

## KEEPING HIS TEMPER.

It is a good thing for a young Christian to learn always to keep sweet. Temptation does no one harm so long as it does not get inside the heart. Defeats, disappointments, rebuffs and slights hurt us only when we allow them to embitter us or mar our temper. Here is a good illustration of keeping sweet :

"He lost the game; no matter for that—  
He kept his temper, and swung his bat  
To cheer the winners. A better way  
Than to lose his temper and win the day."

## GOING WITH OR AGAINST THE CROWD.

It is a good thing to go with the multitude when one can do so with a good conscience. It is better to be in harmony with one's fellows than to quarrel with them, if peace and righteousness can be harmonized.

And it is a mistake to cultivate differences about small matters, and thus needlessly weaken their respect for our judgment. But, as this world is constituted, it is not always possible to escape the necessity of dissent and resistance to the judgment of the multitude.

The only multitude that ever rises to the highest level of truth and righteousness is "the great multitude which no man could number," which John sees before the throne. Earthly crowds commonly rise no higher than the lower average of sentiment and opinion in their own ranks. They are liable to the contagion of fear, hatred, other passions. Even the good people among them are not always their best, and have to be on their guard against "following a multitude to do evil."—S. S. Times.

## HOW TO BE AN ORATOR.

"I think practice with all kinds of audiences the best teacher you can have. Think out your subject carefully, read all you can relative thereto, fill your mind, and then talk simply and naturally to an audience.

"Forget altogether that you are going to make a speech, or that you are making one. Absorb yourself into the idea that you are to strike a blow, carry out a purpose, effect an object, impress an idea, recommend a plan. Then, having forgotten yourself, you will be likelier to do your best for your purpose.

"Study the class of books your mind likes ; when you go outside of this rule, study those which give you facts on your chosen subjects, and those which you find most suggestive.

"Remember to talk up to your audience, not down to it. The commonest audience can relish the best thing you can say, if you know how to say it properly.

"Be simple, be in earnest, and you will not fail to reach the masses, especially if your heart is large enough to receive all truths and all struggles. God speed you."—Wendell Phillips.

## THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE'S "PLAN OF STUDY."

*Conducted by Rev. R. D. Fraser, Convener.*

The monthly Topics are so arranged as to be adapted to the various sorts of Young People's Societies. They are set down for the second weekly meeting of each month and the Topic is treated in the "Record" the month preceding, in order that Societies may have the materials for the meeting in hand well in advance.

The special "Topic Card" for the Presbyterian Y. P. S. C. E. Societies has been issued as before. It embraces the "Uniform" Topics, the Monthly Topics of the Plan of Study, and the Questions on the Shorter Catechism for each meeting throughout the year. Price \$1.00 per 100. "Booklet" containing the same matter, and also Daily Readings for the whole year, price \$1.50 per 100.

For Balance of Year.—Topic Cards, 50c per hundred. Booklets, 75c per hundred.

Orders and remittances to be sent to

REV. R. D. FRASER.

Confederation Life, Toronto.

## Monthly Topics For 1899.

August—A great Scottish Hymn Writer, Horatius Bonar, and his Hymns in the Book of Praise.

September—Our own Society ; the deepening of its life, the strengthening of its work.

October—What our College Students do for Home Missions

November—Dr. Duff, and Missions in India.

December—Our own Church ; the Old Century and the New.

Topic for the week beginning  
September 10.

**Our own Society ; the deepening of its life ; the strengthening of its work. I Peter 4 : 7-11.**

## Programme.

A simple plan would be to divide the Topic among the conveners or members of the various committees in the Society, asking each to suggest how the life of the Society might be deepened and its work strengthened in his department. Practical thoughts will be in place.

## Literature.

The article for this month is by the Rev. J. S. Conning, Walkerton, and will be found full and suggestive.

The reports of the Committee in the minutes of the General Assembly for 1898 and 1899 have many interesting items. The annual reports of each society will give aid to the leader.

## Our Own Society,

## The Deepening of its Life ; the Strengthening of its Work.

BY REV. J. S. CONNING, WALKERTON, ONT.

From the latest report of the General Assembly's Committee on Young People's Societies, we learn that there are now 926 societies under the oversight of sessions, having a total membership of 33,767.

These societies are scattered over every province and territory, and carry on their work under