

PREFACE.

In editing this MAGAZINE, I have in view three special objects.

I. To provide a medium by which our christian soldiers and sailors may be kept in communication with each other, and may know what is being done by members of their honorable earthly services, in a still more honorable heavenly service; also to afford me an opportunity of saying many things to my friends who have as yet contented themselves with the earthly service, but whom I would fain recruit into the ranks of a Divine Commander.

II. To inform the christian public of what the Lord is doing in the mission which He has privileged me to begin in Nova Scotia under the title of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home and to make christian civilians better acquainted with their brethren who wear the truly honorable, but hitherto, too often despised uniform of our Queen. As I am constantly receiving very interesting communications from soldiers' and sailors' in different parts of the world, I purpose inserting such as are suitable for publication in these pages, and besides expect to give to the public many articles contributed by men of various ranks in our army and navy, which will doubtless prove interesting not only to their comrades in uniform, but to all who may read our monthly.

III. To enlarge the sphere of my personal labors, by maturing a plan of evangelization among the English and foreign merchant seamen, entirely apart and distinct from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, which must necessarily be kept solely for the use of the Royal Services. This subject will be found treated more circumstantially in the article in the present No. "What can be done for our merchant seamen?"

Finally, This MAGAZINE is sent forth with the prayer of faith that God may be pleased to own it in the effectual calling of His chosen, and in the more entire separating from the world of those whom He has already called out of darkness into His marvellous light. And with my whole heart do I desire that He will not permit its publication to succeed beyond what shall accord with the truth of His Holy Word.

In commencing this new effort to spread the knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ, I would solemnly ask of every child of God who may read these pages to pray that grace may be given me to declare "the whole counsel of God," not yielding to friend or foe, but only

"LOOKING UNTO JESUS."