

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance — 1 Tim. i. 15.

## Our Mission Union,

ISSUED ON THE FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Subscription Rates, per year, (post paid).

Single Copy, 50 cts.; Six Copies, \$2.50; Ten Copies, \$3.50; Twenty-five Copies, \$7.50; Fifty Copies, \$13.50; One Hundred Copies, \$22.00; Five Hundred Copies, \$100.00.

All communications regarding subscriptions, or for books advertised in the Publisher's Column, to be addressed, S. R. BRIGGS, Toronto Willard Tract Depository, Toronto Canada.

Original or selected articles intended for insertion in the paper, should be addressed to ALF. SANDHAM, Editor, at same place.

### Something Practical.



FEW days ago the Editor received the following letter, which speaks for itself:—

Dear Mr. S.,—I was reading the paper, of which you are editor (namely, the MISSION UNION) and while doing so the good Spirit touched my heart, and caused me to say within myself, "Cannot I do something to help those who are giving their time for the Master?" I will this year give \$25, payable in monthly instal-

ments, to be used in Mission work, and shall forward the amount to you first of every month.

We trust that the Spirit of God may touch others to go and do likewise. We fear there are many who wait, hoping to be able to give a large sum at some future day. Friend, don't wait. You may never be able, and if able, may not be willing. You can now give something, and if the heart be in the gift, it will be as acceptable to God as larger sums. Remember, when Jesus sat over by the treasury, and watched the givers, we are told He watched HOW, not WHAT they gave.

### OUR COLUMN FOR PREACHERS AND TEACHERS.

NUGGETS OF GOLD FROM THE S. S. LESSONS.

By REV. JOHN McEWEN, Secretary S.S. Association of Canada.

May 17.] Christian Contentment. (Phil. iv. 4-13.)

Paul has been four years a prisoner awaiting the issue; Death or Freedom. He has been cheered by the contribution from the poor Christians at Philippi; and this letter of acknowledgment rings with rapture.

#### THE CHRISTIAN'S EXPERIENCE.

"Rejoice in the Lord always, Again I say Rejoice." vs. 10. This is the key note of the letter. Phil. i. 18, 26. Happiness depends on outside circumstances, that happen to our lot; but joy from within—Christian joy—is from Christ as its source. Jno. xv. 11.

This joy enables us to manifest forbearance—and gentleness under wrong—so much experienced by the early

Christians. vs. 5. See it in Jesus. 1 Pet. ii. 23; Jno. viii. 48. Willing to wait for the Lord's appearing.

This forbearance, or gentleness, will lift us above over care, or worthless worry. Turn up and ponder Psal. xviii. 35, 36. Peace will flow like a river broad and deep—fresh and full.

#### THE CHRISTIAN'S STANDARD.

The strong elements of character—Truth, Honour, Justice, Purity. The lovely elements of character—Gentleness, Sweetness, Kindness, Lowliness. Think on these things—realize these things—do them. Along these lines Paul reached the secret of his Contentment vs. 11, 12. The key that gives entrance to all is—"In Christ that strengthened me.

May 24.] The Faithful Saying. (1 Tim. i. 15-20; ii. 1-15.)

Paul in his care for the larger interests of churches does not forget individuals. Here is a letter to Timothy, read it through. Children are ready to believe everything—adults are prone to be slow of belief about everything—but here is a saying worthy of acceptance by all—and of all acceptance—"Christ Jesus, came into the world, to save sinners, OF WHOM I AM CHIEF."

Worthy of immediate acceptance—because needed by all—suitable for all—available to all, and effective to all who receive Christ. All are sinners—not merely an article of the CREED—but a fact of the CONSCIOUSNESS all in some degree know and feel they are sinners

PROGRESS IN KNOWLEDGE OF SIN—and in humility. Gal. i. 1, written A. D. 54; 1 Cor. xv. 9, written A. D. 57; Eph. iii. 8, written A. D. 61; our lesson written A. D. 66. In saving the chief of sinners, God can and will save you. vs. 16. The salvation of Paul is a pattern or sample of what Divine grace does accomplish. Believe on Him unto Eternal life, and you will enter into the Benediction. vs. 17. Then be a good soldier of Christ. vs. 19. Take as wide an interest in all men as the love of God, and the death of Christ for men.

May 31.] Paul's Charge to Timothy. (2 Tim. iii. 14-17; iv. 1-8.)

Read this second letter to Timothy—believed to be the last written by Paul—he is no longer in a prison at large—but in the dungeon—treated as a criminal—filled with expectation of death—and in the cold damp prison he wishes for the cloak left at Troas. Calling for Timothy to come to him if possible, only Luke, of former friends is with him.

PAUL'S CHARGE IS BASED UPON THE SUFFICIENCY and EXCELLENCY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

for salvation and power in a holy life. vs. 15, 16, 17. One whole, united living Book. Heb. x. 7. One abiding central fact. John v. 39, 46. "Wells of salvation." Isa. xlii. 3; from which Christ draws for us. Ignorance of this Book is wandering. Matt. xxii. 29.

THE USES OF SCRIPTURE TO THE EQUIPPED WORKER. vs. 16, 17.

For "Reproof"—not personal reproof—but refutation of error. For "Doctrine"—the matter to be pondered and intelligently grasped. For "Correction"—setting the mind and the life right. For instruction in Righteousness—building up in right ways of living—and in a right character.

PROGRESS BY REPETITION AND PATIENT CONTINUANCE. vs. 14, 15.

The matters in which Timothy had been instructed in childhood were to be held firmly—and proclaimed boldly.