

## Temperance.

Over 300 of the boys on board the training-ship *Exmouth* are pledged abstainers.

—At Shanghai two Temperance refreshment houses have just been opened to meet the wants of the numerous seamen visiting that port.

—Eighteen of the soldiers stationed at the Tower recently signed the pledge after an entertainment by the members of Dr. Barnardo's Band of Hope.

—The Earl of Derby has sent a contribution of twenty guineas to the funds of the London Temperance Hospital, to mark his lordship's interest in the object of that institution.

—The Glasgow School Board have asked their head masters to examine the chief physiological works bearing on temperance, with a view to having it taught in the schools under their charge.

—The serious illness from which the Duchess of Westminster is still suffering was caused, it is stated, by a fright received from a tipsy groom who had arrayed himself in white drapery to frighten his fellow-servants.

—The *Lancet*, describing the medical treatment of Mr. Gladstone during his illness, says:—"The treatment has consisted in absolute quietness and judicious support of the system: stimulants were carefully used, but not found helpful."

—A flourishing Band of Hope has been formed at Calcutta, of which Babu Keshub Chunder Sen is president. Among the vice-presidents are the Rev. J. M. Thorburn, D. D., and Dr. M. Rose, and the secretary is Nalin Behari Sir car.

—Petty-officer Hampton, of the Excellent, who last year carried off the Champion Cup at Wimbledon, has now won the Southern District Championship. He is a life abstainer, and has, consequently, a steady eye and steady hand.

—Prizes are offered to students in the Wesleyan Training Institutions for the best essays on the claims of the temperance movement on the Christian Church. The adjudicators are the Rev. G. W. Olver, B. A., the Rev. M. Randles, and the Rev. Charles Garrett.

—A list of 22 coffee-tavern companies has been published, showing their dividends for the year 1879, bearing out the assertion that these associations can be made to pay a good profit. Out of the 25, ten paid 5 per cent., and the rest the large dividend of 10 per cent.

—At the recent meeting at the Duke of Westminster's house in aid of the coffee music halls movement, £1,000 worth of shares was taken. A second meeting for the same object has been held at the residence of Mr. Brassey, M.P., Junior Lord of the Admiralty.

—The United Methodist Free Church, whose annual assembly has been sitting at Leeds, on Saturday last resolved to form a Temperance League, with a view to the employment of an agent whose work would be the promotion of temperance in the circuits of the denomination.

—The Church of England Temperance Society has held a very successful diocesan gathering at Exeter. The Bishop preached in the cathedral, and afterwards presided at a meeting held for the consolidation of all the branches into one diocesan association.

—Earl Shaftesbury opened a new working men's institute, last week, at Parton, near Swinton, which has just been erected by Mr. James Sadler, of Lydiard House, at a cost of nearly £3,000. His Lordship strongly urged that such institutions should be made as much as possible like public-houses in point of accommodation, and that working men should have a large share in their working and general management.

## Boys and Girls.

### WARNING TO CHILDREN WHO "JUMP ROPE."

Dr. Peck, of the surgical institute, recently performed a surgical operation on the leg of a young girl by the name of Jordan, from Illinois, sent here for treatment. The bones of both her legs will have to be partially removed, and the little sufferer will have to submit to two painful operations. The cause of her affection is from "jumping the rope," a pastime engaged in generally by young girls, resulting in necrosis, or death of the bone. The doctor stated to a reporter, in this connection, that similar cases were constantly occurring from the same cause, but more frequently resulting in necrosis of the spine, and that there has not been a month passed but more or less cases of this character came to the institute for treatment. He says that rope jumping produces continuous concussions on the joints which impinge upon the bone, causing at the first stage periostitis, and finally resulting in the death of the bone. He thinks that parents and teachers should be warned of this dangerous sport and eradicate it entirely from the playground of children, as it is ruinous in its effects, and is the prime cause of more cripples among the female portion of the community than probably any one cause. He also added that, during the practice of his profession, deaths have been occurring, coming under his observation, which were the result of this pernicious pastime. In conclusion he said: "I would warn children against rope jumping, and would advise parents and teachers to prohibit it under all circumstances."—*Indianapolis Sentinel*.

### "DARK HERE, BUT LIGHT THERE."

A boy who was present with other blind boys at the examination of the Training Institution at Beyrout, Syria, replied to the questions of the astonished Turkish officials as follows:

"I am a little blind boy. Once I could see; but then I fell asleep—a long, long sleep. I thought I should never wake. And I slept till a kind gentleman, called Mr. Mott, came and opened my eyes. Not these eyes," pointing to his sightless eyeballs, "but these," lifting up his tiny fingers, "these eyes" (meaning how he could read the embossed Bible with the tips of his fingers.) "and, oh! they see such sweet words of Jesus, and how he loves the blind." Another boy, placing his fingers first on his poor blind eye and then on his heart, said: "It is dark here, but it is light there."

### GIVE THE BOYS TOOLS.

Almost all boys are naturally mechanical. The constructive and imitative faculties are developed, in part, at a very early age. All boys are not capable of being developed into good, practical, working mechanics but most of them show their bent that way. There are a few cases in which the boy has no competent idea of the production of a fabricated result from inorganic material, but such cases are rare. Given the proper encouragement and the means, and many boys whose mechanical aptness is allowed to run to waste, or is diverted from its natural course, would become good workmen, useful, producing members of the industrial community.

The mechanical boy ought to have a shop of his own. Let it be the attic, or an unused room, or a place in the barn or the woodshed. Give him a place and the tools. Let him have a good pocket knife, gimlets, chisels, gouges, planes, saws, cutting nippers, a hammer, a foot rule, and material to work. Let the boy have a chance. If he is a mechanic it will come out, and he will do himself credit. If he fails he is to follow some calling that does not demand mechanical skill.—*Boston Journal of Commerce*.

## HELPLESS HANDS.

"I would like to have a new dress, but it is so hard to get a good dressmaker," sighed Priscilla the other day.

"Why not be your own dressmaker?" "We have to eat baker's cake," said Marianne. "Mamma says she has no time to make it for such a family."

"Why not make the cake yourself? Mother's daughters should relieve her of such cares."

O! girls, whatever else you do, don't go through life with helpless hands. Hands should be instruments to serve our needs, not useless ornaments to hang rings upon.

### COMMANDER JAMIE.

There lived in a Scotch village a very little boy, Jamie by name, who set his heart on being a sailor. His mother loved him very dearly, and the thought of giving him up grieved her exceedingly: but he showed such an anxiety to go to see the distant countries which he had read about, that she finally consented. As the boy left home the good woman said to him, "Wherever you are, Jamie, whether on sea or land, never forget to acknowledge your God. Promise me, my dear Jamie, that you will kneel down, every night and morning, and say your prayers, no matter whether the sailors laugh or not."

"Mother, I promise you I will," said Jamie, and soon the little Scotch lad was on shipboard, bound to India.

They had a good captain, and as some of the sailors were religious men, no one laughed at the boy when he knelt down to pray.

On the return voyage things were not quite so pleasant. Some of the sailors having run away, their places were supplied by others, and one of these proved a very bad fellow. When he saw little Jamie kneeling down to say his prayers, this wicked sailor went up to him, and giving him a sound box on the ear, said in a decided tone, "None of that here, sir."

Another seaman who saw this, although he swore sometimes, was indignant that the boy should be so cruelly treated, and told the bully to come up on deck and he would give him a thrashing. The challenge was accepted, and the well-deserved beating was duly bestowed. Both then returned to the cabin, and the swearing man said, "Now, Jamie, say your prayers, my boy, and if he dares to touch you again I will give him another dressing."

The next night the devil tempted Jamie to do a very foolish thing. He does not like to have any one say prayers, or do right in any way: so he put it into the little boy's mind that it was unnecessary for him to be creating such a disturbance in the ship, when it could be easily avoided if he would only say his prayers quietly in his hammock, so that nobody would observe it. Now see how little he gained by this cowardly proceeding. The moment the friendly sailor saw Jamie get into the hammock without first kneeling down to pray, he hurried to the spot, and dragging him out by the neck, he said—

"Kneel down at once, sir! Do you think that I am going to fight for you, and you not say your prayers, you young rascal?"

During the whole voyage back to London this reckless, profane sailor watched over the boy as if he had been his father, and every night saw that he knelt down and said his prayers. Jamie soon began to be industrious, and during his spare time studied his books. He learned all about ropes and rigging, and, when he became old enough, about taking latitude and longitude.

Some years ago the largest steamer ever built, called the *Great Eastern*, was launched on the ocean, and carried the famous cable across the Atlantic. A

very reliable, experienced captain was chosen for this important undertaking, and who should it be but little Jamie, of whom I have been telling you. When the *Great Eastern* returned to England, after this successful voyage, Queen Victoria bestowed on him the honour of knighthood, and the world now knows him as SIR JAMES ANDERSON.

### A SURPRISE OF JOY.

A group of men with faces grave and sad  
Wanted to see  
If any sign of hope to make them glad  
There yet might be.

Outside the city there were flowers in bloom  
And earth was fair,  
But all their memories clustering round a tomb  
Were dark with care.

It was not only that they mourned a friend,  
Their eyes grew dim  
With tears the while they thought upon the end  
That came to him.

But they had wronged their Master; and each  
Heart

Was filled with shame  
How could they e'er have done so base a part  
To that dear Name?

Had He not loved them with such tenderness  
As mothers feel?  
Had He not lived among them but to bless  
And save and heal?

And one denied them wholly, and they all  
Forsook and fled;  
Therefore did sorrow hold their hearts in thrall,  
For he was dead.

So, looking at each other as they thought  
Upon the past,  
They deemed each day would be with trouble  
fraught

Until the last  
But even while they mourned He caused their  
pain

For ay to cease,  
For Jesus came among them once again  
And whispered Peace.

Lo! He had put the old sad past away;  
Freely forgiven,  
Their hearts looked forward to a brighter day  
With Him in Heaven

O sad ones, fearing half to meet His face,  
No more be sad;  
Ye cannot comprehend the Saviour's grace,  
Be strong, be glad.

Hope in his love once more, let sorrow cease;  
Lift up your eyes,  
And he will tell you with His wondrous peace  
And joy's surprise.

MARIANNE FARNINGHAM

No one can doubt that the Romanists seek to gain control of our government on earth. They themselves declare it. The fundamental principles of their organization require it. *Watchman*.

"If God ever makes His church better," says one, "He will begin by making His ministers better. We believe that a revival in the pulpit would be the greatest blessing God could bestow on the church. Let the people unite to pray for it.—*Presbyterian*."

A SCOTCHMAN living in Japan, went out to buy a screen. The merchant told him to come next day, for, as it was Sunday, he could not sell them, being a Christian. The Scotchman said: "I felt as if I had seen a ghost. I felt so insignificant and so cheap, that all I could do was to slip out of his shop and start for home." Another Japanese Christian about to sell some articles, asked the customer, as he was about to pay for them, "Have you noticed this defect, and this, and this?" The purchaser had not observed the defects, and decided not to take the articles. This is the sort of Christians converted Japanese make.