

trict, where the tourist gave his heart to Christ.

After completing the round of India, he called at our office on the eve of sailing for Egypt. Here he learned for the first time of Pandita Ramabai's work, and before he left he changed his passage from first class to second, and handed me the difference—Rs. 231—to divide between that work and our Association. Strangely enough the very same day one of our friends who had subscribed Rs. 100 to our work had written postponing the payment of his subscription until after the close of this year. As we had been reckoning on this amount in order to cover all obligations and close this year with a balance, prayer was offered that it might be made up from another source. The answer came within a few hours in the way we have described. Can anyone account for such combinations of circumstances without design and—God?

Post Office Crusade

Will the little girl and boy in Lacombe, Alberta, who send 'Donald' the 'Young People's Weekly,' kindly write him very soon. Their names have been lost, and his mother wishes to write to them.

The little boy and girl who asked for stamps are now well supplied.

Mrs. Wyatt and Mrs. H. Berurch, of Robinson Bury, are thanked for their handsome contribution of a variety of stamps for India. These have been forwarded as desired.

A Friend in Oxbow, Assa., has kindly contributed \$1.00 for the renewals of the 'Messenger,' and thanks are also due to A Friend in Gibraltar, Ont., for \$1.00, and Miss Annette Cook, for \$1.00, all for 'Messengers.' Faithfully yours, Mrs. M. E. Cole, 112 Irvine ave., Westmount, Que.

The Cigarette Evil.

From the W.C.T.U. Dominion Superintendent of Narcotics.

(To the Editor 'Northern Messenger'.)

Dear Sir,—The Woman's Christian Unions of Canada were thoroughly aroused four years ago to the necessity of doing something to combat the use of the cigarette among the boys and girls. Even infants of tender years were becoming a prey to this terrible vice. After many varied and discouraging experiences in trying to reform cigarette victims, it was decided that the only way was to secure the prohibition of the cigarette, which led to the inauguration of the present campaign. Petitions have been circulated throughout the length and breadth of our Dominion, asking for signatures of representative men and associations for the prohibition of the manufacture, sale and importation of the cigarette in Canada.

The cheapness of the article made it easy to obtain and its novelty introduced it to rich and poor alike. Although we have a tobacco act prohibiting the sale of tobacco or cigarettes to minors, police magistrates have found it an utter impossibility to secure convictions, although it is apparent to everyone that our young people can obtain all they choose to pay for.

At the Children's Aid Convention, held in Hamilton this fall, one gentleman speaker stated that the authorities in his town had offered to give him \$10 for every conviction he could secure against selling cigarettes to minors. After many cau-

tions and persevering efforts he was only enabled to procure one. New York felt the inefficacy of securing prosecutions against selling to minors, and not only fined the dealer, but also arrested those found with cigarettes on their person.

To prove my statement, I will relate an experience in our city some time ago. A Christian alderman, also a Sabbath-school superintendent, engaged two Christian boys who were under age to visit the tobacco stores with a view to proving whether the law was being enforced. The boys visited fifty tobacco stores, and without any difficulty purchased cigarettes from forty-eight.

A gentleman school-teacher informed the writer that almost his entire class of boys were cigarette-smokers, and he was convinced that the habit was having a disastrous effect on not only the morals, but that the mental and physical condition of the boys were being greatly impaired.

We believe that much of the white plague, consumption, is largely due to the use of cigarettes, for we can quote instances where physicians have located quantities of nicotine that had formulated ulcers and abscesses on the lungs. Also insanity is attributed to the use of cigarettes and instances have come to our notice where cigarette-smokers have become hopelessly insane.

No person who has the interest of the childrer at heart can afford to view the present crisis with indifference, but should stand shoulder to shoulder with the White Ribbon Army, in their endeavor to secure the prohibition of the manufacture, sale and importation of the cigarette. The only opposition we have to fear is the manufacturer, for retail tobacconists declare that the cigarette brings them into more disrepute than all the rest of their trade.

Some of the American States have been successful in securing the prohibition of the cigarette, such as Maine, Tennessee, and Delaware, while many others prohibit both sale and gift.

Those who are interested in this great question may ask what they can do. The churches, Sabbath-schools and temperance organizations can bring influence to bear on their representative member of the Dominion House of Parliament by interviewing him or by writing, urging him to cast his vote in favor of the abolition of the cigarette when the by-law is presented to the House, about the middle of February.

Trusting that 1903 may be historic for the total extinction of the greatest foe that has ever assailed the life of the nation, I have the honor to be, sincerely yours,

JENNIE WATERS,

Dominion Supt. of Narcotics.
Hamilton, Ont.

BOYS AND GIRLS ASKED TO HELP.

Help wanted at once from the boys and girls of the Dominion of Canada to strike a death-blow at the coffin-nails, or, in other words, cigarettes, which are rapidly demolishing the brains and life-blood of our growing nation. Every Sabbath-school boy and girl, Christian Endeavor member and Sabbath-school teacher can assist the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in this work. First, by asking God to help us eradicate this evil, and, in the second place, by each one individually writing a letter to the Dominion member of Parliament for his constituency, asking him to

use his vote and influence to prohibit the manufacture, sale and importation of the cigarette, when the petitions are presented to the House of Parliament in February. If you know of any incident where bad effects have followed the use of cigarettes, state it in your letter, and, if you do not know who your member is, ask your father, teacher, or Sabbath-school superintendent, and each one of you will have entered an open door of usefulness in the beginning of the New Year, 1903. Thanking you for your help in advance, and wishing you all a very happy New Year—I remain, sincerely yours,

JENNIE WATERS,

Dominion Supt. of Narcotics.
Hamilton, Ont.

God's Faithfulness.

(J. Hudson Taylor, M.D., D.D.)

It is when God's faithfulness is fully recognized by us that we shall be enabled to rest in quiet confidence and faith that he will fulfil his word. You are about to set out on a long journey, and expect a train to leave at a certain time. You go to the station a little before the time advertised to leave. You are not anxious about it, and do not say, 'I wonder if the train is coming.' In a few minutes the train comes. You place yourselves in it; and how easily you are conveyed to your destination! You do not require to go in front and pull, or go behind and push; you simply get into the carriage and are carried to your destination. And when you and I rest in the will of God, and trust in the promises of God, we are just as sure of being carried to our destination as we are of being carried to some earthly destination by railway train. If we are in the current of God's will, that will carry us through. Oh, how many times this has been evidenced in the work of the China Inland Mission!

Frozen Pipes.

Why is there no water in the pipes of some of our houses in winter? It is not because the city has no water supply; it is not because the streets are not threaded all through their length from the great reservoirs with a perfect system of piping; it is not that the system of piping does not go into every house. Then why do we turn the tap in vain in our houses? Because there is a block of ice in the pipes. Why is the blessing not leaping and laughing like bubbling water through humanity? It is not because the great ocean and fountain of fulness is not there; it is not because the links of communication between divine fulness and our emptiness are not formed. Christ is there and His church is here, and all the channels and tubes and pipes of prayer and promise and supplication are there. What is wrong? There is ice in the pipe; that is the trouble. The frost has come on our hearts—we are frozen, and need to be thawed out by the fire of the Holy Spirit.—John McNeill, in 'Northfield Year Book.'

Scandal.

Scandal is the repetition of evil. It may or may not be bearing false witness. It is always the setting free upon the air of miasmatic germs to poison society. Stop the tale of scandal by the deaf ear and the sealed lips.