

hundred juvenile cigarette fiends,' and substitute 'office girls' is another straw that shows which way the wind blows.

The Anti-Cigarette League, with headquarters in the Woman's Temple, Chicago, is vigorously waging war against the cigarette. It is after the boys, and to further its work publishes a bright little paper entitled 'The Boy.' School teachers are loud in their denunciations of the cigarette; their positions enable them to observe its effect and they have noted its viciousness. Many are assisting the league in its work and have secured from boys under their care pledges that they will not smoke cigarettes before they are of age. Antagonism to the cigarette is constantly increasing in force, and it is to be hoped that the earth will not have passed many mile-stones in the new century before the deadly 'coffin nail' is relegated to obscurity.—'Young People.'

By Dean Farrar.

My reasons for taking the pledge were partly general and partly special.

First.—I became convinced that the use of alcohol in any form was not a necessity. I saw that whole nations have lived and flourished without it. I believed that the whole race of man had existed for centuries previous to its discovery.

Second.—I was struck by the indisputable fact that in England 20,000 inhabitants of our prisons, accustomed to strong drink all their lives, and the majority of them brought into prison directly or indirectly by it, could be, and were, from the moment of their imprisonment, absolutely deprived of it, not only without loss, but with entire gain to their personal health.

Third.—I derived from the recorded testimony of our most eminent physicians that the use of alcohol is a subtle and manifold source of disease even to thousands who use it in quantities conveniently deemed moderate; also, that all the young, and all the healthy, and all who eat well and sleep well, do not require it, and are better without it.

Fourth.—Then the carefully drawn statistics of many insurance societies convinced me that total abstinence, so far from shortening life, distinctly and undisputably conducted to longevity.

Fifth.—Then I accumulated proof that drink is so far from being requisite to physical strength or intellectual force, that many of our greatest athletes, from the days of Samson onward, 'whose drink was only of the crystal brook,' have achieved without alcohol, mightier feats than have ever been achieved with it.

Sixth.—And besides all this, I knew that the life of man always gains by abolishing needless expenses and avoiding artificial wants. Benjamin Franklin said, a hundred years ago, 'Temperance puts wood on the fire, meat in the barrel, flour in the tub, money in the purse, credit in the country, clothes on the bairns, intelligence in the brain, and spirit in the constitution.'

Lastly.—We saw that life is full of temptations, and that there was one fatal temptation, at any rate, from which we should be absolutely and under all circumstances exempt.—'Temperance Paper.'

What Senator Depew Says.

Senator Chauncey M. Depew recently declared: 'Twenty-five years ago I knew every man, woman and child in Peekskill. It has been a study to mark boys who started in every grade of life with myself to see what has become of them. It is remarkable that every one of those who drank is dead; not one living of my own age. Barring a few who were taken off by sickness, every one that proved a wreck and wrecked his family did it from rum, and no other cause. Of those who were church-going people, steady and industrious, every single one of them, without an exception, owns the house in which he lives.' The man of God, like Napoleon's guards, does not know surrender.

Some of the municipal authorities in France have had large posters printed and circulated, setting forth the ravages of alcohol, which show that one Frenchman out of every nine is given to drink, and that sixty-three out of every hundred murders are due to alcohol.

Correspondence

Seaforth, Ontario.

Dear Editor,—In all the letters I have seen in your paper, I never saw one from 'C 4th.' I live out of town some distance, and like it much better than in town, as you have more freedom. We own two hundred acres of land and keep a large stock. We have a silo which is a great benefit to the farm. I think it will soon be the prettiest time in the country, as the trees are bursting 'into a thousand leaves.' Again wishing you all success, I remain,

R. H. C. (Aged 13.)

Stony Creek.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Messenger' this year. I like it ever so much. My brother and sister took it when they were small. My brother is now in the Klondike. I live with my grandfather on a farm; he is 86 years of age, but reads all the papers. We have a very large Maltese cat which catches snakes as well as mice; he is my pet. We live nine miles from Moncton, at Stony Creek.

ABBOTT H. S.

Blanford.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm and I have two sisters and four brothers. We live near a river and we have great fun skating. I have a dog and his name is Fobby. We have great fun with him. We have an organ and my oldest sister is taking music lessons. We take the 'Messenger' and like it very much. We have taken it for over three years.

FLOSSIE L. (Aged 10.)

Lansdowne, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Messenger' since January, and I think it is a very nice paper. I always read the Correspondence first and then I read the other stories. My papa is a blacksmith. I have two brothers and one little sister two years old. I have never seen a letter in here from Lansdowne, I like to go to school and go nearly every day. My teacher's name is Miss Robertson and I like her very well. I am ten years old. I wonder if any little girl's or boy's birthday is on the same day as mine—Oct. 22.

ANNIE E. S.

Parry Sound.

Dear Editor,—This is the first time I have ever written to a paper. I go to the Methodist Sunday-school and got the 'Northern Messenger' there. I like it very much. I have four brothers and two sisters. I have read quite a lot of books, but I think my favorite is the 'Basket of Flowers.' I go to school every day and read in the fourth book. My birthday is on the 27th of February.

M. A. B. (Aged 13.)

Farmington.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm. I have half a mile to go to school. We do not have school a whole year. My teacher's name is Miss Purdy, I like her fine. There is a brook near by home so that I can go fishing whenever I want to. My father has two horses and a two-year-old colt. I take the 'Northern Messenger' and I like it very much. I am twelve years old, I am in the seventh grade at school. My dog's name is Sport. My cats' names are Biddie and Tabbie. I hope I will see this letter in print.

CARRIE A. C.

Still Water.

Dear Editor,—I get the 'Messenger' and like it very much. I have seven brothers and one sister. I have a nice time coasting in winter. My oldest brother has two black horses and a black colt. My aunt and her children were here this winter. I have fifteen hens.

WHIDDEN. (Aged 7.)

Kemptville.

Dear Editor,—We are moving to Ottawa and I am spending a few days with grandma and grandpa. I have one little brother, his name is Freddie, and he will be eight years old on May 12. I used to get the 'Messenger' and I like it very much. I hope I will get it in Ottawa. Some day I may write again and tell you about my pets.

GLADYS M. B.

Midland, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am an interested reader of your paper. This is the second year that I have taken it. The first year it was a Christmas present from grandmamma, and a very nice one. This time I got it on my birthday, which is Jan. 10. I have a number of papers (all last year's) that, if they could be of any use to any person, I would be glad to send. Please tell me where and how to send them.

ETHEL A. (Aged 13.)
[If you write to Miss Reid, 2710 St. Catherine street, Montreal, she would give you directions about forwarding literature to settlers in the North-West.]

Moncton.

Dear Editor,—As I was renewing my subscription I thought I would write a letter. I got the 'Messenger' as a birthday present last year, and I think it is a very nice paper. I could not get along without it. I have two brothers, one in Alaska and the other in Cuba. I go to the Aberdeen School. I am in the Sixth Grade; there are 850 scholars in the whole building. My teacher's name is Miss Lea, I like her very much. I have a cat, her name is Muff; she is a tortoise shell cat. I am going to have a garden of my own this summer.

EMMA Macd. (Aged 13.)

Ocknook.

Dear Editor,—I like reading the letters in the Correspondence. I am seven years old. I have four sisters. My eldest sister takes the 'Messenger' and I like it very much. I do not go to school, but will when the roads dry. Our teacher's name is Miss Taylor. My oldest sister is going to be a teacher.

OLIVE M. M.

Horning's Mills, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm four miles from the beautiful and romantic village of Horning's Mills.

I am in the fourth book. I have a little over a mile to go to school. I take music lessons from my sister. I don't go to Sunday-school in the winter, as it is too far away, but there is one near by for six months in summer which I attend. I have two sisters and one brother. I am the youngest of the family.

HAROLD A. L. (Aged 13.)

Galiano Island, B. C.

Dear Editor,—There are so many letters in the 'Northern Messenger' which I like to read, but I have seen none from Galiano. I hope this will be the first one. We have a nice little home in a lovely harbor called Montague. We have four head of cattle, a nice garden and orchard. My sister has a dog named Britannia, and a cat with three ears who likes to steal milk. I have two sisters, three brothers and a father, and have a mother, sister and brother in heaven. We go to school three miles every day. Our teacher's name is Mr. Wallace. We have church every two weeks. Our former minister's name was the Rev. Mr. Foss, but he went away and we have the Rev. Mr. Young here now. We are going to try to get a Sunday-school started here. My birthday is on Nov. 7.

FLORENCE GRAY.

Craighurst.

Dear Editor,—Not seeing many letters from Craighurst I thought I would write you one. I go to school every day and like going very much. My father has about fifty hives of bees that we all like very much. I go to the Presbyterian Sunday-school, where I get the 'Messenger' from a kind lady. Craighurst is a very pretty little place with one school and one hotel. There are three churches and one blacksmith's shop, and two general stores. Mother as well as the rest of us enjoy reading the paper. I have three brothers and four sisters alive and two sisters (who were twins) dead: they died when they were little babies. We have two geese setting and one has ten goslings. The school is just across the road from my home and I attend regularly. My teacher's name is Miss Morrison, and all the scholars like her. I have a brother going to the High School; he is fourteen years old. I am twelve years old. I wonder whose birthday is on the same day as mine, Jan. 5. I have a sister born on the day before mine: hers is on Jan. 4. I have a little brother born on Victoria Day. He is nearly two years old.

RUBY H.