part in prayer meetings. I was young and simple at that time ; but I am sorry to say that I have fallen away from my first love since I came to this country ; but God has not left me ; He is making all things work for my good, I have handed all my affairs over to Him, who is 'mighty to save.' I leave it all with Him, 'not my will but Thine be done.' I am getting old and not very strong, but it is all in good hadd, no difficulties in any case can baffle Him ; no crookedness or deformity in any of our past development can in the least mar His perfect work that He will accomplish if we will only put ourselves absolutely into His hands and let Him have His own way with us. His gracious promise assures us of a welcome: "I will receive you graciously, and love you freely for mine anger is turned away." I sometimes feel downhearted, but still I will trust. I have times of sweet fellowship with Jesus in my cell. Pray for me that I may be kept from falling when I go out again into the world. I shall be glad to hear from you again."

Is not this experience a true commentary on the text, "Take heed lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God." It also magnifies the wondrous grace and long suffering of God in watching over and bringing back His wandering one. May none despair of being received