

3-4-91, Ashton-on-Mersey, Eng.

To the Editors of the YOUNG FRIEND'S REVIEW.

Thanks for the notice of the work of Lady Henry Somerset in your last number. It is very interesting, and may well be an encouragement to ladies on both sides of the Atlantic to do all that lies in their power for the moral and spiritual well-being of their sisters. Work of this kind is not carried on only by the rich, as we well know, though their wealth enables them to carry out more easily practical plans of substantial help, many women in the middle and retired walks of life labor earnestly according to their means, and their travail of soul is great for the well-being of those around them.

From a friend, aged 72, I received the following, which if you approve and publish in your interesting paper, may be a further stimulus "To do the good that lieth nearest":— M. F.

"My Jubilee, or Fifty Years a Total Abstainer.—My card or certificate of membership from the Nottingham Total Abstinence Society is dated Jan. 1st, 1841, and with its blue ground and silver letters is a precious relic to me of the time when I became a pledged member, a step I have never for one moment regretted, although it was not so easy to be an abstainer then as now. The idea was treated with contempt, and its advocates often treated to hard and insulting language. I am truly glad and thankful that I adhered to my decision, and have been enabled to help others by my example and influence to work for their emancipation from the slavery of intoxicating drink. I was young then, and I ever feel for the young, and entreat them to search the Scriptures. 'How shall a young man cleanse his way?' by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word. I am not a member of the Society of Friends, but I had just entered into a family of these, which consisted of eleven persons, ten of whom were 'teetotalers'—earnest, zealous workers most of them were in

the cause, as also in the First-day School work, &c. How could I but catch the inspiration? Seven of them have gone to the heavenly home, only two are left in this country, and one is in New Zealand, having carried off the good seed there also I believe. So being now anxious to honor my Lord and promote His cause, and to celebrate my temperance jubilee in the town of Sutton, in Ashfield, Notts., where I have long resided, and amongst the Sabbath School teachers and others of my friends and neighbors, I invited them to a tea-meeting. The invitations were well responded to, and our minister opened the meeting by prayer and singing, giving also an address. Some Friends also came from Mansfield and addressed the meeting. I also gave a short address, specially to exhort the younger ones to stand up more and enlist on the Lord's side. Although the weather was bitterly cold, and my health and chest feeble, I sustained no injury from my effort, and I think we were all glad and thankful to have had the privilege of meeting together." Yours,

HARRIET NEEDHAM.

The first three clauses in the amendment to the Marriage Act, which had its third reading, and passed the Ontario Legislation on 4th mo. 21st last, relate to marriages in the Society of Friends, and read as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "The Marriage Amendment Act, 1891."

2. Section 20 of the Act respecting the solemnization of marriages is hereby repealed, and the following section enacted in lieu thereof:

Every marriage duly solemnized according to the rites, usages and customs of the religious Society of Friends, commonly called Quakers, shall be valid; and all the duties imposed by the Act respecting the solemnization of marriages, or by the Act respecting the registration of births, marriages and deaths, upon a minister and clergyman, shall, with regard to such marriage, be