

poor business, and those who still carry the jug, put it in a bag or under the arm, to hide it if possible. At our last monthly meeting, April 2nd, the Claremont and Wentworth Divisions of the "Sons of Temperance" marched in regalia from the Division-room, to the Congregational Church, when the ladies of Claremont presented to the Claremont Division a copy of the Holy Scriptures, in the following speech:—

*To the Officers and Members of Claremont Division of "Sons of Temperance."*

In the days of chivalry, when Noblemen and armed Knights met in Tournament, to exhibit their skill in the use of those instruments of death, by which they conquered their foes in battle, it was customary for females, for whom those Knights and Noblemen professed admiration and attachment, and for whose protection they professed to arm themselves, to be present, for the purpose of inspiring them to high and lofty deeds, and to bestow on each such prizes as their deeds and feats of dexterity seemed to demand. Sometimes the gift was a beautiful sword, a coat of mail, a crown, or chaplet of flowers, and these gifts often gave an impetus to the possessor, in the time of battle, and fired his soul for loftier deeds, in order that he might show himself worthy of the honor conferred upon him.

Worthy Patriarch and gentlemen, believing that you are actuated by a higher spirit of chivalry, and a more noble principle of philanthropy,—that you have entered the field of battle, to fight against the greatest foe of the human race, a foe that, of all others, has carried the greatest sorrow to the female heart, and wrung her soul with the deepest anguish; we present ourselves before you this evening, in order to testify that, with gladness and heartfelt delight, we hail the organization of so efficient a band of soldiers in our village; we say efficient, for we learn that your weapons are taken from the Word of God, instructing yourselves in that impregnable coat of mail, called Temperance, and arming yourselves with love, purity, and fidelity, we behold you going forth to battle against the hosts of ruin—we fancy that on every breeze we hear, as your battle cry, "Deliverance to the captive,"—a little in the distance, we behold the heart-broken wife of the drunkard, with a new joy lighting up her countenance, while she beholds her husband delivered from his captivity, her hungry and half-naked children fed and clothed, and still your march is onward, and your motto, "Victory or death,"—and we ask ourselves—who has marshalled this army? who has made them the friends of the friendless? from whence derive they this sympathy with the falling and the fallen? and the answer is, none other than He who is pre-eminently the Wisdom of God and the Light of the World could inspire such noble philanthropy, and furnish you with such mighty weapons for the great conflict, feeling and believing that He is able to lead you on to certain victory. We present you this copy of His Holy Word, praying that He who inspired its sacred pages, will give you wisdom to read and understand its sacred teachings—that it may ever be a lamp to your feet and a light to your path. And, in conclusion, allow us to say, that we ask no greater earthly honor than to be considered sisters in the good cause of Temperance, by so noble an order of brotherhood as we consider that of yours to be.

REPLY.

In behalf of Claremont Division, "Sons of Temperance," I use to acknowledge my sincere thanks for the beautiful and valuable gift that we have just received from your hands. Most gratefully do we accept this valuable book. In this sacred volume may be found whatever is rich in thought, sublime in

song, pure in morality, and holy in religion. You pray that its sacred teaching may ever prove a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. May we experience from the perusal of this sacred record, that it is bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, a cordial to the faint, and balm to the broken-hearted: it proclaims liberty to the captive; it condemns the wicked, while it is full of promise to the righteous.

Ladies, your idea is well worth our notice. When you compare us to a band of armed men going forth to war with Rum and Rum's doings, you consider our position much more exalted, and our aim more noble, (with the Bible as our guide, Temperance as our shield,—Love, Purity, and Fidelity, as our weapons of warfare,) than the armed Knights who went forth to meet their enemy with the weapons of death. Truly, they were urged on to conquest by the guts of those females who presented themselves to inspire those men to higher and loftier deeds, and frequently would such gifts as you refer to, fire their souls with greater energy in the destruction of the enemy, that they might show themselves worthy of the honors conferred upon them; but you very properly consider that we are actuated by a higher spirit of chivalry, and a more noble principle of philanthropy. You tell us that we have entered the battle-field, to fight against the greatest foe of the human family,—you also speak to us of the sorrows of the female heart, whose soul is wrung with anguish, by reason of the fell destroyer: may we ever be the means of binding up the broken-hearted, and acting the part of the good Samaritan to those that are cast down. You ask yourselves who has marshalled this great army—who has made us the friends of the friendless—and from whom do we derive this sympathy, and you answer wisely when you say, that it is none other than the wisdom of God that has inspired us with such noble principles as these, and furnished us with the mighty weapons for this great conflict.

Again allow me to thank you for this memento of your zeal and attachment to our cause, and in conclusion, may the Giver of all Good bless you, and may health, peace, and long life be yours; and when God shall summon you from this world, may this precious volume ever stand as a memorial of departed worth.

S. D. MARKS, Car. Secy.

St Mary's, April 9, 1851.

Sir,—In my last, I mentioned that we were just on the eve of opening a Division of the Sons of Temperance in this place: since that time I am happy to say that we have organized a Division here, and are prospering well. It may be said that we have achieved a victory over King Alcohol, which we never expected; and but for the want of some of the Clergy and Professors of Religion, the destroyer of the souls of men would have to hide his deformed head in this place, and may God grant that they may see the true position in which they stand in keeping others from joining this good and glorious cause, and at once unite with us in casting out the fell destroyer from our midst, that he may never more break the hearts of the fair sex, or disturb the repose of the quiet family circle, into which, nothing in the shape of vice should ever enter; and, in many cases, it never would, were it not for the traffic in the soul-destroyer, strong drink, which we, as a body, are endeavoring to put down—and will put down—for it is doing all it can against Messiah's kingdom, and He has blessed the weak instruments, and will bless them still, to remove every obstacle. Well may our clergy mourn over the empty pews of the church, through strong drink, and, in many places, the absence of churches altogether—though not for any want of