



Send That Boy to Me.

'The pay is forty dollars a month, and a good youth is sure of promotion. That is what the permanent men at the railroad shops complain about; this place is now vacant because the lad your partner sent us, and who filled it worthily a year, is now placed where he gets eighty dollars a month. So we trust you to choose his successor. They may ask you a few questions about the candidate for form's sake, at the office, but your man is sure to pass muster.'

The above was addressed by a busy railroad official to a city lawyer, who replied:

'There is my friend's son, Urban Starr; his father spoke to me about employment for him. To be sure, Urban is rather above the place as to talent and culture; but times are hard, and the young should climb the low rounds of the ladder. I'll see about proposing him.'

'Thank you! I'll be doubly obliged if you will take your applicant up to the office and see him accepted.' And the railroad man hurried away.

To this conversation there had been a deeply interested but sad-hearted listener—Theodore Young, the faithful office boy, who longed with unspeakable desire for some such place as the one described. He was the eldest son of a widowed mother, whom he yearned to help, and who was so poor that forty dollars a month seemed wealth to her boy. When the railroad man left, the lawyer turned to Theo., saying:

'Here, Theo., though it isn't your work, won't you note the dates of these letters and file them away in order while I write a letter for you to take up to Mr. Starr's?'

Theo. attended carefully to the papers and was waiting for the letter before it was finished. A great desire was swelling in his throat till it ached, and when the finished letter was handed to him his request burst forth in trembling eagerness:

'Do you think, sir, there are, or may be, any low places at the railroad shops for which you would venture to recommend me? I would begin very low, and work very hard to deserve promotion, and perhaps in years I might come to such a place as this for Urban Starr.'

'How can we spare our good, trusty Theo? But, I own it is too bad to keep you here. If Urban consents to apply, when I go with him you may go, too, and I'll interview the parties about something for you.'

'Oh, thank you, sir,' cried Theo, and he was so glad that he ran instead of walking on his errand. A few hours later found Urban and Theo waiting in an ante-room, while the lawyer made known his business about Urban to the railroad officials, who said:

'Oh, yes; thank you for bringing him. The last employee your firm sent was a treasure, and we don't need to ask questions about this one; yet there is one essential thing that I will mention. Of course, you know this person, like the last, to be strictly temperate—total abstinence, pledged and practiced?'

'No, sir, I know nothing of the kind; but on the contrary, while my friend, Mr. Starr, is temperate he isn't one of the total kind. There is wine for the guests at New Year's, and Urban takes his glass like the rest.'

'Excuse me, then; but he won't do for our employ. Total abstinence principles and habits are our first requirements.'

'He is no drunkard. Perhaps if you see him you will think he has qualifications of great value to you.'

'It is useless for us even to see him, since we desire one who has been from boyhood voluntarily abstinent.'

'Very well; Urban Starr is above need of the place. Good morning! Oh, excuse me for having forgotten another matter;

there is here a lad with me—in fact, our own office boy—for whom I've promised to ask if you've any kind of a place ever coming vacant into which you could put him with hope of the future. We hate to lose him, for he is trusty, capable, willing, writes a good hand, and is quick at figures.'

'How is he on total abstinence?'

'Oh, he is square on that. Signed the pledge when a child. Never took a first glass. Regards a glass of wine with superstitious horror.'

'Send him in, if you please; we would like to talk to him.'

Theo came back to the lawyer's office radiant with joy, exclaiming: 'They say I'm just the one they want for the place you didn't take for Urban. They only laughed when I said I feared there was some mistake. Don't Urban want the situation?'

'It is all right, Theo. Please remember when you are a railroad president that you owe your success in life to —?'

This occurred, for this is all true, several years ago, and Theo has now a salary of fifteen hundred dollars, with the love and confidence of all who know him, while Urban is intemperate, out of employment, and a grief to his parents.—'Christian Statesman.'

What They Produce.

Here is an illustration of what saloons produce. In one corner of Oklahoma, a few miles from the Indian Territory line, there is a saloon from which has come in four years ten murders, sixteen assaults with intent to kill, and eighty-one cases on the commissioner's docket for the illegal introduction of whiskey into Indian Territory.—Selected.

Seventy-five Out of Seventy-six.

On Dec. 12, says Mr. E. W. Chaffin, I was at Mound City, Pulaski county, Ill. There was a murder case on trial before Circuit Judge Butler, of Caro. At the close of the trial the judge, in rendering his decision, said: 'The case at bar is the seventy-sixth murder case I have tried, either as state's attorney or as judge, during the past nineteen years. I have kept a careful record of each case, and I have to say that in seventy-five of the seventy-six, whiskey was the exciting cause.'

Abstinence Commended.

I have tried both ways; I speak from experience. I am in good spirits, because I take no spirits; I am hale, because I take no ale; take no antidote in the form of drinks. Thus, though in the first instance I sought the public good, I have found my own also since I became a total abstainer. I have these four reasons for continuing to be one:—(1) My health is stronger; (2) my head is clearer; (3) my heart is lighter; (4) my purse is heavier.—Dr. Thomas Guthrie.

Alcohol Poisons the Blood.

The 'Christian Endeavor world' (Chicago) tells of a Japanese lieutenant with a wound in his left lung who lay in the hospital next to an officer with a wound in each lung. The second was in a far more serious condition, yet he recovered far more quickly, and was dismissed from the hospital more than a month earlier. The lieutenant, when he asked the reason, was told by the surgeon, 'the other officer's blood is not poisoned by alcohol and tobacco as yours is.' The lieutenant is now an outspoken Temperance man. Every soldier in his company has signed the pledge.

Dr. David Paulson, a prominent physician of Chicago, declares that the eating of pepper sauce and limburger cheese by boys creates in them an appetite for cigarettes and whiskey. Parents are guilty of criminal carelessness, according to Dr. Paulson, when they allow highly seasoned food to be served to their children. Dr. Paulson is backed by the entire medical profession in this affirmation.

Poems Wanted.

Can any of our readers send us a copy of a poem called 'King Alcohol,' published in the 'Messenger' a number of years ago.

Another of our readers asks for a poem called 'Farmer John's Temperance Sheep.' The words of the last verse are.

Well pleased I ween was John the farmer,
Until Jack, a sly young elf,
Said, 'Say, now father hadn't you better
Take a year old sheep yourself?'
Down fell the eyes of John the farmer,
And he kept them down until
He signed the pledge that lay on the table,
As he said 'My boys, I will.'

Chorus—
The boys all said, 'Oh, yes,'
And John the farmer cried,
'Yo, ho, I've temperance sheep a-plenty,
Every one shall be supplied.'

Britain's Wine Bill.

Within the short space of six years the consumption of wine in the United Kingdom has fallen nearly 50 per cent., and the quantity now drunk per head of the population is only a little more than a flagon, or 1 3-4 quarts, in the year.

A writer in the 'Wine Trade Review' declares that the quantity of wine consumed in the United Kingdom in 1905-6 is smaller by about a million gallons than in any year since Mr. Gladstone's famous Budget of 1860, when the duties on light wines were reduced to something like to-day's figures.

The following table, giving the population of the United Kingdom, and the number of gallons of wine consumed in three separate years, shows how great is the decrease:—

	Population.	Galls. of Wine.
1873	32,000,000	18,027,000
1900	40,800,000	17,147,000
1905-6	43,000,000	11,800,000

The decrease, however, only applies to the imports from the old wine-producing countries. The consumption of Australian wines is on the increase, and these wines now constitute one twenty-eighth of the total import.

The total imports of Australian wines in 1860 were 951 gallons; in 1885, 163,406 gallons; in 1890, 315,113 gallons; and in 1900, 823,503 gallons. The writer believes that this increase is due to a desire to economise.—Temperance League Journal.'

Sober Japanese.

Mr. Yoshito Komma, the Japanese Vice-Consul in Chicago, translates the following testimony:—'Never drink wine,' says Field Marshal Oyama. Major-General Fukushima says: 'If I had been a drinker, my journey on horseback through Siberia would have, perhaps, been a failure.' 'The late Commander Hirose, a hero of the Japanese navy, had never drunk sake nor smoked tobacco,' says Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy. The late Colonel Ishikawa said that sake and tobacco were the most formidable enemies of health. The late Colonel Ishimura never touched sake nor tobacco. Commander Iwamuro says: 'I myself gave up drinking wine long ago, and have been a temperance man ever since.' General Kuroki is also an abstainer.

The Welsh Revival.

The 'Goleuad,' the organ of the Calvinistic Methodists, states that one result of the revival in South Wales is the decision of a well-known solicitor to give up taking cases on behalf of brewers, and in doing this he is sacrificing £2,000 a year. The 'Goleuad' asks, 'Who after the hearing of this fact will deny that the revival is not something fearfully substantial?' It adds that the next thing it will expect to hear is that the Welsh Liberal members of Parliament who are barristers and accept briefs to appear on behalf of the 'trade' have decided to follow the example of this solicitor.—'Alliance News.'