

members of the union. The question is not, which side has your sympathy? But on which side are you working? Have you known an opportunity to approve by word or sign some one's avowal of temperance principles and failed to use it? If so you not only lost that opportunity to aid the temperance cause but you lent the weight of your silence to the liquor party. Have you made young men who are known to drink recipients of special social favors? In so doing on which side has your influence been felt? Don't think, dear young people that I am urging any approach to fanaticism. One need not thrust one's principles in peoples faces nor make them in anywise unpleasantly obtrusive. Nowhere is a woman's tact and graceful generalship more admirable than in the championship of her chosen principles or the expression of her own moral convictions. There are hundreds of subtle ways in which one sweet girl's influence may be made felt. A quiet word, a smile of approval, a look of disappointment or a tone of pained disapproval or regret—you all know how to use them; and remember that in failing to do so you risk a loan to the other side. At the very least you give the enemy that much vantage ground, and how much that may be cannot be fairly measured from your own standpoint. Be strong in the courage of your own convictions, dear young people. So much is resting with you. "What are we to do?" two dear girls said to me only a few days ago: "There are not a dozen young men in our set, but nearly all of them drink occasionally. We can't drop them for they are invited to all the parties and help us through with everything. Besides they are the only ones there are to depend upon for any social enterprise." I could only say: "Well, girlies, if you feel as badly about it as you would if each one of those young men was your brother, and if you care more for principle than for parties I think you will find some way out of the difficulty." And I firmly believe that if those girls and perhaps

half a dozen of their friends are earnestly desirous of bettering matters in their circle they will find at least that many of the young men ready to help them do it. Don't be afraid, dear young sisters, to be now and then serious with your young men friends. Let them feel that principle is more to you than pleasure. Show them that you expect their best and see if they won't work with you for social reform as well as for social pleasures. Above all let them feel that you look not lightly upon any form of evil—that you scorn the whited sepulchre tho' it be jewel decked or socially distinguished. Make them understand that you honor true manliness and that character is more to you than wealth or culture. *But be sure of your own convictions.* Don't say to your brother or your friend's brother "I want you in the temperance party," because you feel in a general sort of way that it is the safest place for them, or because it seems the proper side of the question for a young lady to espouse. Don't, I implore you, attempt temperance mission work unless your heart is in it—unless you feel what you are saying. Mere words are a mockery, and reproving words spoken carelessly or flippantly, as I have sometimes heard them, only disgust or harden the hearer. It has been hinted that the moral standard of a nation is established by its women, and certainly the sisters, wives and mothers are doing infinitely more than legislature for temperance in America. Just here a word with the young matron who is setting up a new hearthstone and lighting thereon the altar flame of a home. Choose your side of the temperance question and found the new home in its principles. Don't delay, and don't hesitate. Only a few months ago a bride near my own home appeared at the first party given in her honor. Wine was passed during the evening and was offered the young wife first. Quite carelessly and as a matter of course she took it, and her husband followed her example. He