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The Temperance Worker

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

No cheaper paper containing each week's news of the world is printed than this, and its variety of other matter than news is such as to make it a welcome visitor in every household where it has once received an introduction. Will those who have had the paper long enough to know its qualities kindly recommend it to friends and relatives far and near? No more acceptable birthday or holiday gift, for double the money, could be obtained than a year's subscription to the *Messenger*—except, of course, a two year's subscription.

The *Temperance Worker* department supplies a vehicle for news of the various temperance organizations in Canada, as well as articles bearing upon the cause. We hope to make it more and more worthy of the patronage of the temperance people, as they aid us with their patronage and co-operation.

The editor of the *Messenger* will answer questions of public interest through these columns.

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IT CASTS DOWN THE MIGHTY.

A special entertainment and dinner was lately given to M. Waddington, Minister of France to London, by a noble lady at her summer retreat at Cowes, Isle of Wight. The guest of the occasion was accompanied by the French Admiral Keppel. Among the distinguished guests present were the Prince of Wales and Lord Charles Beresford. After dinner, when the ladies had withdrawn and the wines flowed in generous profusion, the conversation drifted to the Chinese war, and then a debate was started by Lord Charles upon the merits of the English and French navies. Becoming warm with wine the hero of Meke became offensive in his remarks, and the Prince of Wales and others tried to compel him to observe decorum, but their efforts only made him pugnacious. He concluded remarks throwing ridicule upon the entire French fleet by saying he could take the "Condor," the little gunboat with which he distinguished himself at the bombardment of Alexandria, and chase the whole French fleet in Chinese waters away from the Annam coast. Such conduct as this justly incensed M. Waddington, who arose from the table, demanded his carriage and left the house. He was, however, followed by the hostess, whose earnest solicitation alone induced him to return to her house instead of going, as he intended, to a hotel. Meanwhile the British officers present were compelled, for the vindication of English good manners, to forcibly expel the distinguished and drunken officer. Although great efforts were made to keep the matter quiet, the offended French Minister would not conceal his indignation at the gross affront to which he

had been subjected, and the incident was soon the greatest scandal London had possessed for a good while. What a mockery wine is of dignity and self respect!

FRUITS OF THE TRAFFIC.

An Indian named Isaac Sky, from Brant, Ontario, who did a large business in making lacrosse sticks, was lately drowned in Toronto Bay. On the recovery of his body two bottles of whiskey and some money were found in the pockets. These articles were afterward stolen from the morgue by one of the crowd that gathered when the corpse was taken there. Imagine how low a man must have sunk to be guilty of such a theft!

A man living in New Edinburgh, Ontario, while intoxicated bought a pistol and threatened to kill his wife. He was arrested in an excited state after chasing her and three of his small children into the woods. The offender is described as well-educated and intelligent, a former clergyman and at present holding a Government situation in Ottawa.

A young man named Henry Moss, while intoxicated, fell off a train on the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway, near Flesherton, Ontario, and was ground to fragments beneath the wheels.

Percy Fleming, a farm laborer with a wife and three children, drowned himself in a pond at Toronto while drunk.

Dr. McGregor, formerly of Cape Breton, lately of Bruce, Ontario, recently committed suicide, after an unsuccessful effort with a revolver using a knife with professional skill so as to finish himself in a few minutes. A report of the case says deceased was formerly a school teacher, but having by his own efforts secured an education and a physician's diploma, he practised for many years at Lucknow and Ripley, and won an excellent reputation. Lately, however, he had fallen under the influence of strong drink and lowered himself in public esteem; still no cause for his rash and deplorable action can be given.

Senor Lumez, Minister from Brazil to the United States, has been recalled by his Government because he got drunk and made a show of himself in Washington.

GOOD TEMPLARS.

A new Lodge of the English order has been organized at Vale Colliery, a mining village in Pictou County, N. S., by Mr. B. D. Rogers, District Deputy, of Stellarton, assisted by Mr. John Weir and Miss Henrietta McDonald, of neighboring Lodges. "Gideon" Lodge, as it is called, starts with thirty-two charter members, meets on Friday evenings and has the following officers for the current term:—Stellman Turnbull, W. C. T.; Mrs. Frank Love, W. V. T.; Evan McPherson, W. Sec'y.; Lena McBean, W. P. S.; J. W. McLean, W. T.; John W. McBean, W. Chap.; Hector Fraser, Marshal.; John Peart, Guard; Lauchlin McNeil, Sentinel; Maggie McLean, D.M.; Maggie Fisher, A.S.; John Forbes, P. W. C. T.; Evan McPherson, L. D.

EMPTY BUBBLE FAME.

There is a serious lesson in the sad fate of Captain Webb, the famous swimmer, who lately threw his life away in a mad attempt to swim the Whirlpool Rapids below Niagara Falls. People should be led by the melancholy occurrence to reflect upon their aims in life, and to strive to be able to distinguish at all times between worthy and unworthy objects of pursuit. Probably one reason why notoriety is so much sought after nowadays is because it is so easy to obtain, on account of the wonderful facility with which all kinds of news are collected and distributed instantaneously and simultaneously over the wide world. In some measure the fatal love of notoriety is likely to cure itself, as the public, surfeited with sensation and horror not created for their own sake, demands something not only above startling but almost superhuman from those who set about fixing the world's gaze upon themselves. As for those whose infatuation tends to look for a notorious name in crime, well-governed countries provide a pretty efficient remedy in the ordinary machinery of justice, striking whole, some awe into the whole species of cranks by speedily sending any of them found guilty of misdeeds to the obscurity of a prison or the oblivion of a felon's grave, according to the nature of his crime. Again, the hard common sense to be found in every civilized community acts as a restraint upon this form of insanity by frowning or laughing down, as suits best, the freaks of those who become affected by the craze to be stared at, wondered at and talked about. The fact, however, that the most successful aspirants after public recognition of that sort are those possessed of natural powers that would have given them more noble and enduring if not such widespread fame indicates that many people are being spoiled from the cradle through the cultivation of an undue desire for praise, or admiration, or sympathy of some sort from their fellow-beings. Therefore, this evil is no exception to others in being more certainly counteracted by prevention than by cure. Let young people be brought up to regard a useful life as being beyond all comparison a nobler one and a happier than a famous one, and being ambitious to shine for the pleasure of a brief hour of individual glory as infinitely below letting the light of good deeds shine before men so that they may be benefited thereby. Captain Webb was a man of noble and manly qualities, but he sacrificed what might have been one of the most useful of lives to the silly desire of performing a feat that everybody had thought impossible. It would have been a glorious mission in life, for which he was well adapted, had he undertaken to teach his fellow-creatures how to preserve their lives in the water. He yielded to temptation, however, and made his death a mournful example of that contempt for God-given existence which had already been one of the oldest curses of our race.

AN ADDITION has been made to the British Empire, consisting of the territory of Kitim, adjoining Sherbro, West Africa.

KANSAS UNDER PROHIBITION has become an inebriate asylum of the best kind imaginable—where the patients have the freedom of a great country without the temptation of liquor-selling places. One victim who fled there for relief wrote after a while to a friend, telling his experience, and the following extract from his letter has been published in the *New York Witness*:—"John, I have seen over a dozen men who had been confirmed drunkards and who came here to reform; all have succeeded. One man told me he came here two years ago, had been drunk twenty years and came here drunk, but has never touched liquor since. The fact is, when a man gets here he is bound to reform; he can't get whiskey if he wants it." It will be a grand day for humanity when this inebriate asylum extends its bounds to cover the whole continent.

A YOUNG PREACHER named Mr. A. H. Williams, licentiate of Acadia Seminary, preached in the Baptist Church at Alma, N. B., on a recent Sunday. He made some remarks uncomplimentary to liquor sellers, and one of them called at his boarding house after church and gave him a somewhat severe pounding. The liquor seller has been duly prosecuted for his assault.

PEOPLE ARE MOVING FAST now in the Old as well as the New World. A lightning train between Paris, Vienna and Constantinople has proved so successful that a similar one is to be put on the route between Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT was prorogued on Saturday last, the Queen's speech being read by commission. There is nothing in the speech indicating anxiety entertained by Her Majesty's Government over the situation of affairs in Europe. Notwithstanding the cholera's interruption the process of reorganizing Egyptian affairs is represented as advancing favorably; the cholera is disappearing, and the people are gaining strength and confidence under English assistance. Confidence is expressed of the entire removal of the difficulty in Madagascar, which threatened to disturb the harmony existing between England and France. Hope is entertained that the disturbance in South Africa will be soon composed, as the Government will keep all its engagements with Zululand. Efforts are now being put forth to settle amicably the disputes that have arisen in the Transvaal. Agriculture has improved, and an abundant harvest is promised; commerce is sound and prosperous, and the material wealth of the Empire is augmenting. Visible improvement is taking place in Ireland, where the people are more contented, the Local Government is meeting with more favor, and disturbances are disappearing, and conspiracy has been effectively checked. In concluding with the usual thanks to the members, reference is made to the important legislation effected in a number of Acts, pertaining to internal matters, which had been passed. On the whole, the speech is the most cheerful that has been delivered to Parliament from the throne for a long time.