

# MISSION UNION

THE FIELD IS THE WORLD  
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BE NOT WEARY  
IN WELL DOING.



## The Ministry of Old Clothes.



UCH is the title of a pamphlet recently received by us from England. We wondered at first what could be the subject matter of such a pamphlet. We therefore carefully read it, and found that it referred to a special branch of the Mission work carried on in London, by the Congregational Union. In view of the fact that there is a similar department of work in connection with the Toronto Mission Union, we reprint some portions of the article, hoping that the Lord may use them to show some persons a way by which they may help the work.

"Well, here we are in the storeroom, and a rapid glance round shows us that while every thing is methodically arranged, there is no needless expenditure in the way of fixtures. Tea-chests, packing cases, hampers, and other original "hold-alls," are so arranged as to meet almost all that is required. And there is no waste. Even the bits of string are carefully saved and are made to do double duty when the exodus of old clothes takes place. But stop! we are thinking only about *old clothes!* "What is the meaning of these bundles of garments?" Strong shirts for men, warm garments for women, cosy little things for children.

"Then the superintendent proceeds to tell us how these things have been repaired and remade.

"We listen with increasing interest to the "Old Clothes' Stories"—how a cricketing suit proved the very thing for part of an outfit for Australia; how the cast-off suit of a well known Member of Parliament made a wonderful transformation in a man who was down in the world; how a literary man was materially helped by under-clothing and a special suit which the original owner had outgrown; how a light summer suit stood a baker in good stead; and how another suit was forthcoming at the very nick of time to help a deserving man to obtain permanent employment.

"The Ministry of Old Clothes" would furnish material for several volumes, if we were to allow ourselves to follow up the cases. During the past twelve months over 8,000 garments have been sent out on