

toxicants have and are receiving very little attention at the hand of organized temperance. To this position of importance we can assign the various preparations of opium, which include morphine, paregoric and nearly if not all the remedies that are on the market for the control of pain. In this class we would also place cocaine, which renders attractive the 'catarrh snuff' which is sold in every town. Another intoxicant is chloral. Still another—chloroform, and in this same connection we should consider tobacco, although it is much milder than the others named.

Of the opium group morphine is the most used as it is the most active in its effect. Victims of this drug habit may be found in every neighborhood. It is usually formed by the administration of the drug by physicians for some painful malady. As an intoxicant it produces anxiety, hallucinations of vision and deadening of all sensation. The whole nature undergoes a moral revolution; truth, right and honor lose their meaning. To prevent this habit one prominent writer suggests: 'If on the one hand physicians would always insist on themselves making hypodermic injections of morphine for their patients, never intrusting their syringe and morphine to anyone; and if, on the other hand, pharmacists would never fill a prescription for morphine except for the exact number of times indicated on the blank, and once only when there is nothing stated to the contrary, I am convinced that this very simple rule would virtually put an end to morphinism without depriving therapeutics of a precious remedy, because of the abuse that has been made of it.'

There should also be a common law compelling all proprietors of patent medicines to print the formula on the bottle, or file the prescription at the capital of each state for inspection, that people may not unconsciously become the victims of drug habits. The cocaine habit is often acquired from nose specialists using the drug, or by using a catarrh remedy containing it. One of its marked symptoms is emaciation. The intoxication is accompanied frequently by fainting fits; sometimes delusions of persecution which renders those under its influence dangerous to a community, and hallucinations of vision and hearing with general mental wakefulness. There is frequently great prolixity in conversation and correspondence. Chloral produces feeble mindedness; the habit is easily established and manifests itself in great depression of the bodily functions.

Tobacco contains nicotine and pyridine. Nicotine causes in small warm blooded animals, in small doses, death in a few minutes, usually preceded by convulsions. Pyridine causes excitement of the medulla oblongata with rapid paralysis. Europeans learned the use of tobacco from the North American Indians. About the middle of the 17th century its use became general and many rulers attempted to prohibit it. James the First wrote a book against it.

Chloroform by inhalation produces a similar intoxication to alcohol. It is frequently taken by neurotic persons.

History shows that the height of civilization is often followed by decline and complete downfall; consequently we should profit by its teachings and look with alarm upon any influence which has a disastrous effect upon humanity.

We all agree that a quarantine law to prevent the spread of contagious disease among those who may be susceptible to its contagion, is a wise procedure. Why, then, should we hesitate to enact legislation that will control absolutely the manufacture and sale of intoxicants that can influence generations? Why should we not strive to enlighten each other? Why should not every community be fully informed regarding the physiological effects of intoxicants and the laws of heredity? Why should we not arise as one man and fulfil the requirements of God that our civilization shall not perish from the earth?—'Presbyterian Banner.'

An Indiana grocer prints the following in a circular (of course in sarcasm), addressed to his patrons: 'Notice is hereby given that if you will come to my store three times a day during the next year, and purchase a drink of whisky each time, paying 10 cents a drink, at the end of the year I will donate five barrels of my best flour, 100 pounds of fine granulated sugar, 100 pounds of rice, 10 pounds of coffee, 10 gallons of syrup, 50 yards of calico, three pairs of shoes, one \$10.50 cloak for your wife; and then I will have \$10 left to pay for the liquor you drank.'

## Correspondence

Aberdeen.

Dear Editor,—The 'Weekly Witness' and the 'Messenger' have been welcome guests to our home for many years. When the mail comes from the post-office I always ask for the 'Messenger.' The stories it contains are not only interesting, but they are also beneficial to those who read them.

We go to Sunday-school every Sunday and to church afterwards. The church is three miles from our place. I live on a farm twenty miles south of Owen Sound. We have four horses, six cows; we also keep sheep, pigs and hens. We have a red dog called Nero; when he sees me putting in the chickens he puts one in his mouth and carries it into the barn and then lets it go, but he never hurts them. I never saw any letters from this part, so I thought I would write one.

ELLEN.

Deloraine, Man.

Dear Editor,—We live in the country on a farm. My sister sends the 'Messenger' to me; I like the stories in your paper. I am fond of reading. We live a mile and a-half from White Water Lake, but Muddy Water Lake would have been a more suitable name. My father shoots over a hundred geese about every fall. He shot forty-three one day.

I have two sisters and one brother. I go to school every day. I am in the fourth class. I would like to know if there is anyone who writes to the Messenger and is the same age as I am. I was ten Feb. 25. We have 2 cows, 7 horses and 13 pigs. We have Sunday-school in the summer, but not in the winter. I have two and a-half miles to walk to school. We do not have school in winter. I have a sister in Ontario. She is the oldest of the family. I am the second oldest. My teacher's name is Miss M. E. Manson. She is very nice.

ANNIE C. K.

Rosevale.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm. I have two pet cats; I call them Nigger and Tabby. My papa has eighteen head of cattle and two horses named Jen and Nell, and 21 sheep. We had ten little pigs and sold them all but two. I have one sister and three brothers. I will be nine years old on July 29. School ended recently. I was very sorry to see the teacher leave.

THAD. S.

Britainville, Man.

Dear Editor,—I am one of the many readers of the 'Northern Messenger,' and I enjoy reading it very much. We have taken the 'Messenger' in our Sunday-school for some time, and, as I have seen, only one letter from Manitoulin Island, and as that one was not from Britainville, I decided to write to you.

It is very nice here in the spring and summer, as the wild flowers are very pretty and plentiful. We find among the wild flowers the rose, trailing arbutus, the white and the tiger lily and sweet little violets and may-flowers.

I hope 'Elsie P.' of Manisfield, will write again, as her letters are very interesting. I should be much pleased to correspond with her if she will send her address and write first. I, too, am collecting stamps for missions, but have only about three hundred yet. I value the 'Messenger' for its Correspondence, its Sunday-school helps, and its stories, which each have a moral.

OLIVE S. (aged 13).

Sault Ste. Marie, Algoma, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We get the 'Northern Messenger' at our Sunday-school, and I think it is a very nice paper. I have only seen one letter from the Sault yet. This is a very pretty place in summer. There is a pulp mill here, also a saw mill, a canal, a post-office, three schools, five churches, two banks and a court house.

There is a park about six miles from here called Algoma Park. We go there nearly every summer for picnics. We are having holidays now. My birthday is on July 17. I will be eleven years old. My pets are a cat and three little kittens. We have fifteen chickens and two ducks. I have four brothers and five sisters. This is my first letter, and it will not be very long. I hope to see it in print in the next paper.

CLARA M. W.

Hartshorn, Minn.

Dear Editor,—My brother takes the 'Messenger.' I love to read the correspondence.

I have two sisters and one brother. We have sixteen little chickens. We live three-quarters of a mile from the school-house.

MYRTLE W. (aged 10).

Baltic, P.E.I.

Dear Editor,—My mamma and papa read from the 'Messenger' for me letters that little girls and boys write. I think I will write one too, as I have never written one before. We take the 'Messenger;' it comes in my little brother's name; he is four years old. I have one little sister, nineteen months old; we call her May. My little brother's name is Ansel. I have a dog, her name is Dandy, and I yoke her in my little cart and she runs quite fast and I sit in the cart.

FRANK B. (aged 7).

St. David.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl, seven years old. I go to Sunday-school nearly every Sunday, and we get the 'Northern Messenger.' I like to read the letters very much. I have three brothers and three sisters. I have a pet kitten and it likes to play with me. Our school closed on Friday, and we have seven weeks' holidays.

HAZEL L. M.

Upper P.O., Ont.

Dear Editor,—I read the correspondence, and like it very well. I have two brothers and two sisters; we are having vacation now. We live two miles from the village, and eight miles from the pretty town of Dunnville. My father is a farmer; our home is on a hill sloping down to Grand River.

I live a quarter of a mile from the school-house. I am in the third class. I attend the Baptist church and Sunday-school. My Sunday-school teacher's name is Miss Robinson. I got thirty-nine verses learnt, and got a card the first quarter. At Christmas the one who gets the most verses learnt will get a prize. I will have to close.

GERTRUDE (aged 8).

Brookholm, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little boy of eight years. I love to read the 'Messenger' very much, and especially the correspondence. We live about two and a-half miles from Owen Sound. We have three cows and a horse, two pigs, and a dog, whose name is Buff. I drive home the cows night and morning to be milked. I have a little garden all my own, and I try to make it look nice. My mamma died four years ago, but I have got another papa and mamma. I love them real well. I go to Sunday-school every Sunday, and get beautiful picture cards. My little sister of seven years goes with me; her name is Agnes. We also go to the day school, and can read and write. I have another little brother and sister about half-a-mile from here.

HUGHIE.

Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Dear Editor,—I have three sisters and one brother. I had another little sister; her name was Helen, but she died last February. I go to kindergarten. I am in the first reader, and I am head of my class. We are having our holidays now. I go to Sunday-school; I got a prize last year. My teacher's name is Miss Miller. I go to mission band, too. We had a sale, and my sister had a table at it. We spent Dominion Day at Victoria Park with father, who is there in camp with the soldiers. I love the 'Messenger' very much. Good-bye, dear Editor, from

MABEL E. L. (aged 7).

South Port, P.E.I.

Dear Editor,—I have three hens, twenty-one chickens, and three pet ducks, a dog named Ginger, and two calves. The calves drink milk fine. Papa made a lawn swing, and my sister and I have a great time swinging in it. Mamma takes the 'Messenger;' we all like it well.

MAUD (aged 11).

Brantford, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl and live in Brantford. I am seven years old. I have a pet cat, Max, nine years old; I am very fond of him. My papa works in the carriage works. I am visiting my grandma and grandpa in Hartford. My uncle and auntie live next door; they are going to bring me two little kittens. I have no brothers or sisters, but I have three dolls; Pearl is three years old, Minyon is two, Mildred is one year old; they are good dolls, for they never cry. We have nice times in Brantford; we go to Mohawk Park to picnics. I go to school every day.

FLOSS M. W.