What can we do to Counteract the

The girl of the period seems to claim the attention of the world at the present time. The correct idea being to rob her of all that has made woman lovable, her femininity. She must periorce even don the masculine attire to satisfy the craze for the so-called emancipation of woman. The most sacred safeguards which Religion has for centuries thrown around her are to be broken down by the claims of society upon her, as the principle of its preservation are to be disregarded.

We listen to the trend of the times and behold with pitying gaze the many who will be led to follow the example of the few, and were we in-clined to pessimistic views, might forsee in the not very far distant future the destruction of the home life and the consequent decadence of society, owing to the disinclination on the par woman to take upon herself the duties of motherhood.

On a par of importance with this question is the condition of the youth f the period, the future father of the family. For while we contemplate the influences brought to bear upon the girl of our age, we cannot blind to the nets of perdition which are cast with diabolical skill and precision to entrap the youth.

SOME OF THE INFLUENCES. Holy Writ tells us of the three great enemies to our eternal welfare, to witthe world, the flesh and the devil. Again we are told that "The devil eth around like a roaring lion seek ing whom he may devour.'

Our poor frail nature must neces sarily come for its share of the blame when the question of responsibility is to be established, and the blame mus be proportionately large in consideration of the free will, which, without direction, owes no other allegiance than to the sway of passion. devil must also bear his share-a very large one too-for the Apostle tells us in the words aboved quoted, "He goeth about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

His agents and instruments are scattered broadcast in the world, and with a foresight springing from his wonderful intelligence, he essays the destruc tion of mankind through his most as sailable bulwark, youth. And while everyone recognizes the sublimity of the truth that: "He who instructs unto justice shall shine as the stars in firmament," shall it not be acknowledged as equally forcible that h who instructs unto perdition shall merit everlasting punishment.

It is almost impossible to imagine the being who, beholding a masterpiece of art, fresh from the hands of the artist, glowing in the transcendent beauty of blended lights and shadow so true a reflection of the ideal that the artist himself stands in mute admiration of his work. It is almost impos sible, I say, to conceive a wretch se totally depraved as to besmirch the painting with filth to obliterate every semblance to the original. And ve the prince of darkness finds thousands, ave millions, of co-workers in his house hold whose sole enjoyment consists in destroying, as far as in them lies, the work of the divine artist, and besmirching His divine image in the souls and minds of youth.

A notorious example is now being made public in the English Criminal The evil that this man has done is being rehearsed in the light of The ruin which myriads of his ilk are daily working is still unknown save to Him, the omniscient, before whom nothing is concealed. The history of their deeds is too revolting for

Writers of cheap, trashy novels and periodicals, pregnant with immorality and vice, wherein religion and al things sacred are held up to ridicule, and respect for authority is denouncedthese are indeed powerful agents for the destruction of youth.

The dens of vice with allurements thrown out in every direction, open in sibility of the education of their our great cities in utter disregard to public sentiment and the laws estab-lished against them, receive with open arms the innocent young man, and surround him with every conceivable luxury that will gratify his frail humanity. His senses flooded with voluptuous illusions and deadened in the intoxicating cup in which also his intellect is darkened, and his will submits an easy victim to the plot cleverly laid for his destruction.

The companion who has brought him hither was once as innocent as he. Having tasted the poisonous draught he drank deep and still more deeply and was caught. So also his victim. He too in turn will sell his liberty and his eternal birthright for the mess of pottage, join the ranks of the archenemy, and go about seeking whom he may devour-may entice into the nets

But is it possible that our Catholic young men shall be classed in this category? that boys of Catholic parents who have been instructed in their religious duties - have bea taught the value of their immortal souls-will so far forget themselves as to allow the sacred image of the Creator to be blotted out from their souls? Sad as the story is, it must in truth be said that even they are no exception. For them with special, more carefully laid snares does the devil watch. And with how much more delight does he gloat over their

THE YOUTH OF THE PERIOD. we regard as a priceless prerogative had a forcible correction been adminfor which we would shed our life istered, it would, in all probability, blood rather than forego. Far be it from me to assail the principles of liberty! As an American "to the manner born," I equally glory in our proud boast. But liberty and license must not be confounded.

The tendency of the times is to strain the spirit of liberty until it does away with the actual parental control of the offspring. The old adage: "Spare the rod and spoil the child," is too antiquated for modern ideas. The child of the period must be self governed alike at home and in the schoolroom. He must be taught to rely upon his innate manhood and his sen duty to fulfil the law. Above all, it must be seen to that his rights and privileges are untrammeled by authority, human or divine.
This is beautiful in theory, but is it

practical? Is our nature strong enough of itself to stretch out ever to the right, rejecting the wrong? Will the word of admonition sink suffficiently deep to counteract the inclination to evil which is in us as a consequence of the original transgres-The criminal statistics of the times bear witness to the contrary, and violation of the law.

The youth who has learned at an early age to assert his liberty at home scoffs at the rebuke of his elders. Parental admonition is turned to ridi He recognizes no authority save that which emanates from his own in dividual will. How about the State? Has she no claim to his obedience Then useless are the laws iframed for the well-being of society. How about God, the Creator, has He no claim to the allegiance and obedience of His creature? Liberty, or rather the abuse of sacred liberty, rises as Lucifer of old and asserts: "Non Serviam." (I will not be under subjection.)

One can easily trace the close con-necting link between this spirit of license and infidelity, the easy gradation to a lower plane of morality - to crime, and the fatal error which society makes when it inculcates the false

maxim of license. Witness the wisdom of the nations of pagan antiquity which enforced respect for authority upon youth as a question of vital importance. Spartan youth were rigidly trained with this end in view, and were remarkable for their veneration of the aged. Of Cyrus the younger, whose brief career Xenophon so tersely portrays, it was said that while he was under instruction at the court of the king he surpassed even those inferior in rank to him by his respect for his elders. But this was in the far remote ages. Away with it from the nine eenth century which is closing, going out like the sun at eventide, rich and nellow with the glorious with the mellow halo of progress! Yes, but God grant that this flecky cloud of license may not overshadow the brilliancy and portend, as the clouded heavens at sun set, a dark and dismal period at dawn.

But the question is of the present noment and we must work while there is yet light. How then shall we rescue youth of our day, and especially the Catholic youth, from licentiousness and from vicious courses

ONE OF THE MEANS. Home training and home discipline s perhaps the most effectual means for eradicating the evil. After all, eat of education is in the bosom of the family. Divinely appointed, the parent from the dawn of reason in the offspring in solemnly obligated to educate, to lead forth the budding intelligence to paths of duty and righteousness. The instilling of moral princiaspirations is of the first and highest importance. Hand in hand with this comes the parental influence over the child, firm and unyielding, calling forth a responsive and unques tioned obedience.

It has been time and time again deplored that parents in this age think nothing of shifting the awful respondren upon parties who have no personal interest at stake in the matter beyond the pecuniary advantage de rived. No less deplorable is the sight of parents attempting to fulfil the law, but carrying it out with a cruelty which almost amounts to criminality

True, it must be admitted that every parent is not ipso facto an accomplished educator. Many are wanting the moral force of character which is neces sary to exercise a lasting influence over their children. These are so by nature, or by having acquired the looseness of discipline from their own shiftless habits. Children are quick to discern either good or bad qualities in their superiors, and the parent who would exact unqualified submission must display an even and uniform method in his correction and admoni-

tion.

No opportunity must be passed by as too trivial. No press of external and all-important duty. Again, the disposition of the child must be studied. That which would be adequate correction, which would produce most bene fic al results in one child, would be most pernicious for another. Moral suasion is a most excellent method of discipline. Who does not remember when his loved mother took him aside and whispered the gravity of the fault committed, supplementing with a touching incident from Bible history downfall! And yet for one and all the greatest cause of the easy victory obtained over youth seems to be THE LICENTIOUS SPIRIT OF THE AGE. Of America we proudly say: "This is the land of liberty." We glory in the freedom of our institutions; liberty or telling him how deeply the Sacred Heart of our dear Lord was wounded by the act? Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effect in our heart. Perhaps we shed tears of repentance and the lesson produced a lasting effe or telling him how deeply the Sacred Heart of our dear Lord was wounded

istered, it would, in all probability, have been more efficient

Another mistake is made by putting off the time for disciplining a child. We say he is too young, he does not know what he is doing. Perhaps we even praise his naughtiness as a clever "It was so bright in the child! Ah! he was bright enough to commit the act, he is ready to do it again and again for your amusement until the again for your amassim formed that habit of evil is so deeply formed that you cannot eradicate it. "As the tree you cannot eradicate it. is bent, so it will grow."

Prop up the tender sapling with wholesome advice, use the pruning knife of correction on rll extraneous growth that may appear. Surround it carefully with firm influences that will direct its ways straight upward, elevat ed with religious truths to the heavenly sphere, and then God's dew of grace will nourish and His sunshine of love will enlighten and strengthen the child until it grows to a perfect and vigorous manhood.

OUR CATHOLIC YOUTH Some time ago, in an article, I speke of the sad condition of many of our Catholic young men who had been educated in the faith, had attended justify the statement that correction of religious instruction, had been adyouth must go hand in hand with the mitted to the sacraments, and then, at the critical period of their lives, be tween the ages of fourteen and twenty, were left to drift for themselves.

With the many influences abroad to ensnare them, some of which have been pointed out above, is it not worth ser ious consideration of our good pastor that a means be provided to ke

youth within the narrow path of duty?

It may be well said: "Are there not Catholic associations innumerable in every city? Does not the Church use all her endeavors to bring Catholic young men to these? Yes, it is true. And-thank God!-untold good wrought through these societies. But, tell me, is there one Catholic association that will admit a youth of fourteen years? He is neither a man, nor yet The association is composed of men who have social tastes and habits in common. They don't want the boy where shall he go?

Perhaps his home is the most unde sirable place for him. His parents are not the kind of educators they should be. Wandering abroad the world and the devil with his myriads are alert, his immortal soul is in peril

Would that I had the power to express with sufficient force my feelings on this subject! Would that my poor words might awaken corresponding interest in the Catholic thinking world that they might see the extreme grav-ity of the problem and work to its solution!

Why send missionaries to evangelize heathen lands while in our own midst, in our cities and towns, we are per mitting the youth to perish, those to whom Christ addressed the words of love: "Suffer the little ones to come unto Me for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Let them come unto the Lord clean of heart and pure of life, for the Psalmist asks: "Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in His holy place?" and he answers: "The innocent in hands and the clean of heart, who hath not taken his soul in vain, nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbor." xxiii., 8-4.)

The organization of sodalities or associations which shall combine the instructive and amusing elements, naturally formed on the plan of more mature societies, but modified to suit the wants of youth, having the more direct supervision of the clergy—something of this kind might be suggested as an experiment to be improved upon after trial.

It is the earnest desire of the that this matter will not slumber but that other pens will take up the sub-ject, other tongues take up the cry, until we behold the work of rescuing our Catholic youth established on a firm and solid basis. Then may we hope for a brighter era, for Religion sweetly subduing the harsh discord of License will render Liberty the more beautiful in all her harmonious grand eur. - Ed. C. Kane in Catholic Mirror.

## A Fruitless Journey.

When a young man begins to drink it is as though he got on an electric car and went to sleep. He crosses one street after another without knowing Total abstinence advocates come like the conductor every now and then and call out the stopping-places, but be rides on. He thinks he can get off when he wants to. There is another hand on the lever and the ca rolls along in the same direction a the time with a low, humming song that helps him to sleep. When he fin-ally gets his eyes open he is amazed to ally gets his eyecute farther find that he has ridden much farther than he had any wish to go. He has a big bill for extra fare charged up His friend was completely overwhelmed with this rudeness. Her lip long walk back, for there are no cars back in a man's life. He has to walk. He will find the journey a good deal more cheerful and be much less likely to stumble if he joins the total abstinence movement and walks along in good company. -C. T. A. News.

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Earnest Words to Catholics, Worth Pondering Upon.

The great Paul wrote to the Thessalonians (5: 5:) "Ye are all the children of the light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness." Christ reigns in us. He is our light, while we are called to be a light unto others. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven." (St. Matt. 5, 16.) God is glorified in the holy lives of saintly persons because they shed a perfume around their humble way that souls delight in. Their example is a benison to their they were beautiful and in their death and they are consecrated to holy memory. The people rise up and call them blessed. Thus God is glorified in His pious servants. The Lord loves a sanctified person with a strange partiality and a supernal fondness, and the angels delight to be near. Such a person is always in the divine presence, and a touch of the hand or a riendly greeting may impart a benediction

UNITY.

St. Paul, who was called by Christ Himself from the clouds to become the teacher of the Gentiles, and who was raised up to the third heaven by almighty power, said : " I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation which ye are called. With all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling ; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." (Ephes. 4: 1, 6.) My friends, strive for this unity, which is the mark of the elect.

THE GRACE OF LOVE. The union of the divine and the human was accomplished by a love se intense and remarkable that no finite language can ever describe it. Only the Divine Father and the Holy Spirit know the depth of that stupendous fondness that sent the Son down to become man for our redemption. O, my friends, would that I could put only a part of that divine craving into your hearts! Dear hearts, you will never know to the full extent how the Saviour loved you, because you are finite.

Ah me, what a sublime grace to be loved like this! To be cherished always with a divine love, infinite and unspeakable! I am lost in wonder at this strange partiality of the Son of God for man. Indeed it is the wonder of all ages. Who can explain this supernatural love of Jesus? O, my friends, what a love we have neglected!

PRAYER A MARVELOUS GIFT. Prayer is a marvelous favor to men. Alas! for unthinking humanity, how few value the stupendous gift of prayer O mercy infinite! O sublime grace vouchsafed to fallen man! What rank ingratitude to slight this wondrous consolation, this inestimable privilege How fair the thought how beautiful the action of prayer! Humbly we bend the knees; appealingly we raise the hands, in confidence we lift the heart to God. Let there be silence al around when we address the throne of the Invisible! What a grand occasion for us! God grant that we may all be worthy of the blessed favor. Perhaps you do not know the bliss of prayer. where one may rest absorbed for hours and hours unwearied.

Why should this wondrous joy be hid from you so long? Could you not see how the dear Saviour values human prayer? The Son of God Himsel nade us our chosen prayer-one that He knew would reach the Father's How sweetly fall upon the Father's ear the blessed words of His beloved Son! What words are these that rise against the postils of the gold en gate? The words of Christ, the Son of God! The ones He taught, framed by His holy lips. Blessed prayer—the one He made for us, inspired by wisdom and a saving love. -Philip O'Neill in Catholic Mirror.

A New Story of Old Dr. Johnson.

Hannah More, it seems, was a favorite of the great Dr. Johnson, that most dogmatic and autocratic of men. He called her his child, and was usually very indulgent of her faults and tolernt of her opinions, although they often differed from his own. Once she was warmly praising some opinion of cerain Catholic writers, when the old do stor burst out :

"Madam, let me hear no more of

whelmed with this rudeness. Her lip quivered and her eyes filled with tears. Seeing this, the manner of the gruff doctor completely changed, and he gently took her trembling hand, and said in the sweetest of tones:

"Child, never mind what I said.
Follow true piety wherever you find it."
This anecdote goes to prove what Dr. Johnson's friends claimed for himthat he had a warm and sympathizing heart, in spite of his rough exterior and forbidding ways; and that, like many others, he sometimes spoke from prejudice.

ABANDON THE TRAFFIC. .

Let Catholics who are unfortunately engaged in the liquor traffic, which is the prolific cause of so much misery and woe, abandon it as soon as possible for some more honorable occupation. Let Catholic names be removed from the fronts of the gilded saloons, and let them be used to adorn our banking houses, law offices, dry goods stores. etc. It is soul sickening to reflect on the immense losses in membership sustained by the Church every year tions to the ministry blasted, aspirants to honorable and profitable professions ruined, the peace and happiness of family homes destroyed through means of drink, and the prolific cause is generation and remains like a shining the saloon. Be aroused to a sense light above their tomb. In their lives of your great duy to Church of your great duty to Church country, and nobly resolve to abandon the demoralizing busi-God will bless and amply ness. reward you for any pecuniary sacrifice you may have to make in order to enter some other business. from our people the deadly drink traffic, and calumnies, misrepresentations and scurrilous abuse of the Church become things of the past. nine cases out of ten those miserable and wretched fallen men and women, who itinerate from place to place regaling base corrupted minds with their foul harangues against the Catholic Church, were reduced to their present God-forsaken condition through drink. Tens of thousands of our Catholic

men in our cities and towns have spontaneously given up even the moderate use of drink for their own good and the benefit of society. Why should not our Catholics engaged in the soul, destroying business abandon such a demoralizing way of making a living? Making money at the expense of human souls ransomed by the Precious Blood of the Redeemer is a terrible crime before God and man. Oh! what temperance revival would mark the near future, what a transformation would follow if every Catholic engaged in the saloon traffic would give it up? Will our people show themselves equal to the emergency, will they make reparation for the untold harm and ruin done the Church and society in the past, by severing the bond of thralldom bound so strongly around them by the odious traffic? Will they harken to the parental request made by the prelates of the nation, and rise to breathe the atmosphere of a higher and better life? May God grant that the day may

dawn upon our fair land in the not distant future when the revenue collector will look in vain for a Catholic name over the death dealing dram shop! What a grand future lies before the Church in New York Catholic Agency grand future lies before the Church in this new world if our people but prove true to their mission to show forth in their lives the beautifying effects of Catholic teaching! The American people are fair-minded, considerate, noble and generous-hearted, and are willing to give credit for good works. The claims of the Church must commend themselves in a special manner to the American people by the lives of her own children. "The tree is judged by its fruits." It will be productive of but partial good to speak to our separated brethren about the soul saving doctrines of which the Catholic Church is the divinely commissioned teacher, whilst so many of our own people, through their scandalous conduct, caused by the drink habit, endeavor as far as lies in their power to disprove our teaching. Let our people be modols of honesty, integrity, true patriotism, and temperance, as taught and inculcated by the Church, and the Protestant people will cross her threshold and enter her portals in such and the Protestant people will cross her THOMAS D. EGAN. threshold and enter her portals in such numbers as to recall the days of Pentecost. - Union Tracts.

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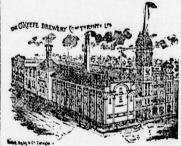
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