

Our Mission.

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account of their sins; some jesting and playing, others shouting "Hallelujah." Here thieves, prostitutes, people of every class, several men of distinction, a few of the learned merchants, and numbers of poor people who had never entered a place of worship, *assembled in crowds and BECAME GODLY.*"

The italics are ours. In other words, the chief and only business at these gatherings was to *save souls*; and in this *they were successful*. This largely accounts for the opposition manifested. The world is no more friendly to Jesus to-day than it was eighteen centuries ago; and so long as the Army, by the grace of God attending its work, makes inroads upon the ranks of the world and Satan, so long will the world and Satan oppose.

Personally, we believe that God is with the Army: therefore we have no doubt as to its success in the future, so long as the glory of God is kept in view. That the men at the head of the movement have but that one aim in view, is evident from the tone of the letters of General Booth, (in the *English War Cry*), and of the Commissioner, Major Coombs, in command of the Canadian forces. In his last report of the work in Canada, the Commissioner says:—"We have tried as an Army of Salvation this past year to cry to everybody, high and low, rich and poor, learned and illiterate, "Repent;" and if God shall spare us through another year, we will make our voices ring louder than ever, telling to all the world the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. We know quite well that did we wink at sin and plaster over the sinner we should be on good terms with a lot of intelligent sinners, and we also know we would soon lose the smile and approbation of God. We do not intend to lose this. His smile is more to us than anything else in the world, so that in the future, we will more than ever deal straight with sinners of every description, and point them to the only remedy."

The success which has attended the Army in Canada has been somewhat marvellous. From a very small beginning—two or three earnest, whole-souled Christian young men—it has grown to almost colossal proportions. Much of the success is, under God's blessing, to be attributed to the wise management and supervision exercised by Commissioner Coombs, who is eminently fitted for such a work. Possessing a large stock of that rare commodity, sanctified common sense, he draws largely upon it, and, as a result, order reigns, where, under other conditions, confusion would be ram-

phant. Success and blessing follow where, under less judicious control, failure and positive harm would ensue. Few people have any conception of the magnitude of the work over which he so ably presides.

A few extracts from the Report may serve to show its extent. There were at the beginning of 1886 over 150 Regular Stations, with 53 Outposts, in the Dominion. At the regular Stations, the Army occupies buildings with an aggregate seating capacity of about 75,000. There has been over 1,600 meetings held weekly, with an aggregate attendance of 269,000. There are two points in connection with the work which show more than aught else the favor which has been shewn the work, by the Lord of the Harvest. The first is the number of workers raised up. In three years there have been raised out of the ranks over 400 leaders, over 250 being raised in 1885, a fact which we venture to say has not been equaled in the history of any other religious movement since the world began. It is simply marvellous, when we bear in mind that the Army lacks the benefits of a Training Home, which we hope they may have some day. Second—The financial aspect of the work. This is noticeable when we look at the buildings rented, but specially when we learn that in 44 cities and towns of Canada, the Army owns its own buildings, some erected at a cost of many thousand dollars. We know of some cities where organizations have been struggling for years to keep a foothold. Where efforts to secure a home for their work has been a failure, yet to these very points the Army has gone, and in a few years have so faithfully laboured for the Master as to commend their cause to God's people, and now beautiful edifices bear the emblems of the Army. We can only account for all this by concluding that their entire separation from the world's methods of raising money, or of appealing for the co-operation of the World, has received the Divine approval.

We wish our space was such as to permit us to reprint some incidents recorded in connection with the work,—How drunkards have been made sober—Thieves have been made honest—Liars have been made truthful—Harlots have been reclaimed—yea, men and women of all classes, sinners by nature and practice, have been transformed into Saints by regeneration, and proved the new birth by a consistent walk. As we view these, (for we testify that whereof we know), we cannot but rejoice at the mighty victories won, both with authorities, the crowds of roughs and smooths, and of the mighty power Divine in their midst, which has made hundreds bow before the Word, and, acknowledging their sins, find peace in their Saviour.

What is the secret of all this do you ask? Here it is! The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation. When heart speaks to heart, and that speaking is carried home by power Divine, it is now as it ever has been, the means of saving men; and while sinners of all classes are being converted by the power of God from darkness into light, and from the power of