

real kids

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A VOICE FROM THE FIELD

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"Put ye in the sickle; for the Harvest is ripe."

VOL. I.

MONTREAL, DECFMBER, 1889.

No. 8

HEARTS OF GOLD.

Written for "A VOICE FROM THE FIELD." BY FLORENCE VARNKY.

Cloze beside my door this morning,
Bloomed a pansy bright;
Radiant in the golden dawning
Of the Christmas light!

And beside her dark leaves binding,
Blessings rich were mine;
Now to you, the message wending,
Links my joy with thine!

First, the sacred words revealing,
In the tripple band;
Faith, 'n' ath' the cold leaves concealing
Gently clasped my hand.

Hope, in purple petals shrou'd,
Cheer'd my waning strength;
Till no more, by darkness cloud'd,
I rejoiced at length!

Then in clearer accents stealing,
Love, the story told;
While the trembling echoes pealing
Stirred her heart of gold!

MAY we thus, by humble living,
Magnify the three;
Faith and Hope, yet ever giving,
All for Charity.

CHRISTMAS, 1889.

NATIONAL W. C. T. U.

Having enjoyed the privilege of attending the National W. C. T. U. Convention at Chicago, we desire to share that privilege, as far as possible, with the readers of THE VOICE, although we can but give a very inadequate sketch in the small space available in these columns.

On the morning of the 8th of November, hundreds of earnest faced women were to be seen wending their way, through the pouring rain to Battery D. in the eastern portion of Chicago.

Everything goes with a rush in that great city, and only the day before Battery P. had been in use for an exhibition of splendid horses, and the W. C. T. U. workers had been busy the whole night, transforming it into a beautifully decorated Convention Hall.

The transformation was certainly perfect. From the gothic ceiling hung, at least, two thousand "star stangled banners." The large platform was bordered with ferns and

flowers, while flags, banners and mottoes abounded. On one beautifully executed banner was a globe encircled by the white ribbon with World's W. C. T. U. inscribed upon it, and an angel floating down a path of light to the girdled earth. A large motto, extending the length of one side of the hall, was:—"No sectionalism in politics, no sex in citizenship, no sectarianism in religion, but all for God, for Home and Native Land,"—and there were others equally good.

When the Convention was called to order, Miss Willard invited the Canadian delegates, ten in number, (Mrs. Foster, Dominion President; Mrs. Faucett, Provincial President of Ontario; Mrs. Sanderson, Provincial President of Quebec; Mrs. Chisholm, Provincial President of Manitoba; Mrs. Rockwell, Dominion Superintendent of Franchise; Miss Barber, Dominion Superintendent of Evangelistic Work; Miss Phelps, Dominion Lecturer; Mrs. McDonnell, of Toronto; Mrs. Jarman, of Toronto; Mrs. Graham, Manitoba); to take seats on the platform during Convention.

Madame Willard, 85 years of age; Mrs. (Judge) Thompson, the leader of the first crusade, 73; and Mother Stewart over 80, were also on the platform with Miss Willard and the general officers.

Mrs. Thompson asked how many of the first crusaders were present, and Miss Willard put the question, in response to which 103 women rose to their feet.

There were 467 delegates present, representing all the States and territories, besides a large number of W. C. T. U. visitors, and at the evening sessions the Hall which held 6,000 was filled, while hundreds were standing unable to get seats.

The first morning was given entirely to Bible-reading, consecration and devotion, beginning with the singing of "Rock of Ages," led by Mr. and Mrs. Bent with their cornets. Miss Willard spoke of the first crusaders having been called by a German, "Dem Rock of Ages Vimen," and said that was what she most desired they should ever be. It was a solemn sight to see that great assembly of women, bowed in deepest consecration, before the God of the white ribbon host, before entering upon any of the business of the various departments of work represented there.

In the afternoon the report of the Corresponding Secretary was very interesting, showing that the past year had been one of the best if not the very best since the W. C. T. U. was organized fifteen years ago. Mother Stewart, Neal Dow and others addressed the Convention. Mrs. Foster said a few words when introduced, and Miss Phelps also spoke for the Canadian delegation.