

aloft, a memory of a brave past. A day of enjoyment—now a happy memory. Kind readers, may many such be yours !

B.

HOW TO SAVE THE BOYS.

"Save our boys ! Save our boys !" screamed a warm-hearted, earnest lady lecturer, in the midst of her burning appeal for a prohibitory law. She meant it, she *felt* it ; and we all know that thousands have fallen by strong drink. We join heartily in the cry : "Save our boys !" and add, "and our girls too !"

A prohibitory liquor-law, however good and desirable we may regard it, will not do for our children what the gospel alone can do. There is but one way to life and salvation, while there are a thousand avenues to death. A prohibitory law may stop one of those avenues—a very seductive and dangerous one we admit—but it cannot be perfectly stopped by legal enactments.

No parent should depend on these alone, to save the boys. It is most desirable to hold back the boys from every form of sin. Children are prone to contract vices, and to wrong doing. There are two ways of training children ; one is to make it impossible for them to do wrong, by putting every temptation out of the way ; the other is, by moral influences teach children to avoid and resist temptation. A child brought up to shun evil companions, to keep away from saloons, to be obedient to parents according to the law of God, is *far safer* than one who has nothing but a prohibitory law to save him from drunkenness. In fact, a boy untrained in abstinence from a principle of right, is just the one that legal enactments will not restrain ; is just the one that would enjoy supremely the finding of a way to evade the law.

Those who will drink, if they can get the intoxicating draught, are not safe—prohibition or no prohibition.

If we would save the boys, we must not rely on legal enactments ; but inculcate principles that will hold them back from drinking places, and drinking companions. If a parent has not influence enough over his children to do that, there are poor hopes of saving the child by the law of the land. A good law may exercise a salutary restraint, by the fear of penalty ; but law is not a

regenerating agency. The law of God could not reform mankind. It may restrain from stealing, lying, and adultery ; but that would not make the person honest, truthful and chaste. What the law could not do by pains and penalties, threatening and death, has been done by the provisions of the gospel. The moral influences of love, sacrifice, pardon, are stronger, as a reformatory agency, than the ten commandments, and the penalty of death eternal.

Parents must not rely upon prohibition to save the boys, even where good salutary laws are in force. Children must be restrained from what is wrong by good, strong family government, that enforces subordination when needful, but relies chiefly on moral influences, a good example, loving persuasion.

Children when young—too young to reason—must be taught to obey, because it is the will of the parent. As their understandings are enlarged, they may be shown that the parent wills it because it is right ; and restrains and enforces them from a feeling of love. After all is done, we shall never save the boys, till we bring them to Christ. It is well to stop up every avenue to death that we can ; but neither boys or girls are *saved*, till by their acceptance of Christ as their sacrifice for sin, they obtain pardon, and a place in the family of God.

W. H. ALLWORTH.

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THE MISSIONARY DEFICIT—WHO SHALL PAY IT?

Shall it be the churches or the missionary pastors? This is to many of us a very serious question, the answer to which we await with no little anxiety ; the more so that with the closing of this month, will end the first quarter of the missionary year. It is well known that at the annual meeting of the Missionary Society held in Brantford last June, the motion to dispense with the services of the Missionary Superintendent in view of the present distress, was lost by a considerable majority ; so that retrenchment is not to be looked for in this direction. Since then, we have not heard of any one to whom God has entrusted wealth, coming to the rescue in this emergency,