

## Temperance.

### THE CURSE OF THE DRINK EVIL.

A recent investigation showed that ten in every hundred of the children of drinking couples in London were consumptive, while only two in one hundred abstaining couples were similarly affected. A study of mental deficiency among school children showed that out of 20,000 cases nearly one-third came from drinking parents. More than half of these proved dull in their school work; whereas, among the children of abstaining parents only one in ten proved similarly deficient. A physician recently declared that his investigations had shown that of 600 children born of 120 drinking mothers, 335 died in infancy or were still-born, several were idiots, and four in every hundred were epileptics. In examining into the history of 2,552 idiots, epileptic, hysterical or weak-minded children in a French institution, it was found that over 41 out of every 100 of the children had drinking parents.—*Medical Magazine.*

### PLEASE, SIR, I WOULD RATHER NOT.

An old sailor tells the following story of a boy who suffered much in resisting temptation:

When ordered to drink, the lad said, "Excuse me, I would rather not."

They laughed at him, but they never could get him to drink liquor. The captain said to the youth, "You must learn to drink grog if you are to be a sailor."

"Please excuse me, captain, but I would rather not."

"Take that rope," commanded the captain to a sailor, "and lay it on; that will teach him to obey orders."

The sailor took the rope and beat the boy most cruelly.

"Now drink that grog," said the captain.

"Please sir, but I would rather not."

"Then go into the foretop and stay all night."

The poor boy looked away up to the mast-head, trembling at the thought of spending the night there, but he had to obey.

In the morning the captain, in walking to the deck, looked up and cried:

"Hello, up there!"

No answer.

"Come down."

Still no answer.

One of the sailors was sent up, and what do you think they found? The poor boy was nearly frozen. He had lashed himself to the mast, so that when the ship rolled he might not fall into the sea. He brought him down in his arms and they worked upon him until he showed signs of life. Then, when he was able to sit up, the captain poured out some liquor and said:

"Now, drink that grog!"

"Please, sir, I would rather not. Let me tell you why and do not be angry. In our home in the cottage we were so happy, but father took to drink. He had no money to get us bread and at last we had to sell the little house we had lived in and everything we had, and it broke my poor mother's heart. In sorrow she pined away till at last before she died she called me to her bedside and said: 'Jamie, you know what drink has made of your father. I want you to promise your

dying mother that you will never taste drink. I want you to be free from the curse that ruined your father.' "O, sir," continued the little fellow, "would you have me break the promise made to my dying mother? I cannot and I will not do it." These words touched the captain's heart and the tears came into his eyes as he stooped down and folding the little boy in his arms said: "No, no, my little hero! Keep your promise and if anyone tries again to make you drink come to me and I will protect you."—*Selected.*

### A WARNING TO YOUNG MEN.

The young man who attempted bank robbery, and who, when rounded up by officers, committed suicide in a suburb of Chicago, was three years since considered the most brilliant and promising young man in Los Angeles. He was a great lawyer, an eloquent speaker and a fine writer. Upon the occasion of a banquet to a great singer three years ago he made an address that attracted national attention. His career from the banquet hall in Los Angeles to the morgue in Chicago is the old, old story over again. He suddenly developed a burning thirst for rum, and in three short years it took him to a drunkard's grave and a suicide's hell. With my tongue and pen I warn every young man in my reach to touch not, taste not and handle not.

Some three years ago, I am told, there was buried in the pauper's department of an American cemetery a man who at the age of thirty was drawing a handsome salary in a British university. In his particular line he was said to be the best authority and greatest scholar in the world. At the age of fifty he was hauled out to the cemetery in a pine box that cost less than two dollars. Strong drink had battered, bruised and scarred him until the best friends of his earlier life could not recognize him, and yet millions of young men—and women as well—are playing with the flowing bowl as if it were a harmless charm. If they could see the long line of battered wrecks who file in before the police judges in our large cities they might get a glimpse of their own future. Thousands who go from our city morgues to the potter's field and to nameless graves have once been shining lights in literature, science or commerce. A full gospel and a holy church are the only forces that can ever turn back this raging tide of evil.—*Selected.*

### IT HAS VINDICATION.

It is said that "All things come to him who waits." This is not so, but one in the right can afford to wait, and in the end right will be vindicated, if not in its becoming popular.

When we contend for the abolition of the liquor traffic we are right, and the right, from some motive or other, has a growing appreciation. The hard-headed and no-hearted railroads of the country are seeing that the liquor used by its men is responsible for the multiplied accidents which they so frequently have had. A late "order" has been issued by a great railroad, which reads as follows:

"Effective this date, Rule G, of the Transportation Department, is amended to read as follows: (G) in furtherance of the objects of the several Federal and State 'Hours of Service' laws, employees in the engine, train, yard and station service are prohibited from using their time off duty in a manner that may unfit

them for the safe, prompt and efficient performance of their respective duties for the company. They are strictly enjoined and required to use their time while off duty primarily for obtaining ample rest. (G) (b) The use of intoxicants while on or off duty, or the visiting of saloons or places where liquor is sold, incapacitates men for railroad service, and is absolutely prohibited. Any violations of this rule by employees in the engine, train, yard or station service will be sufficient cause for dismissal."

The manager of the road comments upon this in a way that shows that the sentiment to which we are pointing as a growing one has practical recognition outside his own road:

"This rule is in effect generally on the railroads of this country. The new rule of the Lackawanna Railroad altogether prohibits all classes of employees directly connected with the movement of trains from using intoxicating liquors at all times. It has been thought heretofore, and is still a general practice on American railroads, that so long as men avoid the habitual use of liquors when off duty they are reasonably safe; but recent experience has shown that there is only one safe course to be followed by these classes of men, and that is to abstain altogether from the use of liquor, and that will be the rule of the Lackawanna Railroad hereafter. The company realizes that in this departure it may be criticized for pursuing an extreme course, but it rests assured that public sentiment will support its position in view of the great risks involved."

Is not that good? And it reads like preaching.—*Christian Witness.*

The Reformed Baptist Missionary Society of Woodstock met on Friday evening, Oct. 4th. Mrs. Orrison Estey, the new president, was in the chair. The following programme was carried out:—

Solo, Mrs. Arnold; reading, Mabel Colpitts; solo, Mrs. True; reading, Ruby Stewart; duett, Adeline Mooers and Mabel Colpitts; solo, Kathleen Turney; reading, Vivian Doak; duett, Erma and Flossy Jones; reading, Mrs. Everett.

The first Sunday in the month the Sunday School Collection is devoted to Missionary purposes. The first Sunday in October, the number of scholars present was ninety-three, the collection was ten dollars and twenty-eight cents.

### Three Things

Of General Interest to be  
kept before the Churches

## THE MISSIONARY WORK

## The Highway

AND BEULAH AND

## Riverside Camp Grounds

Every Church should have a live  
interest in these departments of our  
work.