



Pledge forms will be supplied free. 'Messenger' subscribers desiring forms can have a supply by return mail on receipt of post-card.—Ed. 'Northern Messenger.'

Drinking Facilities.

(The 'League Journal'.)

The facts, so far as we know, all go to prove that an increase of facilities increase drinking and drunkenness. A man will often go to a public-house within twenty or thirty yards of him who would not go three or four hundred yards. Then every license-holder has a circle of friends among whom he pushes his business. Further the drink appetite grows by what it feeds on. If a man goes into a baker's shop and buys a roll, and eats it, it does not produce in him an overmastering desire to rush into the next baker's shop for another roll, as the drink does in its victim. From the nature of the drink sold every public-house makes trade for every other public-house. All experience goes to prove that parishes and towns free from public-houses are sober, and have little or no crime. This is the experience of the fifteen hundred parishes in the Province of Canterbury, and also of the one hundred and ninety-five parishes in Scotland, with a population of one hundred and thirty-four thousand, which have no licenses, though the benefits have been somewhat minimized by the hawking of liquor in grocers' vans. The recent experience of Liverpool is to the same effect, and the case is proved to the hilt that, other things being equal, drinking facilities measure drinking, drunkenness, and its concomitant evils.

Cigarettes or Success.

(The Junior Christian Endeavor World.)

A school journal devoted to physiology tells of a boy who wished to be a doctor. His uncle, who was an eminent surgeon, said to him: 'If you want to be a successful specialist in surgery, you will have to give up your baseball, for it is hardening and stiffening your hands, and destroying the delicate touch you will need in surgery.'

The boy, who would rather play a game of ball than eat his dinner, any day, decided that to be a great surgeon was better than to be a good ball-player; and he gave up the good for the best.

Not every boy would be compelled to make such a choice, but, as the paper goes on to say, the choice comes in other ways.

With hundreds of boys it is between cigarettes and success. School work in physiology shows boys that whatever enjoyment a boy may get out of sucking narcotic fumes from a paper tube, he has to pay for in future failures in business, when he rubs against the boy or man whose brain is clear and whose heart is not weakened by the cigarette.

Sir Walter Raleigh on Wine.

'Take especial care that thou delight not in wine, for there was not any man that came to honor or preferment that loved it; for it transformeth a man into a beast, decayeth health, poisoneth the breath, destroyeth natural heat, brings a man's stomach to an artificial heat, deformeth the face, rotteth the teeth, and, to conclude, maketh a man contemptible, soon old, and despised of all wise and worthy men; hated in thy servants, in thyself, and companions; for it is a bewitching and infectious vice. A drunkard will never shake off the delight of beastliness; for the longer it possesses a man, the more he will delight in it; and the older he groweth, the more he will be subject to it;

for it dulleth the spirits, and destroyeth the body, as ivy doth the old tree; or as the worm that engendereth in the kernel of a nut. Take heed, therefore, that such a cureless canker pass not thy youth, nor such a beastly infection thy old age; for then shall all thy life be but as the life of a beast, and after thy death thou shalt only leave a shameful infamy to thy posterity, who shall study to forget that such a one was their father.'

Beware!

(E. De Courcy.)

Beware of Alcohol: the foe
That meets you wheresoe'er you go;
A foe that wrecks so many lives—
Parents and children—husbands—wives—
Crushing the strong, cheating the wise—
Listen! the voice of wisdom cries—
Beware!

Beware! for tempters wait around;
In paths you think not they abound;
'Angels of light' they oft appear—
Be not deceived; danger is near;
When thus enticed, watch, strive, and pray,
And you shall conquer in that day—
Beware!

Beware! touch not the fatal glass;
For if you do, alas! alas!
Your downward course may then begin—
A course of sorrow and of sin—
Ending in darkness and despair;
Take heed, and shun the lion's lair.
Beware!

Selections from James Silk Buckingham.

(The 'Temperance Record'.)

'I hope the day will come when it shall be deemed a "sine qua non" amongst the qualifications of a missionary to go out with the Gospel to the heathen that he be a teetotaler.'

'Was it ever known that any human being became wiser in consequence of using intoxicating drinks?'

'I will venture to affirm that one-half of the societies, educational and religious, which have held their anniversaries during the last six weeks, could be dispensed with, if the principles of teetotalism were universally practised.'

'They had many difficulties to encounter; because all persons who were interested in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks, as well as all who used those drinks, because they loved them, united to oppose their progress, and to uphold the system of drunkenness.'

'Under the advice and sanction of one of the most eminent physicians in London, the late Dr. Armstrong, in the year 1826, I, and all my household, wife, children, servants, and all, voluntarily gave up, at once and entirely, the habitual use of all alcoholic or intoxicating beverages whatever; and since that hour we have never once repented the change.'

NORTHERN MESSENGER PREMIUMS.

A reliable and handsome Fountain Pen, usually sold at \$2.00, manufactured by Sandford & Bennett, New York, given to 'Messenger' subscribers for a list of ten subscriptions to 'Northern Messenger' at 30 cents each.

The People's Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine Doctor. This book gives a description of the diseases of the Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine, with exact doses of medicine. Usually sold at \$1.00, will be given to 'Messenger' subscribers for a list of seven subscriptions to the 'Northern Messenger' at 30 cents each.

BAGSTER'S MINION BIBLE, suitable for Church, Sabbath-school or Day School. Each boy and girl reader of the 'Messenger' should possess one. Given for five subscriptions to the 'Northern Messenger' at 30 cents each.

BAGSTER'S LONG PRIMER BIBLE—A handsome Bible, gilt edges, with the addition of 307 pages, containing the following: Valuable Bible Helps, Concordance, Alphabetical Index, Maps and Illustrations, with other aids to Bible study. Given to 'Messenger' subscribers for fifteen subscriptions to the 'Northern Messenger' at 30 cents each.

Correspondence

Cape Breton.

Dear Editor,—I am getting the 'Messenger' for two years and I like it very much. I live on a farm, and we have sixteen cows, four horses, twenty-two sheep and eighteen hens, etc. I have five brothers and four sisters; their names are: John T., Alexander V., Dan Hiram, David W., and Angus, and Rebecca, Hannah, Jane and Katie Anne. I go to school, and I like my teacher very much, indeed; his name is Mr. Finlayson. He is our teacher in Sunday-school also, and boards with us. I study the fifth book and learn recitations. I was at Sydney this summer and enjoyed being there. One of my brothers is a carpenter. My father keeps a store and I am a clerk. We raise hay, oats, barley, apples and crab-apples. I have great fun sleigh-riding and coasting. One of my sisters is married, and the names of her children are: Angus R., Eliza A., Jimmie H., Alexander and Johnnie. My Aunt Maggie was up from Framboise last week. I am fourteen years old. My birthday is on March 20.

GEORGE J. M.

Toronto.

Dear Editor,—I get the 'Northern Messenger' in Sunday-school. I live in the city of Toronto. It is a beautiful city situated on Lake Ontario. It has a fine and well-protected harbor. We carry on a large manufacturing trade. In fact, there is hardly any branch of manufacture which is not carried on in this city. We have some very nice streets and parks. Toronto is noted for its public buildings. Probably the largest building in the Dominion is the Provincial Asylum. One may pass through Toronto by railway in eight different directions. I have three brothers and no sisters. I have been to a few places of interest, such as Niagara Falls. These falls are most magnificent. The reflection of the sun upon the waters forms a rainbow. I saw Brock's monument and the place where he fell. When going to St. Catharines we passed through two locks and visited the city. If any one by the name of Stoops would kindly write a letter to the 'Northern Messenger' I would be much obliged.

K. S.

Brussels, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We have taken the 'Messenger' and 'Witness' so long we could not do without them. My father and brother voted for Prohibition, but we did not get it; but right will conquer never fear. I am ten years old and I go to school. I am in the senior third class. My teacher's name is Miss Bielby. I saw a letter in the correspondence from Ella Bielby. She is my cousin and spent her holidays this summer at my home. While she was here we all went up to Goderich. They were cleaning out the harbor with a dredge and hauling the dirt away out into the lake by a scow. We were out on the pier and went out to a little island big enough for a house and lawn. We went up one hundred and eighty steps through the park which overlooks the lake and back to the hotel where we had our dinner. Some men had the job of washing some horses in the lake to clean them; they were to go to Manitoba. The prettiest sight of all was to see the white caps come rolling in and the sun shining on them. We could see the lake six miles out of Goderich; it looked like a great blue cloud with flakes of white here and there. There is a large elevator on the edge of the water, so it will be handy to load and unload the boats, and a saw-mill on the water's edge. I got one new subscriber for the 'Messenger.' Has any boy or girl a birthday on the same date as mine, March 15? I wish everybody a Happy New Year.

ELLA E.

Star, Alta.

Dear Editor,—Thursday, December 18, was quite a day with me. Early in the morning a baby sister was born. In the evening a Christmas tree was held in the school-house. My brother Barlow and I took part. He made a speech and sang, and I recited 'The Wonderful Goose.' While