

property, and for her duties as wife to a strong headed high-tempered man, who at that time could drink rum daily and largely.

In process of time the Temperance Reformation reached Jamaica and, with others of my brethren, I cordially went into it. In order to begin the work in my congregation, I preached on the subject publicly, from the text "Wine is a mocker strong drink is raging, whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." The effect on my friend Chambers I did not know at the time, but I heard him afterwards refer to it in a speech, when he became a thorough temperance advocate. He said, "That time minister first preach about this temperance. I was as much against it as any man could be. I loved my rum bottle too well, and went down to my house very angry. I said minister want to do too much now, he want to do too much; he say we must leave off drink rum; but I say I never will leave off my rum. I don't see what harm it do me or minister either, to make him say we must drink no more rum. Minister and me will have plenty quarrel about that thing before he get me to leave off my rum. "My wife," he continued, "my wife sat very quietly all the time, saying nothing, while I was quarrelling about the minister and the rum. At last, when I lay down on the bench, she says to me, 'Mr. Chambers what is the matter; I never see you talk so much against minister before; what he do to you now make you vex so much? Any time he tell you anything from Bible before, you hear him; what way you no want to hear him now? He don't tell you any bad word to-day. Suppose he said that it no be good to drink rum, don't quarrel with minister about that. You can wait a little and think of what he preach.'" Chambers answered her only, "But I can't do without my rum and water. I never can stop from my rum." But all the while she never brought it to me," he continued, "as she used to do, and I was ashamed to ask her for it; and that night I drank none, and soon left it off for altogether." Thus the wise, good woman, by her prudent mildness, helped to subdue her wrathful husband, by his own account, in words nearly such as I have used,—the most of which I remember distinctly,—and to bring him from a ruinous vice to the practice of virtue; and af-

terwards he became an elder in the church.—*Rev. H. M. Waddell.*

### THE HIDDEN TRACT.

A Swiss girl, of frivolous character, who thought she had only to leave her home in order to get on in the world, and become happy, joined a number of young persons who went to Prussia as governesses. One of her sisters had placed, unknown to her, in her trunk, a Bible and some tracts. The expectations that she had formed prior to setting out were not realized, and she complained in her letters that she led a melancholy life. "I have," she said, "no pleasure here, and no dancing parties. The agreeable days that I spent in Switzerland are past, never to return." These complaints naturally excited the sympathy of her parents and worldly friends, but were a source of grief to her pious sister. This affectionate girl, who was filled with deep anxiety for her spiritual welfare, was at last able to rejoice; for, some months afterwards, she received a letter from her, commencing in quite a different strain from her former ones, and showing the joy of a Christian who had found her Redeemer. She wrote: "One evening as I took up a volume of plays to read, a tract fell out which I carelessly took up, and found it to be 'Nicodemus, or the New Birth.' I felt inwardly urged to peruse it, and as I read, the scales fell from my eyes. I perceived, and felt my misery, and during many days I was so unhappy that every body believed I was ill. At last I could pray and I am now so happy that I would desire to tell what I feel to every one."

### BAD BOOKS.

Bad books are to be shunned even more carefully than bad company. You may pass an hour with a bad man without receiving injury, but you cannot spend an hour in reading a bad book without injury. The celebrated John Ryland said, "It is perilous to read any impure book: you will never get it out of your faculties till you are dead. My imagination was tainted young, and I shall never get rid of the taint till I get to heaven."