

## WRITE TO THE BOYS.

If we had the ear of mothers in the country, whose boys have gone away to the cities, and to the great city, and who are wondering how they may help them to keep pure and true among the temptation of city life, we should say this to them, Write them a mother's love letter every week. We know, by personal experience, how mother's letter keeps her before the young man's eyes and safe in the young man's heart. We know how these letters keep on building a hedge round a young man so high and so thick that foul conversation and evil enticement cannot get through. We do not believe that the devil can get near the mother guarded youth. — *S. S. Chronicle*.

## SOME CURIOUS DISCLOSURES.

The *Blue Ribbon Gazette* has the following:—A confidential retired liquor dealer made some curious disclosures to a *New York Times* reporter recently. He said: "Few liquor drinkers have the faintest idea in regard to the extent of the evil of adulteration. For instance, more than two-thirds of the stuff sold for brandy in this country is the meanest kind of poison. It is manufactured from an oil of cognac. Gin is considered a safe drink by thousands, who believe that it is the only liquor that escapes adulteration. They are mistaken. In most of the gin sold there will be found oil of vitriol, oil of turpentine, oil of almonds, sulphuric ether, and extract of grains of paradise. It is in the manufacture of whiskey, however, that the adulterators do their finest work. You can purchase oils and essences from which "whiskey of any age" can be produced. This style of whiskey when tested will show sulphuric acid, caustic, potash, benzine, and nux vomica, and other poisons. This is the sort of stuff that bores into the coatings of the stomach and creates ulcers. In porter you will find opium, henbane, capsicum, cocculus indicus, copperas, tobacco, and sulphuric acid. In beer, alum, opium, nux vomica, green copperas, vitriol, subcarbonate of potash, and jalap are used. Of course, ale of this character is dangerous to drink. If it does not produce complete nausea it will surely cause intoxication." We have plenty of opportunities in Great Britain of observing the evil moral effects of these intoxicants; these revelations show how fearful must be the physical damage they effect.

## PUTTING ON CHRIST.

What does it mean to "put on Christ"? It does not mean that you are only to make an experiment of putting on the garb of the new life, and see how you will like it. No man puts on Christ for anything short of eternity. The act must be a finality, even at the beginning. He must be accepted as the Alpha and Omega. Whoever contemplates even the possibility of being without him, or of ever being without him again, does not put him on. Neither do you put him on when you undertake to copy some one or more of the virtues or characters in him—the gentleness, for example, the love, the dignity—without being willing to accept sacrifice in him, to bear the world's contempt with him, to be singular, to be hated, to go through your Gethsemane and groan with him under the burdens of love. There cannot be choosing out here of shreds and patches from His divine beauty, but you must take the whole suit, else you cannot put him on. The garments are seamless, and cannot be divided. *Dr. Bushnell*.

## CHILD CHRISTIANS.

We must accept the fact on Christ's authority that there may be and are child Christians. The Church has lost time and territory and triumph through her "slowness of heart" to believe this. She has elaborated agencies for nineteen centuries to win the adult, the mature, the old for Christ; but till a century ago she slighted the children, and thus let grow up around her and in her very midst those who should early have been secured for Jesus. She missed her opportunity, and then, when the children had ceased to be children, began to seek their conversion. Having first "let them slip," she set herself to win them back to Christ. It was an attempt to cleanse the stream in the channels, instead of keeping it pure at the spring. We have now taken hold firmly on the truth that our children, even "little ones" may be believers, and that not a few are. "Mother," whispered a little boy, as he sat by her side at the Lord's supper, "why mayn't I take the Sacrament?" "Because, dear child, it is only for christians?" but no sooner had the mother said the words than her heart misgave her. Nor was her embarrassment lessened when her child again whispered, "Mother, am I not a Christian? for I really, really do love Jesus,"—*Presbyterian*.