

CHILDREN AT CHURCH.

Is that a growing, well-ordered, potential church that is conspicuous for the absence of the children from the Sabbath congregation? True, it has fine music, and "praise is comely"; but does not the Psalmist call upon "old and young" to praise the Lord, and did not Jesus bless the children as well as the adults, and was not the restored Peter told to feed the lambs? Well, we have "splendid preaching"; but is it for the grown-up alone? Is there no children's portion? We have fashion and culture represented; but have these fashionable and cultured attendants no sons, and daughters, and brothers, and sisters, who should worship God side by side in his house? Alas! that in so many churches the good old habit of family attendance is passing into disuse! The young are sent more or less regularly to Sabbath-school, but it is too much to expect them to remain for the service of the sanctuary. They can go all day to the week-day school; but one hour at Sabbath-school and an hour and a half at church is too trying upon their delicate nerves, and too confining, and so considerate fathers and mothers exonerate them from honoring God by waiting upon him in the way of his appointment. The absence of the children from God's house is more conspicuous in the city than in the country. Children must be habituated to attendance upon the means of grace. Parents can not begin too early in bringing them to the sanctuary. Impressions are made upon their minds and hearts there unknown and unnoticed by parents and ministers. We plead for household attendance upon the church-services—parents and children in their pews regularly, promptly and devoutly. God will bless such fidelity to, and honoring of, his covenant, "I will be a God to thee and to thy seed"; "the promise is to you and your children."
—*Presbyterian Observer.*

The Northern Presbyterian Assembly passed a resolution recommending the sessions of Presbyterian churches to refuse to admit into these churches persons who are engaged in the liquor business. There were but few dissenting votes. This is a step in the temperance cause in the right direction. Rum-selling and church membership ought not to be combined in the same persons.—*N. Y. Independent.*

WHAT BRINGS PEACE?

A doctor who was once visiting a Christian patient had himself long been anxious to feel that he was at peace with God; the Spirit had convinced him of his sins and need, and he longed to possess "that peace which the world cannot give." On this occasion, addressing himself to the sick one, he said: "I want you to tell me what it is—this believing and getting happiness, faith in Jesus, and all that brings peace." His patient replied: "Doctor, I have felt that I could do nothing, and I have put my case in your hands; I am trusting to you. This is exactly what every poor sinner must do in the Lord Jesus." This reply greatly awakened the doctor's surprise, and a new light broke in upon his soul. "Is that all?" he exclaimed; "simply trusting in the Lord Jesus? I see it as I never did before. He has done the work. Yes, Jesus said on the cross, 'It is finished,' and 'whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.'" From that sick bed the doctor went a happy man, rejoicing that his sins were washed away in the blood of the Lamb.

WISE SILENCE.

To have learned when to speak is to have mastered an important step in one's education, but to have learned when to be silent is to have mastered one more important. A wise man of long experience in the world once said, "I have often regretted having spoken, but I can recall no instance in which I have had occasion to regret my silence." Not everybody would say precisely this, for there are times when it is our duty to speak, and boldly, no matter at what cost. But it is undeniably true that speech has caused more and deeper regrets than silence. The point is to determine when to be silent. In mere conversation there is a silence often more discreet and more enjoyable than speech. In grave discussion there is a silence often more telling than words, especially in the expression of disapproval. In cases when loyalty to truth is involved, one must declare himself; but, as the general rule, people of true dignity and high character have learned that much of the time silence is golden, while speech, at its best is but silver.—*Congregationalist.*