

Our Ribbon of Blue, or Temperance Jottings.



URING the past few weeks we have seen painful evidences of the drink demoralizing power. Nevertheless, we have also seen the rescuing power of the grace of God. Some who were so completely under Satan's control that ruin seemed certain have left the cup, and are clothed and in their mind, sitting at the feet of Jesus. The writer, a few Sundays since, had a congregation of 14 prisoners, and at the close of a gospel address took 18 signatures to the temperance pledge. Reader, ask God to bless and help the signers, so that when the prison bolt flies back, and they go forth into liberty, they may be free indeed from Satan's influence, the bondage of drink and its attendant evils. We think our readers will agree with the *Louisville Courier*:

That drunkard making is a business which is opposed to every clergyman in the country.

It is a business which every merchant and business man hates and detests.

It is a business which is the standing dread of every mother.

It is a business which makes 90 per cent. of the pauperism for which the tax-payer has to pay.

It is a business which makes 90 per cent. of the business of the criminal courts.

It is a business which keeps employed an army of policemen in the cities.

It is a business which puts out the fire on the hearth and condemns wives and children to hunger, cold and rags.

It is a business which fosters vice for profit, and educates in wickedness for gain.

Drunkenness comprises all other vices. It is the dictionary of vice, for it includes every vice.

Drunkenness means peculation, theft, robbery, arson, forgery, murder; for it leads to all these crimes.

HARD ON THE WEED.—In the old Colonial laws of Connecticut, U. S., is an enactment restricting the use of tobacco to once a day, and even then not within ten miles of a dwelling-house.

A VALUABLE INSCRIPTION.—It is not often that the inscription is worth more than the gift. A tobacco manufacturing company gave a special prize to a promising boy exhibited at the baby show in Grand Rapids. It was a sealed box of tobacco on which was inscribed the first-class advice: "Never use tobacco until your mother breaks this seal." A striking feature of this sage counsel, given by parties who knew what they were talking about, is more than disinterestedness. If boys would let tobacco alone until their mothers opened the package the business would certainly perish.

The *Religious Herald* suggest that applicants for liquor licence should be required to get the indorsement of the mothers in the community which their business would demoralize.

God means what he says, "Look not upon the wine," and "Woe to him that giveth his neighbor drink."

A gentleman remarked that he had eight arguments in favor of the prohibitory amendment, and

when asked what they were, replied "My eight children." For their sake I would prohibit and leave the wine alone."

"They are too nice to be eaten up by the serpent in the glass.

General Sir F. Williams (the hero of Kars), says: "I am indebted to a gracious Providence for preservation in very unhealthy climates; but I am satisfied that a resolution, early formed and steadily persevered in, never to take spirituous liquor, has been a means of my escaping disease by which multitudes have fallen around me.

Some men are just blind enough not to see their duties, but they can see all their rights very clearly.

Two months since we left a blank line, with a request to the reader if convinced drinking intoxicating drinks was a mistake and an evil to be avoided, to please sign the blank line. *We leave another. Wont you sign it?* Because we have since learned some wrote their name on the other, and instead of getting drunken, one is now a sober man. **GOD HELPING ME I WILL DO WITHOUT INTOXICANTS.**

(Signed).....

WHY THIS WASTE?—"I have made a thousand dollars during the last three months," said a saloon-keeper, boastfully, to a crowd of his townsmen. "You have made more than that," quietly remarked a listener, "What is that?" "You have made wretched homes—women and children poor and weary of life. You have made my two sons drunkards," continued the speaker, with trembling earnestness; "you made the younger of the two so drunk that he fell and injured himself for life. You have made their mother a broken-hearted woman. Oh, yes; you have made much—more than I can reckon up, but you'll get the full count some day—you'll get it some day!"

CONTRAST.—New York city last year, spent for education \$400,000, for amusements, \$700,000. But the same statistical facts reveal the sorry showing of \$60,000,000 spent during the same year for intoxicating drinks.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE OPENING OF THE HALIFAX COTTON FACTORY, 4TH JUNE, 1884.

Mr. Stevenson, the enterprising manager, took a very practical way of marking the end of the first year, by donating to the various charitable institutions of Halifax quite a liberal gift of pieces of cotton, in lengths suitable for making various garments for the poor. The gift was accompanied by the following advice:—"Halifax citizens should always buy Halifax cottons in preference to any other. They are good value, and in many varieties of texture. The factory employs 250 Halifax citizens, and if well supported will employ 400." And, while thanking directorate for their kindness and remembrance, we fully endorse and pass on their practical suggestion, believing the goods will bear both inspection and testing. Hoping the time and demand is not far distant when they will employ a yet larger number of operatives. Success to lawful enterprise.