

be spotted at once by a teacher; they are dreamy, apathetic, dense, and almost incapable of intellectual work.' In the United States the evil appears to have assumed shocking proportions. A medical member of the Board of Education of San Francisco says:—'I am physician to several boys' schools, and I am often called in to prescribe for palpitation of the heart. In nine cases out of ten it is caused by the use of tobacco.' Still another American writer says, and his testimony is startling as to both the extent of the evil, and the havoc it is working in the schools:—'An inquiry was made in the city of Chicago recently, and it was found that there were 5,000 cigarette smokers (between the ages of eight and fourteen) in the city schools, not more than 400 of them being able to do good work. There were very few smokers in the higher grades, for the obvious reason they never reach those grades. The boys make a grade or more per year until they begin to smoke, when progress stops. They become listless and nervous, cannot keep up their work, cannot keep still while at their desks and are often defective in hearing and sight.'

How far the boys in Canadian schools are suffering from this evil we have no means of knowing. But we are very certain that parents and teachers will do well to keep their eyes open, and to look carefully after the habits of their boys.—'Christian Guardian.'

There is Room at the Top.

There is always room at the top, dear boys,
So leave the crowd and climb;
Don't gaze at the ladder and measure its length,
As you grasp each round you will gain new strength,
And mount to the top in time.

There is room to grow great, if you're wise,
dear boys,
Room for brain and soul to expand;
In the duties that wait each to claim its hour,
There's a setting of gold for each gem of power,
The finest in all the land.

Would you climb to the top, don't tarry,
boys,
Where the wine glows ruby red.
There the luring paths are dangerous ways,
There a maelstrom swallows life's golden days,
There evil his snare has spread.

Would you reach the top you must practice,
boys,
Keeping the armor bright,
Give tears to sorrow, give smiles to song,
Cherish the good and abhor the wrong,
And battle for God and the right.

There are rocky steeps in the climbing,
boys,
There are thorns for the tender feet;
But through the long night the stars look down,
In the loom of the cross is woven the crown—
The bitter will change to the sweet.

Then swing to the rounds and climb, dear boys,
While the flower of youth is in bloom,
Let your stakes be high, your aims all straight;
There is only 'I will' in the chalice of fate—
At the top there is always room.

—Uncle Jim, in 'Temperance Advocate.'

It has been the folly of some of our temperance speaking that it has heaped maledictions upon the moderate drinkers, instead of appealing steadily and lovingly to the noblest instincts of human nature, and asking them to make a sacrifice of what they deem a liberty for the sake of others, it may be members of their own families. I know of a rich man in Providence whose only son had been brought home to him intoxicated, and he reproached him, saying, 'I have done everything for you.' 'Yes,' said the son, 'and you taught me to drink wine,' and he struck his father to the earth.—Dr. Barrows.

Correspondence

The Postal Crusade

Editor 'Northern Messenger':

Letters in response to the request for volunteers to enlist in a post-office crusade have come in from all parts of Canada, several have come also from the United States. Up to date there are seventy ready to start in this peaceful warfare by mail and type. As soon as possible replies will be sent. If the list of names that comes from India is not large enough I will write again: Just a little patience and perseverance is required. In the meantime how it would gladden the heart of Miss Dunhill if all would post their papers to her. I can imagine her very great pleasure on receiving seventy 'Northern Messengers' by one mail. Just let us help her while we are waiting for individual addresses of boys and girls who read English in India.

Perhaps a few items regarding Miss Dunhill will interest you.

First, the address:—Miss Dunhill, 12 S. Parade, Bangalore, India. Please remember to wrap parcels carefully and pay full postage, 1 cent for 2 ounces. Miss Dunhill is National W. C. T. U. organizer for the Empire of India, and she also holds an important position in the evangelistic department. In her work of distributing papers she is assisted by her sister Mrs. Walker. They go carefully over all the papers sent to them in order that only ones suitable to the natives may be circulated. Thus you will see that you are quite safe in sending her papers you have asked me about. The 'Northern Messenger' is a favorite, as it is safe and suitable and loyal. It teaches temperance with the Gospel, and it has nothing to do with any denomination.

Denominational papers of any kind are not wanted by the missionaries or temperance workers with whom I correspond. When reading these papers the natives look away from Christ to the different churches. Please let us respect the wishes of orthodox church member missionaries, they know best. Send all the Scripture cards you can. There have been two offers of the 'Youth's Companion' for the Rev. Mr. Lefflamme, Cocanada, India. Will those who have offered them kindly send them, as they will be most valuable. The 'Ram's Horn' is specially liked in India, and the illustrations of the 'Christian Herald' render it particularly attractive. In fact any illustrated undenominational Christian literature with loyal British sentiments is valuable. Should you see in a religious paper any article condemning Great Britain's attitude to South Africa, do not send it to India.

The kind wishes expressed in the many letters sent to me are very cheering. A number of parcels have come in for the French work in Montreal. I will repeat the address as some may not have noticed it. The postage for this will be one cent for 4 ounces:—

For the 'Home Crusade,' Welcome Hall, 207 St. Antoine street, Montreal, Que.

Please do not send papers for India or for the French Crusade at home to my house address. It is best to mail your papers to India direct, as it saves stamps and time. Some have been sent to me with the request to forward them abroad. Will those who have very kindly sent unasked money as well as stamps for the crusade please accept my thanks. As soon as possible I will let you know by letter to what use it was put.

In closing please let me tell you that Miss Dunhill and the women who assist her take literature to natives in the city. They also supply the barracks and the railway station. At the barracks one bright correspondent tells me the men make a rush for the papers. At the station they are snatched up by the employees and carried all over whenever the trains go. Ten years ago it was estimated that one hundred and twenty-four million people travelled in one year over twenty thousand miles of railway. This will give you some idea of the number of people who travel by steam.

Faithfully and thankfully,
MAGGIE E. COLE.

P.S.—In reply to a question received, the 'Northern Messenger' can be sent to India

direct from the publishers, the postage being 51 cents extra.

NOTE TO 'A SUBSCRIBER.'

A subscriber asks if we can print a story of hers every week. We fear we have too much material on hand to be able to accept the offer.

Quebec, Feb. 11, 1901.

Dear Editor,—I was reading the 'Northern Messenger' and I saw a letter from a little girl who signed herself as 'Lottie T.,' of Agricola, North Alberta. If this little girl would send me her full address I will watch out for it. We have quite a number of different books and papers that I am sure would help to cheer her.

I am yours sincerely,
WINIFRED WOODLEY.

Notre Dame de Quebec, Que.

Manchester, N. H.

Dear Editor,—I am a little boy eleven years old. My auntie has sent me the 'Messenger' two years, and I like it very much. I have one brother eight years old.

ALVIN A.

[The subscription for your 'Messenger' expired on Dec. 31, 1900.]

Manitoba.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm four and a half miles from the town of Dauphin. My brother and I drive to school in the winter and I walk in the summer. Our Sunday-school paper is the 'Northern Messenger.' We have taken the 'Messenger' for two years and we think it very nice.

MARY C. MCK.

Finch.

Dear Editor,—I am a very little boy and cannot write very well. I like the 'Messenger,' I love to read the letters. I have three sisters and two brothers. I live with my uncle on a farm. I have a little colt. I take him out to water every day. I have a pair of fine large ducks, and a good dog, he is kind and good to go after the cows. I am studying the Catechism. I am learning to skate this winter.

SANDIE (Aged 8.)

Marathon, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Messenger' for two years and could not do without it. I have no brothers or sisters. I am taking music lessons. I have three miles to go to school. My papa is a carpenter. I had a little pet kitten called Nimmy Dancer, but she died. I enjoy reading the little boys' and girls' letters in the 'Messenger.' I will close by wishing them all a happy New Year.

MAMIE E. G. (Aged 10.)

Black Creek, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We have taken your paper a number of years and like it very much. My auntie sends it to me for a present. I will try to get you a new subscriber. I have one sister and four brothers. We live on the bank of the Niagara river. It is a very pretty place in the summer time.

CONSTANCE D. (Aged 8.)

Shipley.

Dear Editor,—We have four horses, nineteen cattle, twelve sheep and twenty pigs, by this you will know that my father is a farmer. We have about fifty hens and we get three or four eggs a day now. We have a dog called Rover, in the winter we hitch him in the hand sleigh and he will pull us. The river Maitland is not far from here, and we have good fun on it. I have one brother and a sister living in Manitoba; they have been there three years, I would like very much to see them. With love to the 'Messenger.'

ROBERT H. M. (Aged 11.)

Smithfield, N.S.

Dear Editor,—My brother takes the 'Messenger' and we like it very much. I have four brothers and two sisters, a pet cat and a pet horse.

ISABELLA M. (Aged 12.)

Port Rowan, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm in South Walsingham, four miles from Port Rowan. I have two brothers younger than myself, and one sister, and also a sister older than myself, and she has a bantam hen for a pet.

JOHN LLOYD P. (Aged 9.)