

OUR SPECIAL

PUBLISHED BY THE
RAILWAY COMMITTEE
OF THE
TORONTO Y.M.C.A.

TRY
WORD
is a
LIGHT UNTO
MY PATH.

TRY
WORD
is a
LAMP UNTO
MY FEET.

C. SANDMAN, DEL.-56.

Vol 5.

FEBRUARY, 1885.

No. 2

And as
it is appointed
unto men once
to die, but after this
the judgment so
Christ was once of-
fered to bear the sins
of many.

HENREWS ix. 27, 28.

WE return our sincere thanks to Messrs. Thos. Bengough, C. D. Massey and James Leslie, for the large amount of reading matter so kindly donated for the use of our work.

OUR heartfelt prayers and sympathies are with our Railway Secretary Bro. Jex, in the affliction which has befallen him in the death of his beloved Mother. She has been ill for several months of an incurable disease, (Cancer), and during the time of illness suffered very much. She passed away on Saturday 17th inst., at her residence Cobourg.

We have felt deeply for Bro J., during the past few months. Knowing as we did, that he was laboring earnestly among the Railway men and at the same time was carrying the weight of thought concerning his sick mother at whose side he fain would have been, to cheer her.

May the Lord comfort the bereaved ones.

IN our next issue (D.V.) we shall give some interesting particulars concerning the first Railway passenger train in Ontario, with illustrations of tickets issued, and first schedule of rates, etc.

He will swallow up death in victory.

Isaiah xxv. 8.

Made nigh by the blood of Christ.
Ephesians ii. 13.

RAILWAY SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The following is the Railway Secretary's Report for the month of Jan.:-

Engines	129
Cabooses	86
Round Houses	11
Switch Houses	25
Yards	2
Offices	32
Injured and Sick	2
R. R. Reading Rooms and Bunk Rooms	20
Total	307
MEETINGS HELD. ATTENDANCE.	
Union Depot	4
Papers and Tracts distributed	1,042
R. R. SPECIALS distributed	1,000
Total	2 042

ITEMS.

SAMUEL LOCKHART, switchman, G. T. R., while attending to his switch light, slipped and fell from the ladder, injuring himself severely, but we are pleased to say that he is almost recovered.

W. J. OFFIN, brakeman, G. T. R., had his hand severely injured while coupling cars in the York yard. We deeply sympathize with Mr. Offin, as this is the third time he has been injured during the past year.

ROBERT AND JAMES JONES, engineers, G. T. R., who have been laid up for the last two weeks, the one suffering from an injury to his knee cap, and the other with a lame back, we are pleased to say both have fully recovered, and returned to duty.

It is our pleasant duty to record the marriage of two of our railway men at York,—Wm. Shields, fireman, and Robt. McDonald, switchman. We wish each each of them and their brides all the pleasure that this world can bestow upon them.

JOSEPH SMITH, brakeman, G. T. R., is lying in his boarding house at York, suffering from a low fever. We hope he will soon recover.

G. T. R. LIBRARY.

THE Library in connection with the Reading Room of the Locomotive Department, G. T. R., was formally opened January 10th, 1885, with a membership roll of 40 members. This membership has increased to date to over 100 contributing members, and the interest manifested by the employees is extremely gratifying to the higher officials, who have forwarded this scheme for the benefit of the men with praiseworthy aid. The Company very liberally contributed a handsome bookcase, in addition to the paraphernalia already given for the use of the Reading Room. Any employee of the G. T. R. may become a member of the Association by paying \$1 per year. The Library starts with 214 volumes, which will be increased by 150 within two weeks, and the selection reflects credit upon the Library Committee entrusted with this important duty.

The following named employees comprise the Board of Directors and Library Committee:—Percy Newton, Chairman; P. McKeown, Treasurer; Philip A. Hertz, Secretary-Librarian; J. Walker, J. Dunn, J. Jewell, J. Cousins, Library Committee.

RAILWAYS.

THERE is in the world something like 270,000 miles of steam railway, and of this total nearly one half is in the United States, certainly more than half is on the continent of America. The number of miles of railway in the United States at the close of last year was 125,462 miles, the construction of new road during the year having been 3,870 miles. The mileage added during last year is less than in any of the last ten years.

I am He that comforteth you.
Isaiah li. 12.

Choose you this day whom ye will serve.

Joshua xxiv. 15.

ARE THE SIGNALS ALL RIGHT ?

Welcome, band of true toilers!
Who by hundreds are found
In each Company's service,
On the railways around;
There's a question that concerns
Ev'ry soul in God's sight:

Are you happy in Jesus?
Are the "Signals all Right"?

Cho.—With a clear shining light,
Is your lamp burning bright?
Are you happy in Jesus.
And the "Signals all Right"?

By the red lights of danger,
Have you left the down line?
By the green lights of caution,
Have you knowledge divine?

Can you say when on duty,
Either day-time or night,
"I am happy in Jesus?
And the 'Signals all Right' "?

With a clear shining light, etc.

With a love for Christ's service,
And your soul well supplied
With inspired directions,
Fully tested and tried;
With the switch set for Heaven,
With the rails all right,—
Are you happy in Jesus,
With the "Signals all Right?"

With a clear shining light, etc.

And when your last trip
On the road shall be run,
And Life's train shall in triumph
To the terminus come,
Will you sing, as you're nearing
Heaven's shores of delight,—
Praise the Lord! Hallelujah!
All the "Signals are Right"

With a clear shining light, etc.

THE world is out of tune, and our
hearts are out of tune, and the more our
souls vibrate to the music of heaven,
the more must they feel the discords of
earth.

THE ROTTEN SLEEPER.

"CLINK-CLANK! Clink-Clank!
Thud!" were the sounds
which roused me from my
sleep one night. It was the
night gang of the platelayers
busy with their most useful
work. I therefore began to comfort
my wakeful self with the thought that,
perhaps, many lives and limbs were
being preserved, and even took unto
myself the cheap credit of a sort of fel-
lowship in the good work!

Thus, as I lay now broad awake, I
had leisure to note what was passing
with my friends outside. The noise of
the pick and shovel continued almost
without cessation, as one by one
chairs were sounded, ballast put in
position, line gauged—when suddenly
the foreman cried out, "Stop a bit,
lads, let's have a look at that. Bring
the lantern." Scrape, scrape. "Out
with it, it's rotten. How did it pass be-
fore?" A very few strokes, and the rot-
ten wood gave way; two of the gang
were sent to the trolley, and a new one
was brought and dropped with a re-
sounding noise that had no rottenness
in it. More scraping, wrenching, sho-
velling, and hammering, and the line
was soon intact again, with a sound
sleeper where the unsound one had
been such a source of danger.

"Only fit to burn," mused I, as the
men passed on out of sound. The words
"rotten" and "sleeper" formed strange
connections in my still waking thoughts.
I remembered the Lord's Parable of the
Virgins; *all slept, it is true, but half
of them had no oil*; Jonah, in his dis-
obedience, and the shipmen's cry,
"What meanest thou, O sleeper!" The
counter passage in Eph. v. 14, "Awake
thou that sleepest, and arise from
among the dead ones, and Christ shall
give thee light." "Whited sepulchres,
full of dead men's bones" (Matt. xxiii.
27). All alike indicating your state and
my state by nature, as in Romans iii.

His servants ye are to whom ye obey.

Romans vi. 16.

"Scarce fit to burn," and yet we may *solidly endure* in the Permanent Way, if only washed in the precious blood of Christ. No amount of preparation could avail to make the rotten railway sleeper sound again; but it is just my foul, dead, useless, state which commends me to the effectual work of the Great Physician.

Ah! who would not be aroused from the sleep of sin, even though it does need some hard knocks with the pick, to be plucked as a "brand from the burning," and seated whole and sound in heavenly places in Christ Jesus! (Eph. ii. 1-6)

"DON'T STEP THERE."

GMAN started for church one icy Sunday morning, and presently came to a place where a little fellow was standing, who, with a choking voice, said:

"Please don't step there."

"Why not?"

"Because I stepped there and fell down," sobbed the little fellow, who had thus taken upon himself to warn the unwary passers-by of the danger into which he had fallen.

There are many men in the world who have good reason for giving such a warning as this. The man who has trod the dark and slippery paths of intemperance, as he sees the young learning to take the first glass, or sipping at wine or beer or cider, has good reason to say to them "Don't step there, for I stepped there and fell down." The man who has indulged in gambling and lotteries till he is despised by others and abhorred by himself, has good reason to say to the young when they are entering on the same course, whether in saloons, church fairs, raffles, or similar devices of Satan, "Don't step there, for I stepped there and fell down."

How many there are, to-day, in prisons and jails, with reputations ruined and lives blasted, who could say to the young man, tempted to enter the paths of dishonesty and wrong-doing, "Don't step there, for I stepped there and fell down."

It is well for us to be warned by the sad experiences of others, and it is sometimes the duty for those who have fallen

by these temptations to lift a warning voice. There are slippery places all around us, and thousands are passing heedlessly along. Let us entreat them to beware; and, as we remember the bitter experiences of our sinful lives, let us say to those who are just yielding to such temptations, "Don't step there, for I stepped there and fell down."

THE HEAD LIGHT.

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."—Psalm cxix., 105.

A head light reveals dangers, and shows how to avoid them. The Bible is such a head light.

The head light is always in front of the engine, and is never concealed. Do not be ashamed of your Bible; take it with you; keep it in sight, use it, and let it help you.

THOLUCK says: There is not a more repulsive spectacle than an old man who will not forsake the world, which has already forsaken him.

"You will observe this," says Josh. Billings, "the devil never offers to go into partnership with a bizzzy man, but you will often see him offer to jine the lazy, and furnish all the capital "besides."

In American railway stations the traveller is confronted with the sign: "Entrance" and "Exit." If he travels in England he finds: "The Way In" and "The Way Out." If in Germany he sees: "Ausgang" and "Ingang," and in France he encounters: "Entree" and "Sortie."

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS.

Sunday Gospel & Song Services.

Union Station.

AT 3 P.M.

- FEB. 1.—Jos. Greene and P. A. Hertz.
" 8.—Jno. Johnston and Jno. Wood.
" 15.—J. Gibb and R. Connors.
" 22.—W. C. Jex and W. Marks.