

secede from the Church, and should not be disciplined by the Church, however widely he may diverge from her standards," is to represent faithfully the apparent position of Principal Grant at the Council. That it is his real position I cannot say. That it was his apparent position I affirm. And being his apparent position the Principal has laid himself under obligation to say yes or no as to its being his real position. This demand is made upon the Principal not by an anonymous correspondent, but by the nature of the case. Should the Principal take advantage of the name being withheld of the listener who calls public attention to his very public utterance, to remain silent when the interests of truth are requiring him to speak out, I do not see how he can escape the charge of resorting to subterfuge. He is, at least, taking shelter under a plea to which he has no right. An utterance made in public, especially so publicly made as his was, is the common property of the public, and challenges criticism from any quarter, without establishing a shadow of a right to know who it is that performs the part of the critic. This is so well understood and so commonly exemplified as to deprive the strictures of "A Lover of Truth," upon this ground, of all their force.

My second remark upon the weapon of defence offered to Principal Grant is that not only is it dishonourable and for him untruthful, but it is worse than useless. It utterly fails to meet the gravamen of my representation. All that it effects is to throw in that element of dishonour and untruthfulness as an additional burden upon the Principal of which we have spoken. That it is so will appear simply by placing the two representations side by side. According to me Principal Grant is represented as substantially saying, "A minister however widely he may depart from the standards of the Church ought not to leave it, nor be put out of it if he believes himself faithful to Him to whom he took his ordination vows." According to "A Lover of Truth," the representation is, a minister, however widely he may depart from the standards of the Church ought to stay in it until he is put out, provided that he believes himself faithful to his ordination vows. (You will see, Mr. Editor, that I have this time left out the inverted commas). Between these two representations, the only difference not verbal is solely the permission which the latter gives to the divergent from the standards of the Church to remain in till he is put out. How "A Lover of Truth" could imagine that such a representation was to be of any assistance to Principal Grant, passes my comprehension. But such a representation coming from such a quarter makes it all the more imperative that Principal Grant should not remain silent. Both "A Lover of Truth" and myself vouching for it that he enunciated at the Council in Philadelphia sentiments concerning the relation of ministers to the Church which, literally interpreted, savour of the broadest churchism, constitutes an evidence so decisive as to what the Principal said, as gives the Church and every member in it a right to demand that the Principal should let them know what he meant.

PHILALETHES.

SCRIPTURAL ORDINATION—WHAT IS IT?

MR. EDITOR,—I am led to ask the above question, from having witnessed the mode of receiving additions to the session on two separate occasions; one just recently. In both cases there was no laying on of hands. Feeling disappointed, and having referred to it at the time, I looked up our late "Rules and Forms," and was not enlightened by them on the subject. Appealing to the Word of God, which our Church professedly takes as the guide, in practice as well as faith, I find that even the deacons, as well as the elders, were invariably ordained by imposition of hands, at least so far as I notice in the accounts handed down to us therein. I would like to know your views and those of your correspondents on the above subject.

INQUIRER.

THERE is an African chief named Matola, living in the Rovuma valley, East Central Africa, who speaks six languages. Perhaps the most remarkable thing about him is that he is a total abstainer. He became such from principle, and has for many years never touched the native beer or any other intoxicating liquor. By his aid a church has been built, to which he summons his people every Sabbath, acting as interpreter when there is occasion.

PASTOR AND PEOPLE.

WHY SHE NEVER DRANK WINE.

"Of course we must have wine. Just think how perfectly shabby it would look!"

The remark was made by a beautiful girl as she danced out of the conservatory with a spray of pink blossoms in her hand.

"It is my first party and I want everything splendid. And, auntie," turning to a sweet-faced woman, with large, love-gleaming eyes, and an almost alabaster purity of complexion, "you must wear that rose-coloured brocade. It is just the rage now, and your hair will trim beautifully. I am so glad that we are to have plenty of flowers."

Helen Brayton was just from school, where she had been since she was ten years old. Of course, she knew very little of life; and her father was a wealthy man, and her dream of "everything splendid" was about to be realized. Aunt Agatha was her mother's sister, a scholarly woman of whom she knew little, save that she was a trifle eccentric, giving away nearly all of her income, and never so much as touching wine.

Mrs. Brayton leaned back in her luxurious chair, and rested her eyes with a mother's delight on Helen's face.

"If we have wine, Aunt Agatha cannot come," was said slowly.

"Cannot! Why so?" with a shrug of her pretty shoulders. "She will not be obliged to taste it."

Mrs. Brayton beat her satin-slippered foot against the Persian carpet. It was a question she could not decide. Mr. Brayton had given her *carte blanche*. He had not time to attend to it, he said. In calling in Agatha she had not thought of wine. With exquisite taste and wonderful tact in arrangement, her service would be invaluable. All the morning she had been trying to persuade this really elegant woman to consider this as an exceptional case. Not that she herself cared for it; neither did Mr. Brayton. But what would people say? Mrs. Brayton was not one with the moral courage to oppose Madame Grundy. She could not endure to be called shabby, especially when the money in hand would enable her to be profuse.

All the while Helen stood at the back of Aunt Agatha's chair, talking of the pink and silver brocade. "Nobody will know it was ever worn. I am sure it would never shew a seam."

A servant entered bearing a silver waiter, and on it was a small card. Helen coloured, and Mrs. Brayton excused herself and went down to the parlour.

"Do say that you will not mind this time, auntie?" pleaded Helen.

"And thus break my promise?"

"Did you promise, auntie, never so much as to drink a drop?"

"I promised never so much as to drink a drop; neither would I stand by and see another drink."

"This is going a little too far, I think, auntie. If another drinks it will not hurt us."

"I am not so sure," returned Aunt Agatha. "Whose card was that Dick brought in?"

"Henry Fargo's," answered Helen, with a vivid blush.

"If Henry Fargo should drink wine to excess, would it not hurt you?"

"O, auntie! he never could," with a face from which all colour had fled.

"If I have been rightly informed one of his brothers died a drunkard," persisted Agatha Fleming.

"That was Will. He was always a little wild. Went to San Francisco, spent a good deal, and drank to drown his trouble," was Helen's answer.

The Fargos lived in the same square. In the vacations Helen had seen a good deal of Henry, and learned through him of Will's wanderings. But she did not connect it with wine; the latter was a mere accident. He drank to drown his troubles.

The expression of Agatha Fleming's face grew tender; tears filled her eyes. It was a favourable moment to say to Helen all there was in her heart to say—why she should not touch wine?

"You have heard your mother speak of Herbert Wyeburn?" turning her gaze full upon the young girl.

"Your old friend, or flame, I don't know which?" returned Helen, with all her usual vivacity.

"Yes, my friend, as Henry Fargo is yours. We lived

in the same square, and we loved each other with a love that grew stronger as we grew older. Herbert went to college. He was grandly gifted. But he learned to take wine; it made him brilliant. The head of his class, he was likewise the master of oratory. But he could not speak without his glass; then it required more—one, two, three at a time. His manner was no longer the same—at one time wild and capricious, at another time gloomy and morose. I expostulated. He was angry and upbraided me. The next hour he was ready to beg my pardon, and I forgave him. Of course, he would never again give way. Thus it went on until he was ready to establish himself in business, and I was looking forward to becoming a happy bride. One night there was a quarrel, in which Herbert struck a brother lawyer, and himself received a fatal stab in return. They had been drinking to excess, but when I reached Herbert he was rational. Never shall I forget his face as he said, 'The doctor says I must die. If I had never tasted wine, Agatha, this would not have been.'

"They had not told me that the wound was fatal. I buried my face in the pillow and sobbed outright. In that moment I would gladly have given my own life could I by that means save Herbert. My agony made him worse. They took me from him, and only permitted me to return when I promised to command myself. When I entered the room Herbert was lying with his eyes shut. As I approached I saw that his lips moved. Was he praying? I tried to think so. I had been brought up to think it was a dreadful thing to die without an interest in Christ. As I knelt by his bedside he put out his hand.

"I have asked God to make it easy for you, Agatha. You warned me against drink; but I did not see the danger. Now I must die. But you will think of me sometimes, and, thinking of me, you will not fail to warn others against wine."

"I had promised to be calm, and I earnestly tried to point him to Christ. I cannot tell just how it was, but in death there was a smile on his face, as though at the last he caught the gleam of celestial wings. The thief on the cross received assurance—'This day shalt thou be with Me in paradise.' I trust it was so with Herbert."

Silence brooded over the room. Helen did not lift her head. Agatha was the first to speak.

"Now you know the reason why I do not drink wine, the reason why I do not go where wine is made a temptation to some poor soul who has not the strength to resist it. You will not now expect me to go to your party."

Slowly the brown head was lifted, while through tears Helen answered:

"I shall not have wine at my party, Aunt Agatha. It is too dreadful; I cannot think of it. Will Fargo drank wine, and drank to excess. Henry takes a social glass. No," with more emphasis, "I shall not have it. It shall never be said that I helped to make a young man a drunkard."

When Mrs. Brayton returned, Helen hastened to explain.

"We will not have wine, mother. I could never hold up my head again if I knew that one person was led to drink to excess through my offering him a social glass."

"What I have to say will be unnecessary in this case," smiled Mrs. Brayton. "I have just seen Henry Fargo. He hopes we will not have wine. Since Will perished miserably, as he did, he cannot go where wine is used freely. As this is the first party of the season, he trusts that we will set the example that many, very many, will gladly follow."

"I could never have done it but for Aunt Agatha," Helen answered with her old bright look. "Henry Fargo shall never have it to say that I tempted him with wine."—*Christian at Work*.

ACCORDING to Wells & Fargo's annual report, \$33,522,182 worth of gold, \$40,005,364 worth of silver, \$5,752,390 worth of lead, and \$898,000 worth of copper, were taken out of the mines west of the Missouri river last year.

THE sixteen Southern States, with a population of 5,214,004, have enrolled in the public schools 2,673,822 children. The average salary paid to male teachers is \$34.54, and to females, \$32.01. The total income of all these schools is \$13,718,006, Missouri having the largest amount. The schools are improving greatly in condition and in support all over the South.