

### God Bless Our Cause.

God bless our sacred cause!  
We plead our righteous laws,  
Our homes to shield,  
Our land has suffered long  
From an accursed wrong,  
Whose roots are deep and strong,  
Nor do they yield.

Now let the people come,  
And vote for God and home  
And temperance laws!  
We'll be no more deceived;  
Our land *must* be retrieved,  
And from this curse relieved!  
God bless our cause.

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## Home and School

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 25, 1888.

### Total Abstinence.

In the course of a recent sermon, the Rev. J. S. Ross, of Dundas, described the evils of drink. The ridiculous assertion made by some people that other things were as bad as drink, was ridiculed. No gaoler, warden, or other prison official was ever known to say that one-half or more of the prisoners under his charge came there by eating beefsteak or drinking tea or coffee. The waste of money on strong drink was something appalling. Last year the Methodist Church in all Canada made a strenuous effort to raise a quarter of a million dollars for missions and failed; and the entire amount raised by all denominations in the Dominion for missions was less than one million; yet it was a fact that twenty-seven million dollars were spent every year in Canada for drink. If this immense sum was spent for necessaries and comforts, what an impetus it would give to all other branches of trade, and what a vast amount of happiness would be the result!

The benefits of total abstinence were many. For one thing it prolonged life. Tests made by life insurance companies proved that out of a hundred expected deaths of moderate drinkers, ninety-nine did die; but of total abstainers, the number was only

seventy. Tests had been made showing that men engaged in hard work would do more work without alcoholic stimulants than with them; and it was beyond dispute that abstainers who had been on arctic exploration expeditions have withstood the disease of scurvy and the cold of the northern regions much better than those who drank moderately. The same could be said of those going to hot climates. Europeans going to India, who do not drink, stand the hot climate of that country far better than those who do. When the cholera visited Montreal it was found that excessive drinkers were swept off like flies before the cold of winter—not more than two out of a thousand who were attacked with the disease recovered, while the teetotallers who fell victims to the great scourge were few indeed. The value of alcohol as a medicine has been greatly overestimated. In a hospital in London the patients are treated without liquor; and although the founders of it were threatened that if their designs were carried out they would be tried for manslaughter, as their patients would perish in great numbers, yet it has been proved that the death-rate in this hospital was four-and-a-half per cent. less than any other hospital in all England treating the same class of patients.

In conclusion, the rev. gentleman warned all not to tamper with strong drink, thinking they could control their appetites, for some men of the grandest and strongest intellects ever created, had fallen victims to their appetites.

WITHIN the limits of papal Rome there are now 22 Protestant churches.



THE YEAR OF JUBILEE.

### Great Sunday-School Gathering.

JANUARY 2nd was a red-letter day in the Methodist and Presbyterian Sunday-schools in Montreal. The twenty-ninth New-Year's gathering of Methodist children took place on Monday morning, in the St. James Street Church, when 3,500 children, representing eighteen schools, were present. Several addresses were delivered, and telegrams exchanged with schools in Brandon (Man.) and Toronto. The children of eighteen Presbyterian schools—2,500 in number—met in Erskine Church, when the Rev. A. B. McKay and others addressed them. Greetings were also exchanged between the two Sunday-school bodies, and the greatest enthusiasm was manifested at each gathering.

### The Year of Jubilee.

ONCE in every fifty years was the year of jubilee. It began at sunset of the day of atonement. Suddenly, after all the sadness of the day, came the sound of trumpets all over the land. Then everybody rejoiced, for the year of jubilee had come.

On that year all people who had been slaves became free for the rest of their lives. Nobody planted any fields, nor raised any crops, nor gathered in any harvests; but all lived upon what grew of itself, and trusted in God, for he had promised to care for them.

If any one had sold his house and land in the country, it was given back to him, or to his children, if he had died before the jubilee came. No one could sell land for a longer time than to the next jubilee, for then it must be given back. This was to keep the people from want, by giving them homes; and to keep each tribe and

family in its own place, until Christ should come. It also taught them that God alone was the owner of the land, and that they were to keep it under his commands.

### What are Baboos?

BY REV. R. SPURGEON, OF BARISAL.

YOUNG people often hear missionaries from India, especially from Bengal, use this word, and sometimes it is seen in books. Some imagine it is a word that means nearly the same as baboon. This is a mistake. Baboons are monkeys; but baboos are men. Besides, the word is a respectful, and not a disrespectful, one. It is only used to native gentlemen of good position. The Bengali dictionary says it means a wealthy native, or one who lives at ease. So you see, dear young friends, that when we meet an educated, well dressed, and polite native, we do not speak in irony or ridicule as we say, "Good morning, baboo." It is as respectful as though we said to him, "Good morning, sir." There are baboos who are very learned as well as very rich. One of them was a great friend of mine, and he used to read the Bible very much. Every morning, I believe, he put on his table a picture of Jesus with a crown of thorns on his head, and then, opening his Bible, he read a few verses, and closed his eyes to think it over. "Why do you do so, baboo?" I asked him one day. "Because I want to be like Christ," he replied. It was an English Bible that he read. He was the head schoolmaster of a large school. There are hundreds of baboos now in Bengal who can speak English, and many of them do not worship idols at all. Pray for them, dear young reader, that they may learn to worship God.