

The School has yet to get a firmer hold on her young people, and through the door of temperance bring them more effectually under the influence of the gospel of Christ. Observation teaches that the directions given in infancy and on through childhood is very certain to be held through life. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." The physical development in childhood is largely influenced by the wisdom or folly, care or neglect of those who have the care of the child. The most destructive evil and most formidable of all vices seems now to be intemperance. Dr. Guthrie says, "Before God and man, before the church and the world, I impeach intemperance. In this country, blessed with freedom and plenty, with the word of God and true religion, I charge it as the cause of all the ignorance, poverty, irreligion, crime and misery which disgrace and afflict the land." We sometimes hear that young men, once scholars and teachers in our schools, have become criminals, and it is uniformly found that drinking is the cause. It is our duty to live christian lives and exert temperance principles among the children; and may we look at it as the first, the highest, the grandest work to be engaged in. In our Band of Hope meetings all are made to feel that God's blessing and presence is desired for and sought. By services of prayer and praise both mind and heart are prepared to receive the truth. They should be made attractive and instructive, and in such a way as to arrest the attention and quicken the conscience. Give to each some part if possible, and each to contribute something whenever it can be done. Sometimes an opportunity is offered for decision at the meetings which a halting person may never have again; he gets out of the current and only needs a helping hand to land him on firm ground; then circulate the pledge and urge upon all the necessity of signing. When Mrs. Youmans was with us last spring there were numbers of young men and women who, for the first time, signed, and I presume no one knows the courage it required to go before their companions, but who could resist the pleadings and motherly affection of Mrs. Youmans for the young, and at that meeting there was not an individual who did not feel the force of her arguments and her earnest request for signers. There was such a public temperance sentiment created that evening that I may safely say St. George will not forget; and should Mrs. Youmans see fit to visit us again she will be warmly welcomed. Prompt measures were taken to organize a Union and Band of Hope. May the instruction and the training mould and hold the young in Christian Temperance principles. After Mrs. Youmans left, one young man was convinced after two weeks consideration, that to sign the pledge was the only safety for him. God commanded Zacharias that his son John should drink neither wine nor strong drink, and promised that he should be filled with the Holy Ghost from his birth. May we not also heed that command and claim that promise? and will it not express God's will concerning every child?

MRS. G. A. CHRYSLER.

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