

Northern Messenger

VOLUME XLIII. No. 20

MONTREAL, MAY 15, 1908.

40 Cts. Per An. Post-Paid

'The "Northern Messenger" is a marvel for the price.'—Archibald Lee, Grenville, Que.

Preaching Prohibition by Postcards.

One of the most potent weapons used by the people of the United States in their fight against the saloon is the picture post-card. It can miss the meaning, and even the children can see and understand such a picture as this which shows the saloon as a 'vice'



SPEAKING OF VICE—

REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION OF THE PATRIOTIC POSTCARD CO., SAGINAW, MICH.

—Drawn by May for the Patriotic Postcard Co., Saginaw, Mich.

Vivid cartoons sent into the homes of the people by its means have told their story more clearly than mere words could. No one

squeezing from the workingman's pockets the hard-earned money that should be spent on food and clothing, home and education.

A Modern Miracle.

In a Connecticut hill town village a farmer, with his wife and twelve children, lived somewhat remote from the community centre. His work was more as a teamster and in the woods than as a tiller of the soil. The wife in her girlhood had been a church member,

but the man himself said, 'No woman could live with me and be a Christian.' The family was rarely represented in church or Sunday School. Drunkenness and profanity were practiced in the home. Of 'native stock' indeed, but the outlook was not cheering.

The Congregational pastor—the only one in the community—has cultivated this hill field

for more than thirty years, and regards such families as this his special obligation. He 'believes and does not make haste.' His faith lasts over from year to year. He demonstrates the value of long pastorates. He has increased the membership in spite of a decadent population.

One day this man came to this pastor and told him he had made up his mind that his life had been wrong. At home he called his children around him and confessed the same thing, declaring his determination to live a different life and asking their help and companionship. Practically and with common sense they discussed the matter. The children—seven boys and five girls—were ready to fall in with the father's plan. The wife was not so ready. It dazed her. She confessed that her husband changed so that she had to get acquainted with him every day. Two pews at church were filled regularly. After some months the father, mother and older children united with the church, and as the years have passed, all the children have confessed Christ before men.

In spite of early hours all have gathered morning and evening for worship. It was the father's idea at the beginning that it should be a time for taking bearings for an untried voyage. They confessed their failings. Profanity especially was a besetting sin. They encouraged one another. At the beginning whiskey was dropped, then beer, then cider; and the boys have all agreed to give up tobacco.

The gospel now, no less than in years gone by, is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.—'Congregationalist.'

Temperance and Industry.

(The 'Valve World,' Chicago.)

The present widespread movement against the saloon and its influences—so strikingly marked in recent elections in the United States—has a distinct bearing on industry.

This crusade against the saloon is not due to any unusual agitation; it is not following in the wake of a sentimental wave; it is not political in the sense of prohibition.

In the South, where the voting on local option has produced the most surprising results, the movement is largely economical. The whites are willing to favor temperance in order that the negroes may make better workmen.

In other parts of the country economical considerations are joined with a reactionary sentiment against the saloon influence in politics and near the homes of the people. Grown folk wish to give the rising generation better opportunities to become good, intelligent, moral, temperate citizens.

The greatest triumphs of this movement have been non-partizan; they have come directly through the efforts of the people, and among those who have been voting against the saloon and all that the saloon represents, the workmen of the country have played a conspicuous part.

There is a steadily growing sentiment among the body of workmen that the man who toils does not really 'need his beer.'