

stances may be left unfinished—the column broken off—not by the rude hand of death, but by the desolations of moral evils. Since it is so, we are disposed to exhort young men to be sober-minded. The slightest observation of society in Canada must have convinced the observer of the need, among young men, of the recognition of the *restraints of lawful authority*. No man is a law to himself to do what is right in his own eyes. The blessing of home is salutary; but loyalty to its laws is exacted before it yields its rewards. Honour thy father and thy mother. The yearning of the true parental heart is, may God Almighty bless the lads. The family tie is one of affection, and is not to be rudely cut and its cords cast from us. Society will be broken up, if its mutual relationships are destroyed. Passing in view from an earthly home, to the universal care of the Almighty Parent, his claim of government must be joyously recognized, since God loves with more than the tenderness of a mother. His fear is productive of good, and the confessor of it in the hour of temptation, will ask; how can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?

Self-denial exercised in early life, will tend to mature a character fruitful in all that is lovely and of good report. Youthful passion must be curbed. The rein must not be thrown loose on the neck of insatiable desire. The current of opinion may run strong towards gratification. There is however a line drawn by the hand of the Highest, that is marked,—Thus far shalt thou come, and no farther. To break beyond that enclosure, is to fall among serpents; the poisonous brood will fasten on the right hand of mental energy, and men will look for a speedy death of character, of joy and of love; then, only a miracle of grace can shake off the viper of sin into the fire. True pleasure consists in the lawful use of what God permits. The appreciation of food is sure to him who makes a temperate supply enough, but the gormand, by the very gratification of his sensuality, unfits himself for its enjoyment. The speed therefore of fast young men, carries them quite beyond the spot, on which a bounteous Creator has spread the feast of pure satisfaction. The high pressure to which the powers of their nature is brought by an unholy pursuit of sinful pleasure, must issue in a fearful collapse.

We therefore come to lay down a few cautions,—the utterance we trust of love,—for the highest good of those who shall soon fill important spheres in society. A lighthouse should be built on the rock of danger, more especially when every tide leaves a wreck.

*Beware of feasting the soul with deleterious food.* The mind of man is his glorious distinction. The spirit of the beast goeth downward, but the spirit of man goeth upward. Faculties that wear the stamp of an immortal birth are not to be perverted or destroyed. The practice, which we fear is a widely prevailing one, of novel and romance reading, is damaging the mental powers, and destroying the souls of multitudes. Light and trashy books are to be met with in every corner. The work of deterioration is rapidly completed under the potent spell of this enchanter. Home influences and steady industry go to the wall, and rash adventure, and deeds of blood are crowned for homage. Nothing can so unfit for the real duties of life, as the distorted views of it current in modern fiction. The steaming putrescence of sin, is disguised by the frankincense offered to men-made-heroes. The well is poisoned for truth is not there. Pictures morally vile make their impressions on the soul; examples utterly abominable are copied, since the mind confined to these models, shapes after their fashion. When years are con-