

Young Friends' Review

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BY S. P. & EDGAR M. ZAVITZ

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The Sermon by Serena A. Minard, which appeared in last issue of the REVIEW, we now have in leaflet form (5,000 copies), suitable for general distribution in First-day Schools or elsewhere, and may be had at 25c per hundred. We purpose issuing such leaflets occasionally, and hope the undertaking will meet an encouraging demand.

We have received many expressions of interest in the articles written by Wm. M. Jackson, of New York, for the REVIEW, and which are appearing regularly each month during the year. We wish to invite our readers, and

especially the young people, to a study of these papers, as we deem them clear and faithful expositions of the principles and testimonies of Friends, and as such they cannot but be a profitable study.

SOCIAL PURITY.

Read at the Conference at Chappaqua by Edward B. Rawson, N. Y.

In a glass of pure water every particular drop must be pure. There can be no social purity where individuals are unclean. No man can lead two lives. He who is impure in private or with one set of persons cannot for long be pure in public or with another set. He may pass as such for a time, but sooner or later one life or the other will predominate. This is for the especial consideration of young men. If any of you are attempting to lead two lives, one of vulgarity to suit the tastes of other young men, and one of uprightness and decency for the home and society, you may as well stop trying, for it cannot be done. You cannot cut yourselves in two. Either the higher side must lift up the lower, or the low drag down the high. Of course you will not believe this until you feel it coming to pass, and my only excuse for saying it is that some one hearing it may, by having his attention called to the fact, the sooner recognize the tendency of his life, and correct it if need be.

But what do we mean by purity, social or individual? Not the literal observance of the commandment, but the living up to the spirit of Jesus who said: "He that looketh upon a woman and lusteth after her hath already committed adultery in his heart." Purity of action cannot be depended upon when the thoughts are impure. Judged by the standard of true Christianity, he who takes pleasure in listening to unclean stories, is bad with the same kind of badness as the most abandoned libertine. The one is sowing seed; the other is gathering the fruit produced by that seed when allowed to grow.