

## Teaching Temperance.

We want so to teach that our teaching shall endure, that when our lads and lasses go out to fight the battle of life, they may be accoutred in armor of proof against the sophistries and plausibilities with which they will certainly be assailed, and failing to meet which they may be tempted to forsake their wholesome principle and practice of total abstinence. A prime factor in making impressions permanent is repetition. 'Pardon me, Mr. So-and-so,' said the judge to the counsel, 'but this is the eleventh time you have adduced that same argument.' 'Pardon me, my lord, but your lordship will observe that there are twelve men in the jury box.' The same fact repeated and re-repeated is the fact which ultimately sticks. But here, again, caution is needful—a mere mechanical repetition will not suffice, but will lose its force, and simply become a mere jingle of words without vital meaning. The same truth must be presented in a different manner at each presentation, until at last it 'catches on' as a kind of revelation to the taught. The manner of the teacher, too, must give no hint of triteness, he must proclaim the old truth with all the point and fervor of one who has just discovered a new truth, and is anxious that others should share in his discovery. Evident intensity of conviction in the teacher is essential to permanent impression on the taught.—F. Adkens.

## Band of Hope Teaching.

Not too much should be attempted in one lesson or address. A witty French writer has said, 'The mind of a child is like a bottle with a small neck; you may pour much or pour little, but only a little will pass at a time.' Too many speakers, both to adults and children, imagine that they have imparted everything that has fallen from their lips. But this is not so; much of their utterance, good as it may be, has run to waste. They have only really imparted that which their auditors have absorbed, and they will do better to go on the 'drop by drop' principle than on that of the 'flowing tide.' No meeting should be held at which some temperance truth, or part of a temperance truth, or something preparing the way for a temperance truth, is not instilled into the young listeners. Simplicity of phrase and moderation in quantity are two essentials to successful teaching in Bands of Hope. The whole subject cannot be better summed up than in the words of a delegate who, being a farmer, said: 'I feed my Band of Hope members just as I feed my lambs—I give them a little at a time, I give it them often, and I give it them warm.' Let us choose carefully our wholesome truths, prepare them suitably and deliver them out of a warm and loving heart, and our lambs, who also are God's lambs, shall thrive.—F. Adkens.

## How They Do It.

Sly devices to gain tobacco converts among boys are being used by St. Louis, Mo., tobacco manufacturers. The retail dealer is asked to fill out a blank giving the names of young persons who do not use tobacco. The manufacturers then send to each a check calling for a free plug of tobacco at the retail dealer's. These checks are honored by the manufacturer on presentation. The tobacco is given free as an inducement to boys to learn to chew, and the retailer is rewarded for his share in the effort. Cigarettes are also supplied free to all patrons who buy their tobacco of this manufacturer. In this way much of the poisonous stuff is consumed every year, and the use of tobacco continues popular among its devotees.—'Temperance Advocate.'

Mrs. Yokum is County Superintendent of Schools in a county of Colorado. Soon after election a woman who smokes cigarettes applied for a certificate. Mrs. Yokum found her capable, but consulted the board, and secured the decision that a certificate should not be granted because of the cigarette habit. Soon a man who smoked cigarettes applied, and was rejected also, for the board could not make Mrs. Yokum understand any difference between a smoking woman and a smoking man.

## Correspondence

Honeywood.

Dear Editor,—I live about a mile and a quarter from the village, where we go to church and Sunday-school. We have taken the 'Messenger' for several years, and would be lonesome without it. I have two sisters, older than myself. LUCILLA (aged 9).

Honeywood.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm about a mile and a quarter from Honeywood. We have a dog called Nero, and two cats. ALMA (aged 11).

Brightside, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I attend Sunday-school in the summer, but our Sunday-school closes for the winter months. We have a nice teacher and she is very kind to us. There was a great interest taken in the Prohibition plebiscite around here, and there was a large majority against whiskey. I wish that whiskey would be shut down. My oldest brother and sister belong to the Royal Templars, and I am going to join pretty soon. My eldest brother was away in Manitoba all summer, and he just got home lately. We were all so glad to see him. I live on a farm, and help with the hay in the summer holidays. LAWRENCE A. (aged 13).

Pierston, N.B.

Dear Editor,—I was born in British Columbia. I have always been a cripple. When I was rather over two years old my mother died. More than a year after my father went to visit his native land, Nova Scotia, and died in a few weeks of la grippe. My uncle where he died went and brought my brother and myself to live with him; we lived there five years. Before we left there my uncle died. My aunt in New Brunswick sent for us, and we came a year ago last Christmas. Auntie and cousin have Sunday-school for my brother and me. The lessons are taken from the 'Northern Messenger.' Then we have some good readings after lessons. When we first came cousin read through 'Bible Jewels,' and when she came to the temperance jewel, the amethyst, and I heard how much evil liquor did, I thought I would like to get out a pledge, and get all I could to sign. Auntie said I could. This is my pledge: 'I promise to abstain from all liquors and cider to my life's end.' I have got twenty-eight to sign. My cousin has got me to walk with crutches since I came here. ALFRED (aged 10).

Blyth.

Dear Editor,—We have a very pretty village, situated on a branch of the Maitland river. I have two sisters and one brother, and I am the youngest. EUPHEMIA S.

London, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have a water spaniel named Fido. My sister Maudie and I go to Sunday-school, and get a 'Messenger,' and my mother reads to us in the evening, and I take my sister to school on my sleigh when it is sleighing. HARRY P. (aged 10).

Grimsthorpe.

Dear Editor,—I go to school pretty regularly. One Tuesday the temperature went down to 22 degrees below zero, but yet I went. We live on a farm. I have a pet cat, and my sister has one too. CLARA M. (aged 9).

Grimsthorpe, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I live on Manitoulin Island, which is about one hundred and four miles long and thirty-five wide. It has a population of over seventeen thousand. There are quite a number of small lakes, which abound in salmon trout, white fish, herring, etc. I live near the south of the island, and bordering Lake Huron. This is a very fertile island, and the people on it are engaged in farming. I have nearly two miles to go to school, but I have a horse of my own called Maude, which we drive. MABEL F. T. (aged 13).

Woodstock, Ont.

Dear Editor,—My grandma in Clinton has subscribed for the 'Messenger' for me. It is the first paper I ever had come to the post-office in my own name. I like it very much, and I am going to try and read them all. I go to school every day and Sunday-school. My papa is the superintendent. I think I

know Ella May, who wrote to you, and that she goes to our Sunday-school. I have two sisters; one is six and the baby is a year and six months old. WILBUR B. (aged 8).

Hemmingford, P.Q.

Dear Editor,—My father is a captain of the 51st Battalion. We keep the rifles, and the red coats, and caps, and swords, and bayonets. I think papa will go out to camp next summer. My grandma and grandpa are over seventy years old. My brother and I light the fire at school, and we get \$3 apiece. The school is a mile and a half away. I like to get grandma to tell me stories about olden times before the lamp is lit. CHARLIE McK. (aged 11).

Almonte, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I live in the country about five miles from Almonte. I go to Almonte High School, and come home on Friday night. We live near the Mississippi river. We take the 'Witness,' and I like to read the Boys' Page and the Children's Corner. R. J. P.

Port Huron, Mich.

Dear Editor,—I have only one brother and no sister. We have taken the 'Messenger' for two years, and we look for it every week, and would be lonesome without it. ETHEL F. G. (aged 10).

Lower Millstream, King's Co., N.B.

Dear Editor,—I live in the country, and am nine years old. I like to read the correspondence. JOHN C.

Nobleton.

Dear Editor,—I tried this winter to get 'Messenger' subscribers, for the silver bracelet, which I received safely, and which I am very well pleased with, and also my sister, who received it. My eldest brother is living in the city of Toronto, and my second eldest is working on the farm, and my third is going to high school. I live on the farm, and go to school every day. I am not much use on the farm yet, but hope to be some day. I am always very anxious to get my paper to read, for I think there is no other paper like the 'Northern Messenger' for children, for it teaches us lessons to look to the joy of others as well as our own, besides the many other interesting stories. I have been taking the 'Messenger' for some time, but just through the Sunday-school, and when the Sunday-school stopped I thought I would still continue taking the paper. WILLIE M. E. (aged 12).

Lisgar, Que.

Dear Editor,—We are going to have the picture of the Queen in our schoolroom soon. I have a nephew, and his name is Harold. ALLAN (aged 8).

Lisgar, Que.

Dear Editor,—I can do long division. My teacher's name is Miss Lyster. She is helping me to spell these words. LILLIS (aged 8).

Lisgar, Que.

Dear Editor,—Our teacher reads us the letters out of the 'Northern Messenger.' We like to hear them. We have a flag in our schoolroom. Our salute is: 'We pledge allegiance to our flag and the country for which it stands. One Empire indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.' REGIE (aged 11).

Brown's Corner.

Dear Editor,—We have a canary called Dick. He does not sing very much yet. My father keeps the post-office and store, and I sometimes attend to it. We have only one hen. In the winter it and a kitten go around together. They are great friends. BELL (aged 12).

Central Park, B.C.

Dear Editor,—I live in a settlement called Burnaby, or Central Park. It is rather a wild place to live in, but pleasant. We have two churches out here, a Presbyterian and Methodist. NONA (aged 14).

Barrington.

Dear Editor,—My papa has a general store and post-office. I have two pets, a cat and a dog; the dog's name is Romp, and when my brother plays on the harmonica he will sing. We have had fine fun this winter skating on a large pond. WILFRED G. K. (aged 9).