

are they now? Doctor, where are they now? You all know. You all know they lie in a row, side by side, in yonder churchyard; all—every one of them—filling the drunkard's grave!

They were all taught to believe that moderate drinking was safe—excess alone ought to be avoided; and they never acknowledged excess! They quoted you, and you, and you, pointing with her shred of a finger to the minister, deacon and doctor, as authority. They thought themselves safe under such teachers. But I saw the gradual change coming over my family and prospects, with dismay and horror; I felt we were all to be overwhelmed in one common ruin; I tried to ward off the blow; I tried to break the spell—the delusive spell—in which the idea of the benefits of moderate drinking had involved my husband and sons; I begged, I prayed; but the odds were greatly against me.

The minister said the poison that was destroying my husband and boys was a good creature of God; the deacon (who sits under the pulpit there, and took our farm to pay his rum bills) sold them the poison; the physician said that a little was good, and excess ought to be avoided. My poor husband and my dear boys fell into the snare, and one after another was conveyed to the dishonored grave of the drunkard. Now, look at me again—you probably see me for the last time—my sand has almost run.

I have dragged my exhausted frame from my present abode—your poor-house—to warn you all; to warn you, deacon; to warn you, false teacher of God!—and, with her arms high flung, and her tall form stretched to its utmost, and her voice raised to an unearthly pitch—she exclaimed: 'I shall soon stand before the judgment seat of God—I shall meet you there, ye false guides, and be a swift witness against you all.'

The unhappy woman vanished—a dead silence pervaded the assembly—the minister, the deacon and the physician all hung their heads—the president of the meeting put the question:—

'Shall we have any more licenses to sell alcoholic poisons, to be drunk as a beverage?'

The response was a unanimous—
'No!'

Friends of humanity, what would have been your verdict if you had been there?
How do you vote to-day?

Cigarette Smoking.

Is it true that the smoking of cigarettes is so extremely injurious as is often reported? Recently medical testimony has been printed calling the fact in question.

There can be no question as to the direful effects of the habit referred to. Leaving out of view the question of adulteration with opium, etc., supposing that only tobacco is used, these facts are not open to question: The smoke is usually inhaled, passing into the lungs, while the user of a cigar or pipe merely draws the smoke into the mouth or passes it out by the nares. Accordingly there is no stoppage of the passage of the nicotine where cigarette smoke is inhaled. In the cigar the tapering butt catches much of it, and the pipe absorbs it largely. The inside of the boy's lungs are black and sticky and unable to properly oxidize the blood brought there by the veins for purification, hence the general languor and debility of those addicted to the habit. President Jordan told the writer that no cigarette victim could complete the course of study at Stanford. The Board of Education of San Francisco, four years ago, issued a circular describing the evils of this habit—the physical effects and those intellectual and moral. The chairman of the committee was C. A. Clinton, M.D., and the report was endorsed by Professors Cole, McNutt, McLean, Lengfield, Taylor, Williamson, Powers and seven others of the faculty of the medical department of the University of California. The doctor who lately published something on the other side confessed that he was a victim of the habit, and so is not a very competent witness.—The Occident.

As many men, so many minds. 'World Wide' reflects the thought of both hemispheres.

Correspondence

Fleming, Man.

Dear Editor,—I take the 'Messenger' and like the correspondence very much. I am eight years-old, my birthday is on Feb. 1.

GEORGE A.

Cushing, Que.

Dear Editor,—I have been taking the 'Messenger' for about two years, and I like it very well. I have two sisters and one brother. I attend school and have about two miles to go. We had a Christmas tree in our school and I got a pair of skates.

JAMES E.

Red Point.

Dear Editor,—We take the 'Northern Messenger' and like it very much. My father is a farmer. I live a mile from school. I have four brothers and two sisters. My birthday is on March 28.

F. B. (Aged 12.)

Spencerville, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm. I have a pet hen. Her name is Coakey, and she sings to me for corn. We have sixteen cows, three horses, and eight sheep. I have two cats and one dog. I have about two miles to go to school. I go to Sunday-school, and get the 'Messenger,' and like to read it very much.

CALVIN M. (Aged 9.)

Windsor Mills.

Dear Editor,—I read the 'Messenger' and like it very much. I have four brothers, one is a baby; he is one year old. Three of us go to school, and I light the fire. Sometimes it is pretty cold. We had a Christmas tree for our Sunday-school and I got a box of crayons, a scrap book, an apple, a handkerchief and a bag of candy.

RAY D. (Aged 10.)

Riceville, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little boy eight years old. I have two brothers, Bertie and William Henry. One is five years old and the other one year and three months. I go to school in the summer, but in the winter I cannot, as it is too far. My father has taken the 'Messenger' for I do not know how long. I have two pets, they are both cats. One is an old cat and very cross. If you go near her she will growl at you. The other will let you pet him.

JOHNNIE P.

Windsor Mills.

Dear Editor,—I go to Sunday-school every Sunday and get the 'Messenger.' I like it and think all the children do, too. I have one pet, a little gray and white kitten, and I love it very much. I have one sister and two brothers.

MARION S. (Aged 11.)

Laird.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl eight years old. I live on a homestead in the upper peninsula of Michigan. My grandpa sends us the 'Messenger,' and we like it very much. I live seven miles from a school, but my mamma teaches me at home. I have two brothers and no sisters.

ETHEL G.

Three Lakes.

Dear Editor,—I like the 'Messenger' very well. I have four sisters and one brother. I have a little ox and I have lots of fun with him. He is nine months old.

GILBERT P. (Aged 16.)

Milton, N.S.

Dear Editor,—I have four sisters and two brothers. I go to Sunday-school every Sunday and get the 'Northern Messenger.' I was at Boston this summer and had a lovely visit. I was there eight weeks.

MATTIE C. (Aged 13.)

Lincoln, Neb.

Dear Editor,—We read the 'Messenger' and like it very much. Our minister and his wife are from Toronto. Their name is Birrell. We have a little baby brother named George. He is seven months old. We each got a pair of skates for Christmas, and have lots of fun skating. We are twins and write our letter together.

LLOYD and FLOYD M. (Aged 10.)

Rosemont, Ont.

Dear Editor,—My brother takes the 'Messenger,' and we all like it very much. I have three brothers and one sister. Little Marjorie and Allan are twins. My father is a clergyman and has three churches. Yours truly,

LOUISE A. L. (Aged 8.)

Three Lakes.

Dear Editor,—I like the 'Messenger.' I have a cat named Polly. I have three sisters and two brothers. I wish you a happy New Year.

OLIVE P. (Aged 13.)

From Our Mail Bag.

Of the many encouraging letters being received, here are a few:—

FOR HOME AND SCHOOL.

We are all well pleased with your paper, and think it a very good publication for both home and school.

From the club,

(MRS.) S. A. BLACKHALL.

Clarkson, Ont.

DOES MUCH GOOD.

'The 'Northern Messenger' is a first-class Sabbath-school paper, its reading matter is all of the highest order, and the portion given to temperance is excellent, and must do a great deal of good.' The foregoing is the pleasing testimony of James Quaid, of Port Albert, Ont.

IS VERY INTERESTING.

We take the 'Northern Messenger' in our Sunday-school, and like it better than any other paper we have ever taken, it is so interesting.

H. F. DELLER.

Norwich, Ont.

NO SUNDAY-SCHOOL PAPER EQUALS IT.

The 'Messenger' is warmly appreciated by a grateful Sunday-school. We have now decided to take it for a whole year. There is no paper for Sunday-schools to equal it in matter and price. So pleased with the way in which it broadens the readers' views on the world's need for the Gospel. Accounts of noble lives like those of Mrs. Fuller, and McKay, of Formosa; cannot help stimulating young and old, too.

NELLIE THIRLWALL.

Duncrief, Ont.

Toronto, 571 Jarvis street, Jan. 3, 1901.

Dear Sirs,—Please find enclosed renewal of subscription for the 'Messenger.' I send them to my little nephew in London, England. He is very pleased with the 'Messenger,' and he writes me that when he has read them, he takes them to school and gives them to his schoolfellows, who are pleased to get them. His teacher also likes to read them. I tell you this, because I thought you would like to know how the 'Messenger' is appreciated in the Old Country.

I remain, Sirs, yours truly,

M. E. MOORE.

Annapolis Royal, N.S., Jan. 8, 1901.

Gentlemen,—Please forward to me, as above, one copy—including first number—of 'World Wide,' for which I enclose the price, 75c. I am very glad that you have inaugurated this new movement, and trust that it shall succeed.

And while I am about it, please renew my subscriptions to the 'Weekly,' the 'Daily' and the 'Messenger,' for which please find post-office order enclosed.

I doubt if you or anyone else is able to apprehend how blessedly you have embedded yourselves in the thought, the heart, and the life of the people of this Dominion. 'O kings, live forever!'

J. S. COFFIN.

BILLY BRAY.

An interesting anecdotal sketchy life of one of the most effective preachers ever used by God for the salvation of souls. It is a wonderful record of what the Holy Spirit accomplished through an illiterate man. Paper cover. Free to every subscriber sending two bona fide new subscriptions to the 'Northern Messenger,' at thirty cents each.