

Treasure in Heaven.

BY JOHN O. SAMP.

EVERY coin of earthly treasure  
We have lavished upon earth,  
For our simple worldly pleasure,  
May be reckoned something worth:  
For the spending was not losing,  
Though the purchase were but small;  
It has perished with the using:  
We have had it—that is all.

All the gold we leave behind us  
When we turn to dust again,  
Though our avarice may blind us,  
We have gathered quite in vain;  
Since we neither can direct it,  
By the winds of fortune tossed,  
Nor in other worlds expect it:  
What we hoarded, we have lost.

But each merciful oblation—  
Seed of pity wisely sown,  
What we gave in self-negation,  
We may safely call our own;  
For the treasure freely given  
Is the treasure that we hoard,  
Since the angels keep in heaven  
What is lent unto the Lord!

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Home and School

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 8, 1888.

REMEMBER  
THE  
**S. S. AID COLLECTION**  
OR  
**REVIEW SUNDAY,**  
SEPTEMBER 30TH.

This collection, it will be remembered, is ordered by the General Conference to be taken up in each and every Sunday-school in the Methodist Church; and the Review Sunday, in September, is recommended as the best time for taking it up. This fund is increasing in usefulness, and does a very large amount of good. Almost all the schools comply with the Discipline in taking it up. In a few cases, however, it is neglected. It is very desirable that every school should fall into line. Even schools so poor as to need help themselves are required to

comply with the Discipline in this respect, to be entitled to receive aid from the fund. Superintendents of Circuits and Superintendents of Schools will kindly see that—in every case—the collection is taken up. It should, when taken up, be given in charge of the Superintendent of the Circuit, to be forwarded to the District Financial Secretaries, who shall transmit the same to the Conference Sunday-school Secretary, who shall, in turn, remit to Warring Kennedy, Esq., Toronto, the lay-treasurer of the fund. The claims on this fund are increasing faster than the fund. We need a large increase this year to even partially meet the many applications made. Nearly 600 new schools have been started in the last three years by means of this fund. No fund of this comparatively small amount is doing more good.

Work of the Sabbath-school Aid and Extension Fund.

The Editor of the *Sunday-school Banner* performs also the duties of Secretary of the Sunday-school Board of the General Conference, and Executive Administrator of the Sunday-school Aid and Extension Fund. During the last quadrennium, this fund had made over 950 distinct grants to poor schools, involving a correspondence of over 3,000 distinct communications. With each of these schools a distinct account is kept, and credit given for the partial payments on grants.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

The following are extracts from a few only out of several hundreds of letters received by the Secretary of the Sunday-school Board, showing the nature of the operations of the Sabbath-school Aid Fund, and the character of the benefits it confers. It will be observed that these schools are doing all they can to help themselves, and to pay back part or the whole of the grant given by the S. S. Board.

From New Brunswick: "I cannot find words to express the welcome which these papers meet in the schools, and also in the homes from which no scholars can come, for surplus numbers from one independent school are promptly distributed in the course of my pastoral visitation."

A missionary in Manitoba writes: "Please find enclosed \$6.00, from the Sabbath-school at Stoney Creek. This is one of the mission-schools I formed this year, and to which you gave books and papers: and I am sure that if you could see the avidity with which these are read, and know the good that they are doing, you would be more than gratified."

A brother in British Columbia writes: "There has not been much done in Sabbath-school work on this mission before this year. The greater part of the scholars are half-breeds, and their parents care nothing about Sabbath-school work. Many of them

are worse than Indians. If you can help us still further, I will try and start one or two more schools in the spring. This mission is over two hundred miles in length, and we can only get a few scholars in a place; but we must do what we can to save them. Although a very hard field, we rejoice that the work of God is making some advancement."

Another missionary writes: "To those scholars and teachers who go on the Labrador, we shall send papers, etc., during the fishing season, so as to keep them supplied with profitable reading matter."

A minister in New Brunswick writes: "These precious papers are about the only religious literature ever put into some of these homes. This fund is as truly a mission fund as that which bears the name. Favoured ministers of independent schools and churches, composed from homes of intelligence, little know how hard the work is in uplifting children and adults where parents, because poor, will not spend a cent in religious literature."

Another missionary, in Newfoundland, writes: "The poverty here is extreme. For three years the fisheries have failed, and it is very difficult to earn any money. The teachers in these schools are working very faithfully; and last summer a large number of our people went to Labrador, and we had some of the Sunday-school papers sent down to them, for the benefit of the scholars, teachers, and parents. And they gave them to others—sailors, fishermen, and others who resort thither. I am sorry to say, that many children are not able to attend school this winter for the want of clothing; but we have a large number of young men and women who are coming in to learn to read God's holy Word."

Another missionary, in Newfoundland, writes: "The papers come with surprising regularity, and afford infinite pleasure to the children. In some of the poorer homes, no other literature—periodical or otherwise—is ever seen. The parents con the papers almost as eagerly as the youngsters. Our enterprising Canadian Church is doing a grand work, in the gratuitous distribution of healthy literature for juvenile capacities. We sincerely hope that the present generous grant may be continued after the current half-year closes. With many thanks on behalf of one hundred and fifty delighted children."

A missionary in Newfoundland writes: "The papers are a great boon to us. They are eagerly sought after by adults as well as children, and eternity alone will reveal the amount of good done by them. Methodism has a hard fight here. The people dare not attend a Methodist service, or allow the Methodist minister to pray in their houses, on pain of expulsion from the sacrament, which to them is the same as locking heaven against them. But if they cannot

take the gospel from the "preacher" in the usual way, they will gladly take it in the shape of *Pleasant Hours*, or *Home and School*, or *Happy Days*, and the simple message, told so simply and beautifully, attracts and impresses them. When going about among these people, I have often thanked God that I had papers that I could give them so full of the gospel message."

A missionary on the Island of Grand Manan, N.B., writes: "I am thankful to be able to report that God is blessing our efforts to win the young people of our village for Christ. Several of our Sabbath-school pupils have become active members of our Church. Praise the Lord! We feel exceedingly grateful to you for the generous aid you have already rendered us. Your Sabbath school publications are considered by all classes here superior to any extant, as far as we know. You are doing a glorious work for the youth of our fair dominion."

A minister at Lion's Head, writes: "Our school is the only Methodist Sunday-school on this large mission, and a few of its teachers are very earnest to maintain it both winter and summer. Your papers are highly valued, and anxiously looked for; and, in my opinion, are a credit to the cause of Methodism, being of a very exceptional order of merit."

An enthusiastic missionary writes from New Brunswick: "I organized a Methodist Sabbath-school at W—, where our blessed cause has been persecuted so much. The school has all the appearance of a glorious success. Up to date I have collected back numbers of your *soul-stirring* papers, which I have given to the scholars—even the *old* papers have worked up an interest. Thank God! I expect the new ones to influence many to gather into our schools. We have to contend with the diabolical elements of infidelity and mormonism. By this you may form an idea of our opposition; but we find, that 'He that is for (and with) us, is stronger than all who can be against us.'"

Another superintendent writes: "We live on poor land. Some have hard work to get enough to live on; but we try to do what we can. We are thankful for your help, that our young people may have something to help them to live aright. They would rather read those little papers than big books."

LITTLE three-year-old Harry loves to gather flowers, so one day, while his Aunt Ellen was there on a visit, he brought in some "Sweet Williams" and held them up to her, saying: "Aunty, I couldn't find only two Uncle Williams."

A "POLITE" MAN.—"A polite man," said the Duc de Meruy, "is one who listens with interest to things he knows all about when they are told by a person who knows nothing about them."