

the past, and consider the necessities and duties of the present, and devise the best methods for harmonious and effective work in the future, we pray that you may be enabled to touch strings that shall vibrate through all the land, and result in awakening a new and deeper interest in this grand cause. Over 1800 years ago as our Lord and Master stepped forth from his rock bound sepulchre among the Easter glories of the garden, He commissioned a woman to go and tell the story of the resurrection. The Marys were not sent forth on any quest of knight-errantry. They were not called to unsex themselves, or to do aught that the most fastidious taste could disapprove or consider inappropriate. Their commission was simply to "tell the brethren," their brethren, and his brethren, the wonderful tidings that Christ had broken the power of the evil-one and that his captives might go free. During the past year in your local unions you have been "telling the brethren" in faithful earnestness and prayerful faith, the old, old story of a Saviour's love and power to save; and to-night the memories of your toil and weariness, your struggles and discouragements, your plans and failures, fade away before the great love of Him who like a pillar of cloud has shielded you from the heat of the day, and like a pillar of fire has guided you through the night of disappointment. The result of work for souls comes not with outward observation, but this we know, that thousands upon thousands of redeemed men on this continent stand to-day in the liberty wherewith Christ has made them free, who reached that place of freedom directly or indirectly through the efforts of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. In thousands of homes once desolated by the liquor curse, home lights and altar fires are now burning which owe their kindling or rekindling to your Union. The human lives thus rescued from degradation and sin are flowing in healthful channels through the body politic, enriching and invigorating business, society and the church. To-night we may by the ear of faith catch the glad strains of many who having crossed the river, are praising God for the influence of your work. Your enemy and our enemy is strong, cruel and determined, fertile in expedients and almost unlimited in resources, having on his side all the selfishness, all the sensuality, all the self-indulgence of unprincipled men. But, thank God, you can look upward and realize that greater is He that is for you than all that can be against you,

"For right is right, since God is God,

And right the day shall win;

To doubt would be disloyalty,

To falter would be sin."

As one branch of the great Temperance army we extend to you the right hand of fellowship, and heartily join in returning thanks to Almighty God for having owned and blessed your labors. While we all share in the toil, and lay courses in our turn, you occupy the post of honour, even the watchman's post, upon the almost completed battlements, and as your eyes look out above the conflict and the toil, and

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