

### The Drunkard's Friend.



**C**ROWD was one day seen collected near a pile of stones in one of our cities, gazing intently upon some object. A number of policemen stood in front, and on drawing near, the object of their attention was discerned to be a drunken man, lying utterly senseless

upon a pile of blasted rocks and stones. Of course his presence there, was an offence against public decorum, and the blue-coated policemen, whose office it is to preserve order and decency in the city, found it their duty to remove this specimen of the handiwork of the dram-sellers, who are also licensed by the same city to turn human beings into such groveling, helpless imbeciles. But though there were spectators and officers in plenty, the man could not be removed. He had a friend with him more respectable than he; a friend who stuck closer to him than a brother, in spite of his degradation and shame. A noble Newfoundland dog stood over the helpless man, looking down into his face, and suffering no one to approach his unconscious charge. He did not like the looks of the policemen, and the policemen did not like the looks of the dog. Twenty feet was about the proper distance the dog had settled upon for them, and any man that came nearer than that, came at his peril. Pails of water were brought and thrown over the faithful animal, in hope of driving him away, but, steadfast amid storm and gloom, he only drew closer and closer to his unworthy companion.

"We cannot take the man unless we shoot the dog," said one; "and he is too noble a brute to kill."

"Which is the brute?" asked a passer-by, as, at a glance, he took in the scene.

The dog was at his best, and doing his best, with a more than human fidelity and steadfastness. The man, at his worst, degraded and disgusting, lay helpless under the care of the brute. What a noble dog! What a degraded man!

Keep away from the vile stuff which thus brings a man below the level of the brute. Do not touch it or taste it. Total abstinence is the only safeguard.

### Good Results of a S. S. Institute.

**T**HE S. S. Teachers and Bible Students of Riverside (a suburb of Toronto) determined to put the principles laid down at the Institute into practice, and they at once formed themselves into a Union Teacher's Meeting, for the weekly study of the lesson. They are guided by the following principles:—

1. Superintendents and pastors aim to have present specially all the young teachers. They need it supremely.

2. All tendencies to trifling, irreverence, or mere quizzing questions are frowned down by the class. They do this for—

Self-protection

Preserving healthy influences, and Because of the solemnity of the hour.

3. Every member avoids making a speech; but all put a question, or give an answer. And all questions and answers are addressed to the person presiding.

4. Every member avoids—taking up time on small points of detail; being **CRITICAL**, and becoming **PRACTICAL**.

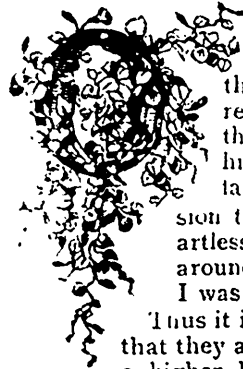
5. The conductor mainly repeats to the class the questions asked by the class—as also the answers given—sometimes supplementing both—and he keeps the moral and spiritual bearing of all points steadily before the class, and classifies results.

In the constant use of these principles, deep interest and personal profit are always secured. In these lines lie the highest wisdom of adult Bible study and teaching.

Suburbs of other cities might do likewise.

REV. J. MCE.

### A Higher Hand.



**O**NE day a little boy sat in front of his father, and held the reins which controlled a restive horse. Unknown to the boy, they passed around him, and were also in the father's hand. He saw occasion

to pull one of them. With artless simplicity the child looked around, saying, "Father, I thought I was driving, but I'm not, am I?"

Thus it is often with men, who think that they are shaping a destiny which a higher hand than theirs is really fashioning. They do their own will, but they also do the will of God. A stronger hand guides them—a mightier power holds the helm of their vessel, and saves from rock and wreck.