

he could get vision of the rows of decanters behind the bar; how the decanters seemed to get personality and voice, and to nod and beckon to him, and to say, 'See here, you're wet; you need what I hold. Just one drink of me, it will do you good. You are a fool if you don't take me.' So the whiskey bottle said, and the brandy bottle, and the gin bottle. He thrust up his paper to cut off the sight, but inevitably the paper lowered itself, and again and again began the nodding and the calling. He dashed the paper down, sprang from his chair, rushed out into the rain, notwithstanding was victor. But he was almost victim. It had been vastly better if he had never entered that saloon, though it were raining pitchforks. Keep out of the place and way of temptation. Oh, that men would heed the stern, safe teaching! Allowed neighborhood with sin is always dangerous.—Dr. Wayland Hoyt.

### The Cider Drunkard's Appetite.

One of the most serious accusations against cider is that it creates an appetite for alcoholic drinks of every sort. One can hardly drink even sweet cider without wishing for more, and when it is drunk right along from the barrel, as usual, the more it is drunk the more it is wanted. Perhaps there is no other drink the fascination of which is so strong and lasting. Let us give a few proofs.

Rev. William Thayer says that reformed drunkards testify that they nearly all formed the appetite on fermented liquors, and drank nothing stronger till the appetite so educated demanded it. Then, and not till then, they went to the whiskey shop.

An agent of the Massachusetts Temperance Alliance, getting pledges in the secular schools, came to some towns where he got only about sixty percent of the scholars, two-thirds as many as he got elsewhere. He found that it was a common opinion there that fermented liquors do not form the drunkard's appetite. Several teachers told him that from four to eight scholars had come into their schools intoxicated, and some of them repeatedly, and nearly all on cider.

A gentleman in Iowa writes of his own appetite for cider. It was formed by drinking one year to enable him to do heavy farm work. After that he worked where he could not get it, but for more than a year he felt so great a craving for it that he would have given for it anything he possessed. And though it is now four years since he drank cider, he has a great yearning for it and has to fight the appetite.

In Pleasant Valley, N. Y., are some cider drunkards. One of them publicly said: 'I am a cider drunkard. I am seventy years old. I am worth sixty thousand dollars. I would gladly give every dollar of it, and support my family by day's work, if I could get rid of this appetite for drink. I have fought it since my early manhood. Once I was victor for two years; at another time for six months; now drink is my master.' The falling tears, quivering lips, trembling hands and voice combined, were but a faint index of a struggling and, perhaps, lost soul.—'The Christian Life.'

### Wages and Whiskey.

The young man who thinks he can afford to take two or three glasses of beer or whiskey each day and never miss the sum he spends would do well to reckon up how much these drinks would amount to in the course of a year.

Some years ago three young men in Columbus, O., carpenters by trade, engaged to work for a builder, promising to stay with him until a certain piece of work was completed. They were to receive the same wages and were to draw them as they chose. The work lasted from spring until Christmas. On the final settlement, one of the young men, who frequented the tavern, and was a pretty hard drinker found a balance to his credit of \$2.50.

The second, who was a somewhat more moderate drinker, had \$11; the third, who was a teetotaler, had \$150. The first and second wore very seedy clothes, and were in debt. The third had a good suit and no debt. Surely total abstinence pays!—'National Advocate.'

## Correspondence

North River, P. E. I.

Dear Editor,—I belong to the Loyal Crusaders, and we have the 'Northern Messenger' distributed at our meetings. I am learning to skate this winter, and it is good fun. My cousin is learning to stuff birds.

DAVIS H. (aged 9.)

St. Davids, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have one little pet kitten, it is very playful. When I play with it, it will open its mouth and looks as though it was laughing at me.

HAZEL LOUELLA M. (aged 7.)

Swan Lake.

Dear Editor,—We have just moved from Cypress River to Swan Lake a short time ago, and we like living here now, and I think we will in the summer. We get the 'Messenger' at the Sabbath-school and like it very well. We have been getting the 'Messenger' as long as I can remember, and I like to read the Correspondence.

MARTHA T. (aged 13.)

Williamstown.

Dear Editor,—My father is a tinsmith and I like that trade. We live near a river. I am glad when fishing time comes, because I like to fish. Williamstown is a very old village, over 100 years old. We have just been in the village three years.

JOHNSON (aged 11.)

Margaree Harbor.

Dear Editor,—I have seen in the 'Messenger' some very interesting letters, so I thought I would write a short letter too. I have been going to school since the Christmas holidays. I like the teacher very well. We have had good sleighing here. I used to go coasting every evening. I made two hand sleds and I got the iron work done at the forge. I made a double runner with them. It works fine.

FRED J. M. (aged 12.)

Lower Millstream.

Dear Editor,—My dog's name is Mingo, he has great fun with my pet lamb. I like to read the Correspondence.

LENA C. (aged 11.)

Annan.

Dear Editor,—My father has offered me a watch and chain if I learn the Shorter Catechism. I would like very much to know it from beginning to end, it is such a good book. We have no Sunday-school in winter. I have a great-grandma, she is eighty years old.

G. F. B. (aged 10.)

Bayonne, New Jersey.

Dear Editor,—My grandma lives in Manitoba, and has taken the 'Witness' for over thirty-five years. She used to live in Ontario. My sisters and I go to the Presbyterian Sunday-school. Every Christmas we have an entertainment, and each pupil gets a book. The little girls in the infant class get a doll, and the boys get a picture book.

KATIE (aged 9.)

Morrice, Mich.

Dear Editor,—Auntie gave the 'Messenger' to me on Christmas, so I get it all the year. We have a Junior Christian Endeavor here. I am an active member. We have some nice plants. Last summer I had a nice flower garden of my own. I had five or six different kinds of flowers. I used to love to water them. My father and brothers live in Manitoba, so I am living with my grand-ma and aunties.

SUSAN F. (aged 9.)

Jordan, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have no papa, he died when I was two months old. I have one brother, he is at college. My mamma and I live at my Grandpa's. He is seventy-six years old. My Grandma died some weeks ago. She was sick a long time. We miss her very much.

WILLIAM A. M. (aged 11.)

West Hall, Man.

Dear Editor,—I live on the Prairie. But I once went to Ontario on a visit, and thought it a very nice place. I walk a mile and a half to school. We had a blizzard one day.

G. E. B. (aged 11.)

Kaslo, B.C.

Dear Editor,—I live in the little town of Kaslo. It is situated on Kootenay Lake. I live about a quarter of a mile from the school-house. I go to Sabbath School. I enjoy reading the 'Northern Messenger' very much. My papa likes it too, and my mother is a member of the W.C.T.U.

IDA (aged 14.)

Dear Editor,—Mamma has taken the 'Messenger' for about twenty years. We would not like to do without it now. My papa is a farmer. We are living with Grandma now, in the township of Loggan.

ARTHUR S. P.

Aberdour.

Dear Editor,—My brother takes the 'Messenger,' and I read it, and my mother tells me the words that I don't know.

ETHEL C. (aged 7.)

Caron, N. W. T.

Dear Editor,—I have two brothers and one sister. My oldest brother is a violin player. There is school here, but I don't go as it is three miles away. I had a nice lot of plants but they got frozen.

PEARL (aged 15.)

Moose Jaw.

Dear Editor,—I live in the country. I have just newly taken the 'Northern Messenger,' and like to read the stories and the letters. We have two dogs and their names are Fanny and Rover. They are very good dogs as they will bring the geese out of the water. There is a very nice lake in front of the house, it is sixteen miles long, and we go very often for a boat ride. We have a big garden about ten acres. There is nearly every sort of vegetable in it. I do not go to school, but I study at home. We have several hens and we get thirteen eggs a day, and we had over a hundred chickens last summer. We can pick lots of black-currents and gooseberries and sell them in town.

ALICE (aged 14.)

Welsford, N.B.

Dear Editor,—One day a dog came into our school, he went out at recess, and after a while he began to whine so much that the teacher had to let him in. I live half a mile from the school house. I take two papers, the 'Sabbath Reading,' and the 'Messenger.' The 'Messenger' was a birthday gift.

ROBERT C. McC. (aged 10.)

Kemptville, Ont.

Dear Editor,—Our school is placed about a mile and a half from here, in School Section No. 10 Oxford. In Kemptville, the most important town in Oxford Township, there is a good public school, and also a fine high school, which is noted for miles around. Granolithic sidewalks have recently been put down on the main streets of Kemptville. There is a Mission Band called the 'Busy Bees' with 55 member on its roll here. I attend it and find it very interesting. The first year of our organization we won the prize banner for Grenville county.

HARRY E. (aged 12.)

Napanee.

Dear Editor,—We live on a farm about two and one half miles from Napanee. We have taken the 'Messenger' seven or eight years. It has come in my name for over three years. I am the only girl in our family, which consists of four boys and one girl. I was thirteen last December; I am five feet three inches in height, and weigh eighty-six pounds. I go to 'Riverside School,' and my teacher's name is Miss Dora Casey. She rides a wheel. I have been in the Fourth Reader three years, but on account of my health have been unable to attend school regularly. We have four horses named Frank, Flora, Topsy and Jennie, also two cats, Joe and Annie, a dog named 'Guess,' nine cows, twenty pigs, eighteen calves, about sixty-five hens and some chickens. I am very fond of making quilts with nice patterns. I have made two, one is a crazy quilt, made out of worsted, silk, and velvet, worked with Berlin wool, and the other is just made of print. I am intending to make a quilt which is made of blocks, each being about six inches square. I read that Lizzie B. is making a quilt too.

GERTIE JONES.