

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR PLEDGE.

The *Golden Rule* recently asked for answers to the question 'What has the Christian Endeavor Pledge done for you?' From a large number of responses published we select a few showing the way in which the pledge has helped young people to be useful Christians.

'Before I took the pledge I did not attend the services of my church regularly, and now I am absent only when I have a reason which I can conscientiously give to my Lord and Saviour.'

'The pledge helped me, when I first hesitated to sign it, by showing me what kinds of excuses had sometimes kept me from attending church services and from doing certain Christian work.'

'Before taking this pledge it was as utterly impossible for me to participate in prayer meeting as if I had my lips securely locked, and had forgotten the combination. Now, thanks be to God, I deem it a pleasure to speak for him.'

'There is no act, however trivial, but comes under the sweet influence of 'I will strive to do whatever he would like to have me do.'

'Removed from my dear Christian Endeavor friends, and compelled to associate with men not one of whom is a Christian, the pledge has kept me true and close to my Saviour.'

'The pledge has brought me from simply a member of the church to a working Christian, and taught me that there is something for me to do besides getting; I must give.'

'My pledge has taught and helped me, as a teacher, to do persistent, prayerful, personal work among my boys and girls. One night, as we repeated our pledge at a consecration meeting, it came to me that this work was one of the 'whatevers' that he would like to have me do.'

'If I ever feel disposed to stay away from Sunday evening prayer meeting because the meetings are not interesting, or for some such cause, the condemning words, 'Unless hindered by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Lord and Master,' flash through my mind, and I go.'

'Since taking the pledge my own church is doubly dear to me; still, I can see more of Christlikeness in those whose beliefs differ from mine.'

'From the pledge I receive an impetus which enables me to teach a Sunday-school class, and take part in the weekly prayer meetings.'

'The pledge has helped me to give systematically to missions, and to think less of self and more about my fellow-creatures.'

'What he would have me do,'—this is, it seems to me, the simplest, most accurate, and most satisfactory test of personal duty I have ever tried.'

'Surely, a transition, in a little over three years, from a bashful, timid boy to a Sunday-school superintendent, ought to convince the most sceptical that the pledge has done something for me.'

'The pledge has helped me to give up card-playing and the theatre. It has made me more conscientious, opened my eyes to see more of my opportunities, and has helped me to overcome my timidity of speaking in public. It has made me a more faithful Sunday-school worker.'

HAD HIS ORDERS.

'I've got my orders, positive orders, not to go there—orders that I dare not disobey,' said a youth who was being tempted to enter a gambling saloon.

'Come, don't be womanish; come along like a man,' shouted the youths.

'No, I can't break orders,' said John.

'What special orders have you got? Come show 'em to us if you can; show us your orders.' John took out a neat wallet from his pocket, and pulling out a neatly-folded paper, 'It is here,' he said, unfolding the paper and showing it to the boys. They looked, and one of them read aloud: 'Enter not into the paths of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.'

'Now,' said John, 'you see my orders forbid me going with you; they are God's orders, and by his help I don't mean to break them.'

MESSENGER BIBLE COMPETITION.

It is none too early to remind our Sunday School readers of the second quarter's competition. The results for the first quarter will soon be made known. Four prizes are again offered for the best sketch of the Bible history taken up by the International lessons from the first of April until the end of June, a first and second prize for those over twelve and under twenty-one, and a first and second for those of twelve and under.

The sketches must be written on paper the size of note, on one side of the paper only and must not contain more than five hundred words. The sheets must be numbered and fastened together at the left hand upper corner, and signed on the right hand upper corner of the first page with a fictitious name and the age of the writer. Enclose in sealed envelope should be the writer's full name and post office address. Do not fold or roll the MS while sending. Address all correspondence to

BIBLE COMPETITION,
Northern Messenger,
JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
Montreal.

Who STEALS MY PURSE steals trash; 'tis some thing, nothing;
'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands;
But he that filches from me my good name
Robs me of that which which not enriches him,
And leaves me poor indeed.
—Shakespeare.

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