

# Northern Messenger

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## Band of Hope Jubilee.

(The 'Irish Temperance League Journal'.)

The jubilee of the Band of Hope movement will be celebrated during the second week of November, in the year 1897. It ought to be a matter of no little pride to temperance workers in Ireland that an enterprise so beneficent in its results and so far-reaching in its aims as to include at present a membership of almost three million boys and girls, should have its origin so intimately associated with the name of a woman held in honor among ourselves.

Mrs. Ann Jane Carlile, nee Hammil, who was born in the County of Monaghan, in the year 1775, was the wife of the Presbyterian minister of Balleboro. She found it necessary to supplement the meagre professional

workers across the Channel. As the result of her mission, no less than seventy thousand persons signed the pledge. In August she went to Leeds, where her words and influence deeply impressed and encouraged the Rev. Jabez Tunncliffe, and led him to the formation of 'the first Band of Hope.'

Mrs. Carlile's arrival in Leeds synchronised with a pathetic event in Mr. Tunncliffe's history. A young man, George Jaley, whose life had been poisoned and blighted through intemperance, sent for the minister on the day before his death, and explained to him how he had once been a Sunday-school scholar and then a teacher. One Sunday afternoon, when the school was over, he took a walk much against his inclination, with some of his fellow-teachers, went into a way-side house and took a glass of ale. 'It was the first glass that did it,' he said. He bitterly lamented his lost life, and implored the man of God to 'warn young men against the first glass.' Thus the train was laid and ready for the spark to be applied by the deft hand of an Irish lady.

Mrs. Carlile fell asleep on the 14th day of March, 1864, at the house of her daughter, Leinster road, Dublin, and all that was mortal of her was laid at rest in Mount Jerome Cemetery a few days after. Her works follow her. Her children rise up and call her blessed, and hail her as the mother of the Band of Hope family, which now numbers its members by millions.

Mr. Frederic T. Smith, chairman of the United Kingdom Band of Hope Committee, proposes that by way of celebrating the jubilee, an effort be made to enlist under the juvenile temperance flag one million more boys and girls. This should not be beyond accomplishment, seeing that ten hundred thousand children reach their thirteenth birthday every year.

For the extension of the work, a National Jubilee Fund is to be raised, amounting to £25,000, towards the collecting of which each Band of Hope member is expected to contribute one penny.

Efforts are not to be so centralized as to restrict the outgoing of energy to national memorials. Every local organization is to do something to widen the sphere of its own operations, and to attract public attention to the vast importance of its work.

At the time of the French Revolution, when men's hearts failed them for fear, the schoolboys of Bourges, from twelve to seventeen years of age, formed themselves into a Band of Hope. They wore uniform and practised drill. One holiday they marched through the streets of the city under a banner, which discovered the sublimely audacious motto—'Tremble, tyrants; we shall grow up.'

The members of the Band of Hope are to-day marching with confidence and courage, and the banner which they display bears upon its silken folds the device—'Let the enemy tremble; we are growing up for Truth and Temperance.'

It will interest all temperance workers to know that Mr. Frederic T. Smith, whose picture we are able to present to our readers, and whom many of us hope to see at the annual meeting, was born in 1841. Appointed to the position of teacher in a school at an early age, in the course of five years

he enlisted as many as six hundred boys in the temperance army. In 1859 he was persuaded to undertake official work in connection with the London Band of Hope Union, at whose cradle he sat and rocked it into strength. As organizer, secretary, lecturer, editor of the 'Chronicle,' and conductor of choirs at great musical festivals at the Crystal Palace, Mr. Smith has rendered services which cannot be easily over-estimated.

He has lived in such a way as to commend the cause to the members of his family, all of whom, with the exception of the youngest, are already in active service.

In 1879 Mr. Smith opened a Temperance Hotel in London, which at first consisted of one large house, and which now includes eight houses affording accommodation for one hundred and fifty guests. It is now



MRS. ANN JANE CARLILE.

income of the home by carrying on a drapery business, in which way she clothed the naked at honest prices, as her husband fed the spiritually hungry, almost without money and without price.

When she was left a widow she found herself able to retire to Dublin on her modest savings, and to give herself to such philanthropic work as lay to her hand.

As she paid one of her visits to Newgate prison, in the city where she had made her home, she found that forty women, one after the other, attributed their incarceration to whisky-drinking. On her pleading with them to give up the costly habit, she was met with the answer that she was not in a position to tender cheap advice, as the only difference between advisers and advised consisted in the not very great difference between whisky and wine! As was the universal custom of the day, she had been in the habit of using wine for the sake of her health. She was, however, prepared to make a sacrifice and run a personal risk for the sake of others, and she was quite surprised at the discovery—which, of course, is no surprise to us—that she ran no risk, made no sacrifice, and that she was physically as well as morally fitter for work in her abstaining days than ever she had been in her abstemious ones.

She founded societies in Dublin and elsewhere, lived down the opposition raised against her on account of what was then a new departure—a woman engaging in public work and addressing public meetings.

In 1847 Mrs. Carlile visited England at the earnest solicitation of many earnest



MR. FREDERIC T. SMITH.

the largest guest-house of its kind in the metropolis. Long may he continue to preside over its destinies, and to lay the whole temperance movement under great and lasting obligations.

## Farming Out the Children.

Rev. N. D. Hillis, D.D.

To-day much is being said about the decline of leadership. Pastors and churches look in vain for successors to the sturdy men who have planned the moral movements of the past generation. A prominent journal has recently discussed the decay of the eldership and the diaconate. The brightest and best students are not entering the ministry, is the word from the colleges. We have difficulty in finding strong material for the eldership, is the word from the churches. The theme suggests a burning question, and the time seems to have fully come for a discussion of at least one aspect of the question.

Now, the decline of leadership is a fact traceable largely to the decay of religious instruction in the home. For more than a generation, parents have farmed out their children for moral training. The time was when the nation's youth were trained primarily in the home, and only incidentally in the Sunday-school. But the time has come when the moral instruction of the children is confined to a brief half hour upon one day in seven. The moral strength and sturdiness of the men who once officiated our churches was not gained by chance, did not come unasked, did not stay unurged.