transition. We will open with the Juvenile work, which, though the longest way round, may be perhaps the nearest way to Pro-

THE CHILDREN.

They are but little feet! They have gone so short a way to meet The years which are required to break Their steps to evenness, and make Them go more sure and slow.

They are but little hands! Be kind; things are so new, and life but stands A step beyond the doorway; all around New day has found Such tempting things to shine upon, and so The hands are tempted oft, you know.

"That the child of today will be the sovereign of the ballot box tomorrow" has become almost a platitude, and yet it is a good deal more than a mere sentiment. It is a glad, or sad, certainty, according as we, or the enemy, capture the child. And let us face at once the dread fact that the enemy is much more keenly alive to the value of this conquest than are we. The child who today reaches maturity with pure ideals is one in ten thousand. The child who attains adult life with even unsullied morals, has a gamut of temptation to run that might well affright that second self, whose sinless eyes may always behold our Father which is in Heaven, and that palsies the heart of many a parent, longing for better things for the little ones than they ever knew for themselves.

This year has witnessed the exposure of some deep laid plots to lure the innocent to early ruin, or to remove the landmarks that have defined between safe and hazardous pathways.

THE CIGARETTE.

Take the cigarette evil. Not since it insiduously crept into our midst have the people caught so distinct a view of its ugly features. The circulation of our Anti-cigarette petition, asking for "the prohibition of the manufacture, importation and sale of these body, soul and spirit destroying inventions," has sent a broad stream of light into a very dark place, but that is all. The foul impurities that were thus revealed are yet in full possession. The gain lies wholly in a knowledge of their existence, for knowledge is the first step towards reformation.

Why does the boy smoke the cigarette? Because his father, or teacher, or employer, or hero smokes a pipe or a cigar. He thinks himself very thrifty and economical in choosing the cigar-

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