

SELECTIONS.

I Must Not Drink.

If I would be a gentleman
I cannot, must not drink;
For that will cause all manliness
Below the brute to sink.

If I would be a noble man
I cannot, must not drink;
Or far from purity and truth
I shall for ever shrink.

If I would be a useful man
I cannot, must not drink;
For, with the idler drinking makes,
Be helpful, do you think?

If I would be a Christian man
I cannot, must not drink;
Behold the wretched drunkard now
Trembling on ruin's brink.

No; if I would be pure and good,
And holy, true, and wise,
I must not touch the poison cup,
Tis death in any guise.

—Temperance Banner.

The Drunkard's Wife.

A woman sits beside the crib,
In which her baby lies.
Her face is sad, her thoughts afar
Seem staying with her eyes
Those wandering eyes are large and bright,
Her face exceeding fair;
But in them one can plainly read
A spirit of despair.
Tis sad to know, that happy smiles
From these bright eyes have fled,
And the heart, that once with gladness
swelled,

Now aches with pain instead.
I'll tell you why this woman weeps
And lives a wretched life;
No fault belongs to her, but ah!
She is a drunkard's wife.

The house is small, the ceiling low,
The rooms are mean and low;
The broken windows and the roof
Let howling Winter through.
In this poor house the voice of song
Is scarcely ever heard;
No sympathizing persons calls
To speak a friendly word.
The husband comes at eventide,
Though often not till late,
But no one welcomes his return,
Nor meets him at the gate.
He brings no gladness to his home,
But wretchedness instead.
He brings its inmates grief and shame,
In place of daily bread.

A friendless woman, there she sits,
Her eyes are dim with tears;
As in her memory there comes
A thought of other years.
She thinks about her happy youth,
When life was bright and gay;
Of her father's home, and of the girls
With whom she used to play.
Those girls have grown to womanhood,
Are wives and mothers too;
But they have cheerful happy homes,
And husbands kind and true.
Their lives are free from all the ills
And woes that blight her life;
It ne'er has been their wretched lot
To be a drunkard's wife.

She thinks about the happy day
When she became a bride;
The day she took the marriage vows,
Her husband by her side.
He'd promised to be true to her,
And she believed his word,
Though she knew that he was fond of
rum,
And that he oft had erred.
But when he promised to reform,
Then plead and promised still,
She gave to him her hand and heart
Against her parents' will.
Her husband's old acquaintances
Seemed bound to blight his life;
He soon became a drunken sot,
And she a drunkard's wife.

A woman sits beside her child,
With heavy heart and sad,
She has no food, no coal, no hope,
Is ill, and poorly clad.
The husband cares for naught but rum,
To love her he has ceased;
Intemperance has changed him now
Into a brutish beast.
Behold the woman, on her knees,
Her hands are clasped in prayer.
There are frozen teardrops on her
cheeks;
Neglect has brought her there;
Before her is the sleeping child;
Her simple prayer is said,
She never more will weep again,
The drunkard's wife is dead.

—Ira A. Stoner, in the Pioneer.

You will find that which will
interest you on Pages 7 & 8.

Come Down Off the Fence.

LEND us a hand! We are weary of
striving;
Straining each nerve to win popular
acclaim;
Why do you all, when we need your
assistance,
Placidly neutral, still sit "on the
fence?"

Inwardly sure of the right of our
pleading,
Secretly hoping success to our fight,
Step from your outlook, your neutral
position,

Bravely and openly join us outright

Fathers, whose children are lost by
intemperance,
Men, whose young sisters are led
into sin!

Have you not utterly failed to protect
them?

Is it not time for us to begin?

Laws which you pass seem made to be
broken;
Open saloons are wherever we come
Just let us help to make laws for our
children,
Outside, as inside, the four walls of
home

Deep in your hearts you approve of
our wishes,
Tis but a question of time, as you
know;

Openly come to us, say you are with us,
Now is the time to encourage us so.

Are we not pleading for right and for
justice?

Dare not deny it; it is no pretense.
Come with your influence, eloquence,
wisdom,
Come down and help us "Come off
of that fence!"

—Q. E. P. in Detroit Center.

What It Costs.

The Belleville *Intelligencer* says:—Few
drinking men appreciate the amount they
expend annually. On Saturday night last
a carpenter was complaining of hard times.
Being a moderate drinker, he was asked
if he had any idea what liquor and to-
bacco cost him annually, to which he re-
plied that he had no idea, but it did not
cost him much, as he was a moderate
drinker. Being pinned down to the sum
paid by him during the past week, he re-
plied that, having been working, the
week was lighter than usual. On Mon-
day he expended 15 cents in tobacco.
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday he did
not drink. On Thursday he expended 25
cents. Friday 30 cents, and on Satur-
day 50 cents in liquor, laying in another 10
cent supply of tobacco. A computation
on the above basis shows that the money
thus uselessly spent would, if saved, pur-
chase at the end of the year, 3 barrels of
flour, 100 pounds sugar, 10 pounds tea, 1
box raisins, 13 pounds currants, 50 pounds
oatmeal, 6 gallons syrup, 40 bars soap, 10
pounds starch, 4 boxes biscuits, 1 bushel
dried apples, 25 pounds prunes (best), 1
jar mustard, 4 pounds assorted spices,
baking powder and cream tartar, 60
pounds granulated sugar, 5 bags potatoes,
1 barrel apples, 2 quarters beef, 1 ham, 2
pounds coffee. Besides which, he could
treat his family to a daily paper every
day in the year, and have 85 cents left
with which to purchase candies for the
children.

A Boy's Logic.

A little boy in Leicester was in-
duced to sign the Band of Hope
pledge. His father was a collector,
and one night a publican called on
him for the purpose of paying his
taxes. In the course of conversation
it came out that the little boy was a
teetotaler.

"What?" said the publican, with a
sneer, "a mere boy like that a teetot-
aler?"

"Yes, sir," said the boy, "I am
one."

"And you mean to say that you
have signed the pledge?"

"Yes, sir, I have; and mean to keep
it, too."

"Nonsense!" said the publican.

"The ideal! Why you are too young
to sign the pledge."

The little fellow came up to him,
took hold of him quietly by the arm
and repeated his words: "You say,
sir, I am too young to be a teetot-
aler?"

"Yes, I do."

"Well, now, sir, please listen," said
he. "I will ask you a question. You
are a publican, are you not, and sell
beer?"

"Yes, I am a publican, and sell
beer?"

"Well, then, suppose I came to
your house for a pint of beer, would
you send me about my business be-
cause I am so young?"

"Oh, no!" said the Boniface, "that
is quite a different thing!"

"Very well, then," said the noble
little fellow, with triumph in his face;
"if I am not too young to drink the
beer, I am not too young to give up
the beer."

The publican was defeated; he didn't
want to argue with that boy again.—
Union Signal.

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THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT, January 1st, 1888.

ASSETS, January 1, 1887, at cost \$32,385,672 86

RECEIPTS. Premiums in 1887 \$7,225,000 00

Interest, and from other sources in 1887 1,640,000 00

1,842,632 00

DISBURSEMENTS. Death Claims paid during 1887 \$1,257,874 34

Matured Endowments paid during 1887 626,172 89

Benefits to Policy holders and for Surrendered Policies 841,270 01

Commission 3,611 27

Agency Expenses, Medical Examinations, and all other expenses 3,611 27

Dividend on Stock, earned in Stock Department 112,000 00

Losses, \$20,420 00, Premiums on Bonds, \$4,000 00, Profit and Loss, \$7,810 00

1,993,053 65

ASSETS. Real Estate owned \$ 43,404 39

U. S. Bonds 3,411 12 1/2

Railroad and other Stocks and Bonds 9,157 00

Bank Stocks 24,436 13

State, County, and Town Bonds 1,908,200 00

Mortgages secured by Real Estate, valued at \$2,000,000 00 674,140 74

Loans on Collateral (Married Women's) 1,571,220 41

Loans on Personal Security 1,200,000 00

Loans on Existing Policies, valued at \$5,000,000 1,800,000 00

Balance due from Agents 10,000 00

Assets December 31, 1887, at cost price \$31,324,522 72

Interest due and accrued, December 31st, 1887 \$226,240 00

Premiums in course of collection 57,720 75

Quarters and Semi-Annual Premiums 109,250 46

Market Value of Securities over Cost 624,977 97

1,386,189 64

LIABILITIES. Losses and claims awaiting further proof, and not yet due \$ 181,320 00

Dividends to Policy holders, not due 1,914 13

Premiums paid in advance 9,721 13

Reserve for life insurance on existing Policies 20,800,000 00

All other liabilities 26,700 00

27,199,053 33

SURPLUS AS REGARDS POLICY-HOLDERS.

By Connecticut, Mass., and New York Standard \$5,427,623 40

By Standard of Canada, about 7,319,000 00

Policies in force Jan. 1st, 1888, 63,453, insuring 827,372,334 44

Policies issued in 1887, 7,400, insuring 24,385,448 00

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