

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

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## The Temperance Worker

### MESSANGER AND WORKER.

This paper is published weekly at fifty cents a year, or forty cents in clubs of ten, separately addressed if required. Temperance workers, as well as all who want the cheapest news and literary paper out, will be able to judge of its merits upon a brief examination. Readers would favor the publisher, very much and do good otherwise by showing the paper to their friends and asking them to subscribe. Address all orders to JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal.

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### SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

**ENCOURAGING.**—The Halifax *Watchman*, the official organ of the Order in the Province, speaks thus hopefully:—"The reports coming from all parts of the Province are of an encouraging character. The membership of nearly all the Divisions is increasing, and as new Divisions are every week being organized or resuscitated the membership is increasing quite rapidly. Bro. Hutchings is doing a splendid work in the north, and Bro. Lewis has commenced his campaign in the south.

**RE-ORGANIZED.**—The Division at Tatamagouche, N. S., has been reorganized by Mr. Thomas Hutchings, G. D. lecturer, with fifty-five members. He reports:—"The Division starts again with very favorable prospects of continued success." "Golden Sunset" Division, near Tatamagouche, was also re-organized on the 2nd inst. by Mr. Hutchings with forty-nine members, and good prospects.

**INSTITUTED.**—A new Division was organized on the 5th inst. by Mr. Hutchings at West Tatamagouche Union Church, "under very favorable auspices indeed." Quite a large delegation were present from Wallace, North Shore and other parts of the county.

#### ONTARIO.

Mr. J. H. McMillan, of Toronto, G. W. P., writes:—"Our Order is likely to do very well in this Province this year. Anyhow we are trying as hard as we can to succeed.

### PROHIBITORY ALLIANCE.

**BROME CO.**—A respected correspondent writes:—"The Brome County Alliance appears to be growing into a somewhat active and useful organization. Its membership is reported to number 200. Its Executive Committee embraces some twelve clergymen and as many as fifteen delegates from the different churches. About \$50 have been expended in disseminating temperance literature and in procuring speakers for public meetings during the past two months."

### GOOD TEMPLARS.

#### ONTARIO.

**ESSEX CO.**—The regular session of Essex County Lodge was held on Saturday, 3rd inst., at Essex Centre, and there were seventy-five members and delegates in attendance. The county chief, Bro. Jas. R. Oliver, presented an encouraging report in regard to the work of the Order in county. He had just received returns from thirteen lodges, showing an aggregate membership of 852, with 216 initiations during the last quarter. It was decided to hold the next meeting at South Woodlee the last Saturday in May. The following members were recommended as county deputies, and they have since received commissions of the Grand Lodge:—Henry Atkin, Comet P. O.; W. H. Spargos, Gesto; Jas. Clarke, North Ridge; Go'len Wigle, Ruthven. It was resolved to take immediate steps toward the adoption of the Scott Act and arrangements were made to procure a competent man to oversee the securing of the necessary signatures to the petitions and raising the necessary funds. Mr. J. J. Mason was appointed secretary and treasurer of the Scott Act Committee.

**ALVINSTON.**—A new lodge has just been instituted at Alvinston, Lambton County, with twenty-five charter members. G. W. L. Raine, W. C. T., Mrs. M. Gillespie, W. V., H. Gillespie, W. S., L. Stevens, F. S., F. W. Jacques, P. W., Rev. J. R. Johnston, W. C.

#### MANITOBA.

**NEW LODGE.**—Mr. F. B. Little, D. D. G. W. C. T., has organized a Good Templar's lodge at Emerson with sixty charter members. The officers were duly installed and the lodge put in good working order. Referring to the instituting officer, the *Emerson International* says: "Mr. Little won golden opinions for his courteous manner and the able way in which he performed the installation ceremonies, and it is hoped that this is not the last visit we may have from him. He returns to Winnipeg, carrying with him pleasing recollections of the Emerson friends."

#### QUEBEC.

**COATCOOK.**—On Tuesday evening of last week Mr. W. H. Lambley, G. W. C. T., gave a very interesting temperance lecture in the Baptist Church, Coatcook, after which a lodge was organized with seventy-eight members, including some of the best working material of the place. Col. Crawford, American Consul, W. C. T.; Rev. Mr. McKillop, W. C.; O. M. Moulton, L. D.

**BARNSTON.**—About a month ago a new lodge was instituted at Barnston, and already about sixty members have been initiated, with a number more of proposals. One of the charter members is a member of the Town Council and formerly did not oppose the granting of licenses. Since his initiation, however, he has voted differently and in consequence the Council has refused to grant any licenses in the township this year. This is one of the first fruits.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

The Order is making good progress in the "Mayflower Province." Mr. P. J.

Chisholm, the zealous G. W. C. T., writes that no less than sixteen new lodges have been instituted since the last Grand Lodge session.

**AMHERST.**—La Planche Lodge at Amherst was the first instituted in the Province and has always taken a prominent position in the work. The eighteenth anniversary was held recently and it was a grand success—as such meetings in connection with that lodge usually are. The meeting was held in Music Hall. A very excellent supper was first provided and there were about 120 members present and 150 invited guests. The Cornet Band furnished music, and Bro. Chisholm, G. W. C. T., presided. There was an excellent programme of speeches, dialogues, recitations and music.

**HANTS CO.**—A County Lodge for Hants Co. was organized a few weeks ago with over 100 members. There was a rousing public meeting in the evening and much good was the result.

**COR. HICKMAN.**—It has been arranged to have Col. Hickman, of Kentucky, visit Nova Scotia, and address ten public meetings in the principal towns, some time in April. The announcements will be made in due time.

### WOMAN'S C. T. UNION.

The first public meeting in connection with the Montreal Woman's Christian Temperance Union was held in the American Presbyterian Church in this city on Thursday evening, 15th inst. The congregation was not large but respectable. The Rev. Mr. Wells, pastor of the church, presided, and the speakers were the Rev. Thomas Gales, Secretary of the Alliance, Mr. J. R. Dougall, of the *Witness*, the Rev. Dean Baldwin, the Rev. Mr. Fleck and J. J. MacLaren, Q. C. A neatly printed circular was distributed at the meeting, from which we take the following in regard to the work proposed:—"The main object is the promotion of a strong sentiment in favor of total abstinence in the city of Montreal. The main point is to band together the ladies of the various churches, to present a firm front to the enemy, and to undertake, each in her own way and sphere, to use all her influence against the drinking of intoxicating liquor. It is expected that the union will take active steps in various directions to promote the growth of a healthy public opinion. Among these measures may be mentioned the spread of temperance literature and its introduction into Sunday-schools and public libraries, the offering of prizes in schools for essays on the effects of alcohol and tobacco, the establishment of Gospel temperance meetings, the inviting of popular temperance lecturers to the city, the getting up of Bands of Hope in Sunday-schools where none at present exist, the providing of unintoxicating wine for sacramental use, the encouragement of temperance groceries, the sale of coffee to sailors in summer, &c."

Mrs. Youmans has been lecturing under the auspices of the Union with much success in the Eastern Townships. A Brome County correspondent writes that in connection with her labors, branches have

been formed at Sutton Flat, East Farnham, and Cowansville. Her lectures are spoken very highly of by all who heard them.

### DRINK AND DEATH IN ENGLAND.

At a recent annual meeting of the British Medical Association, Dr. Norman Kerr, one of the most popular and respected medical men in England, read a valuable paper in regard to "the influence of alcohol on the public health," a subject which he has made a careful study for many years. In regard to the number of deaths caused either directly or indirectly by the drinking usages the statements he makes are of a startling nature. The total population of Great Britain is put down at 34,692,705, and it is estimated that the yearly number of deaths caused directly by alcohol is 14,209 and indirectly, 35,522, or 49,731 in all.

Dr. Kerr then says:—"Dr. Hardwicke and other experts had endorsed this estimate as most moderate, and Dr. B. W. Richardson had stated that he thought the deaths in this category were at least 50,000 annually.

But this was not all the mortality from alcohol. Besides those who died from the effects of drinking in their own person, a large number of lives were lost through the indulgence of others in strong drink. There were deaths by violence and by accident; the suffocation of children through the drinking of one or both parents; and a long chain of innocent victims, weak women, and helpless children, either literally starved to death through the intemperance of the husband and father, or with life gradually crushed out of them through the tyranny and brut'ry of him who ought to be their cherisher and protector. This indirect mortality from the intemperance of others than the slain was not only much greater than the direct mortality caused by the lethal influence of alcohol on the person, but was infinitely more difficult to compute. Though he had closely studied the subject for years, and had done his best to reduce the figures to as low a compass as possible, Dr. Kerr could not shut his eyes to the probability that, for every death from personal intemperance, there were about two deaths from the excess of others. The estimate of 40,500 dying every year in the United Kingdom from their own intemperance, and 70,500 dying from disease, violence, accident, or starvation, consequent on the intemperance of others, had been submitted to several representative medical gatherings, and had, he regretted to say, not been seriously disputed. In fact, it had been pronounced moderate and far within the truth by such competent authorities as the late Dr. Hardwicke, and many other coroners and medical officers of health. Dr. Noble, of Manchester, attributed one-third of our disease to intemperance, and Dr. Richardson had given utterance to the opinion that were the British a temperate nation, the national vitality would be increased one-third. Dr. Kerr said he need not point out that estimates based on these deliverances would greatly exceed his own, for a third of the total mortality for 1880 would be 235,775 deaths.

## THE PRICE OF A DRINK.

BY JOSEPHINE POLLARD.

"Five cents a glass!" Does any one think That is really the price of a drink?  
 "Five cents a glass," I hear you say;  
 "Why, that isn't very much to pay."  
 Ah, no, indeed; 'tis a very small sum  
 You are passing over 'twixt finger and thumb;

And if that were all you gave away  
 It wouldn't be very much to pay.

The price of a drink! Let him decide  
 Who has lost his courage and lost his pride,  
 And lies a grovelling heap of clay,  
 Not far removed from the beast to-day.  
 The price of a drink! Let that one tell  
 Who sleeps to-night in a murderer's cell,  
 And feels within him the fires of hell.  
 Honor and virtue, love and truth,  
 All the glory and pride of youth,  
 Hopes of manhood, the wreath of fame,  
 His endeavors and noble aim—  
 These are the treasures thrown away,  
 As the price of a drink from day to day.

"Five cents a glass!" How Satan laughed,  
 As over the bar the young man quaffed  
 The beaded liquor, for the demon knew  
 The terrible work that drink would do;  
 And before the morning the victim lay  
 With his life-blood swiftly eluding away;  
 And that was the price he paid, alas!  
 For the pleasure of taking a social glass.

The price of a drink! If you want to know  
 What some are willing to pay for it, go  
 Through that wretched tenement over there,  
 With dingy windows and broken stair,  
 Where foul disease like a vampire crawls,  
 With outstretched wings o'er the mouldy walls

There poverty dwells with her hungry brood,  
 Wild eyed as demons for lack of food;  
 There shame in a corner crouches low;  
 There violence deals its cruel blow;  
 And innocent ones are thus accused,  
 To pay the price of another's thirst.

"Five cents a glass!" Oh, if that were all,  
 The sacrifice would indeed be small,  
 But the money's worth is the least amount  
 We pay; and whoever will keep account  
 Will learn the terrible waste and blight  
 That follows that terrible appetite.

"Five cents a glass!" Does any one think  
 That this is really the price of a drink?  
 —N. O. Christian Advocate.

## ERNEST ADLER.

BY MARGARET E. WINSLOW.

National Temperance Society, New York.

## CHAPTER VIII.—A NEW CREATURE.

In the life of the months that followed, to Ernest Adler all things had indeed become new. A new bodily and mental vigor had taken possession of him, and he felt a thirst for heroic achievement, which would have done honor to any knight of Round Table fame; a new love had sprung up in his heart passing that of woman, yet intensifying that which had only lain dormant for mother, wife, and children, and seeming in the warmth of its early glow to consume all the pleasure seeking selfishness which had stood at the root of the sad ruin of his life; a new purpose was forming itself, even the devotion of himself, with all the rich powers of his life and being, to the service of the Friend who, by the sacrifice of Himself, had wrought this great deliverance for him. No wonder that the sun shone as it had never shone before since the days of the bright, happy boyhood of the Professor's son; no wonder that an utter loathing of past scenes, past pleasures, and past indulgences took the place of the old cravings, and that he boldly asserted everywhere that the old appetite was totally and forever removed.

For Ernest was not one to live his new life in secret. The enthusiasm of his excitable nature was at once in a white heat, and on every possible occasion, in public and in private, he was again and again telling the story of the wonderful grace that had rescued him. Such men are very valuable upon platforms and in evangelistic meetings, and his "testimony" was eagerly sought, and when delivered, was followed constantly by visible and wonderful effects. Ernest had all the qualities of a popular orator. Who could tell with such thrilling pathos the horrors of a drunkard's career,

or so mark the contrasts of the wonderful deliverance, or so earnestly point to the great Deliverer? The superiority of the college-bred gentleman, in both natural gifts and superadded culture, to the majority of "reformed men," who form the stock speakers of "Gospel Temperance meetings," the caused him at once to be in great requisition by those conducting such meetings while his sympathetic nature and personal acquaintance with the helpless, degraded condition of the slaves of appetite, made him extremely popular with the classes for which they are held; and so in the brief space of a few days, a sight was seen with which we have of late become very familiar, namely, the sudden exaltation of a man, but just now a practical infidel, or worse, a pleasure-seeker, a debauchee, a tramp, to the platform or rostrum; to stand forth as a leader, and to fight in improved armor and with unfamiliar weapons against the most terrible enemy, whose forces are organized with the most consummate skill that this lost world has ever known.

We are already beginning to reap the harvest of this injudicious haste on the part of well-meaning friends of the cause, and the end of it is not yet. The records of a "temperance movement" in more than one of our large villages and towns, show that town less advanced in Temperance sentiment and action than it was a decade ago, because the "evangelist" who conducted it "fell," became intoxicated, was dishonest, or in some way proved himself unworthy, and so brought dishonor on the cause he represented. The "reformed" element is, doubtless, a very valuable one in carrying on temperance work; but it is one which needs extreme care and discrimination in its employment, that the Scylla and Charybdis of injury to the individual, or to the public, may be safely passed by.

But so far Ernest Adler stood his new elevation very well. In the first place it was no great elevation to him. He was so far above his audiences in social condition, gifts, and culture, that the position of teacher was natural to him; he was by nature exactly adapted to his work, and enjoyed it intensely, and as flattery and adulation had surrounded his childhood and boyhood years, he was but breathing his native air when rounds of enthusiastic applause greeted his lively sallies and fervid exhortations, and when gray-headed philanthropists and warm-hearted, enthusiastic women pressed his hands and thanked God for having given him to their work. Moreover, as yet quite unselfish, the pure spring of grateful love for the Saviour who had rescued him was swelling up in the young man's soul, and urging him to the rescue of the other slaves who lay bound and helpless in the dungeons from which he had so happily escaped. For, although his wife's said New England family were doubtful as to the genuineness of a conversion which was not the happy result of a long preparatory process, and his own father looked upon unordained preaching as all but sacrilege, Ernest could not but know that he had found Him of whom Moses and the prophets did write—found him all, and more than all, that He had been represented, and his glad "first love" for this Friend and Deliverer could not but pour itself out in words.

"In my days," said old Deacon Winthrop, Marion's father, "we used to hear much about 'law work'; a man was 'under concern' a long time, especially if he had been a great sinner, and then, when he 'indulged a hope,' it was always such a trembling one that he didn't dare to say much about it. I don't understand this easy way of getting into the kingdom."

"But you see how much Ernest has changed, father," said Marion; "he isn't the same man at all, and you always maintained that in the covenant of grace it did not make the least difference whether a man was a moralist or a murderer."

"Yes, yes, I know," said the old man, "we'll see; but I should have liked a more regular conversion."

"I am glad our scapegrace boy has come to his senses, as he says he has," said Professor Adler to his wife, "and renounced those rationalistic opinions. He was too carefully indoctrinated in Church teachings to hold them long. I hope, too, he'll keep to his resolutions and stop drinking, at least in an ungentlemanly way. But the boy must be mad to get up on platforms and speak, as they tell me he does, about re-

ligion too. Who authorized him to preach? It is one of those wretched American ideas, so subversive of all law and order, that laymen, and even worse, laywomen, can teach religion as well as those who have been regularly instructed for and trained to the work. I must write an essay for the *Quarterly Review* of our Church; even our own people are becoming infected by the popular heresy, and are opening Sunday-schools both here and at home."

But the poor little Professor's wife was too feeble to enter into controversy. The anxieties and sorrows of the past ten years had been too much for her, and she lay now on that couch which she should never, with her own volition, leave again. God alone knew the struggles and sufferings of those years—the weary heart-sinkings of apparently unanswered prayers, the mysterious mother and child sympathy with the conflicts, agonies, and degradation of her only boy which told so much upon her waning life forces and the bitter stabs of his ingratitude when impatient of her reiterated exhortations to repent; he ceased even to answer her letters. Through all she had prayed on in unflinching faith, though often with clouded hope, and when the glad news came, it was almost harder to bear than the sorrow had been.

She lay back quietly and happily upon her bed praising God for the answer to her life-long prayer, and Ernest's enthusiastic "testimony" received its first check in a summons to Harton, where he arrived, for the first time since his expulsion from college, just in time to join in his mother's prayers of thanksgiving, and to hear her say, with another of the aged saints:

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

The meeting between the Professor and his son was cordial, and the bereaved old man needing consolation just then, it was sweet in the long-absent son to give it. But as the weeks wore on, it became evident that even the repentance of the present can not quite undo the work of the past; that is the saddest part of sin.

Ernest's late conversion, though the knowledge of it softened and sweetened the last hours of his mother, could not restore the lost life and vigor which, but for his evil doings, would have been hers; and to his father he was almost a complete stranger.

The man, broken and enfeebled by his excesses, intellect weakened, brilliancy dimmed, a few gray threads among his locks, and many wrinkles on his forehead, was not the boy of eighteen in whom were centered all his hopes of distinction, who had gone away from him in disgrace. He loved him, and was, of course, glad of his reformation if it were such; but he was not quite sure that it was. Had he not promised reformation again and again, especially at the time of his marriage, and what had come of it? Besides, there was something derogatory to the family dignity in the character of a "reformed man," which Ernest persisted in making prominent on every occasion; the total abstinence principles, and the zealous religiousness—fanaticism, the Professor called it—were constant jars to his taste and his old-world ideas of the fitness of things, and it soon became apparent that the Professor and his prodigal son would be happier and love each other better, if the latter, at least, continued to inhabit a moderately far country. So Professor Lawrence and his wife moved into the desolate house, the household wheels resumed the regularity of past years, and Ernest went back to B—, his family, and his chosen work.

John Lawrence believed fully in the happy conversion of his unfortunate brother-in-law. He had never been able to see how a long delay in accepting the proffered mercy of the Lord did honor to that mercy, nor in what way a protracted period spent in self-study and self-effort fitted any soul to receive that which is offered without money and without price. He had always felt that the one thing which such a nature as Ernest's needed to steady it and enable it to walk safely amid life's many temptations, was the omnipotent grace of God obtained and held by living faith. Accordingly, his first letter of congratulation had been warm and sincere, and each succeeding one had been joyful, sympathetic, and entirely devoid of the assumed superiority of advice-giving; so hard for young Christians, with as yet undeveloped grace, to

receive with due humility. Only once—in reply to a letter in which Ernest had asserted his complete emancipation from the power of his old enemy, and recounted instances in which he had followed some lost ones through their usual haunts and snatched them from before the very death-dealing bars themselves, feeling only a contemptuous loathing for the fascinating poison there displayed—he had said:

"Don't be quite so confident, Ernest; you are mortal and the tempter is still unchanged. Look unto Jesus, that you be not led into temptation, and remember the word of Inspiration: 'Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.'"

Ernest was puzzled by this letter. He could not be hurt by it, for he had known too long and thoroughly the manly, brotherly heart from which it came. But that he could need such a caution seemed incredible. Had he not "looked unto Jesus," and in answer to that look received pardon, peace, and a new manhood? Was not the old appetite as he believed utterly taken away? What cause could there be for fear now? He saw none and felt none. He was saved, blessed be God! and now he would turn his attention to the salvation of others.

One other loving heart believed thoroughly in Ernest, in spite of the many times she had believed in and been disappointed by him before. Marion's joy was unbounded, and the past wretched years all forgiven and forgotten; she was soon busy with plans and preparations for the happy life to come. Ernest had been fortunate in at once securing a situation where the work, light enough to suit his weakened powers and the salary sufficient to support another modest little home, he had still afternoon and evening hours at his disposal to give to the work to which he devoted his life. In this new home he soon established his wife and two little ones—the younger almost a stranger to "Papa," and the happy wife and mother did not grudge the long evening spent with her little ones, while her other self—was away upon his missions of mercy; like his Master, "going about doing good."

"God is awfully good to me," Ernest said to one of those who had been instrumental in his rescue, at the close of a meeting one night, "his little girl lay with her flushed cheek against his shoulder, her blue eyes closing sleepily, and her bright curls touching his beard. With one hand locked in his was a sturdy fellow, the very facsimile of the young professor who came to Harton, so long ago, and behind the group came the mother, in whose face new-born happiness was fast smoothing out the wrinkles, and brightening the eyes that had so nearly faded away with weeping."

"God is awfully good to me, the most unworthy of all his prodigals. I had all but starved to death on the husks, and lo! He hath given me the fatted calf, and the sound of music and dancing is perpetually within my home and my heart. What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits to me and mine?"

## CHAPTER IX.—"HIM THAT THINKETH HE STANDETH."

The writer would gladly close this true story with the last chapter. It would be pleasanter to those who read only for amusement, and would agree better with two prevalent theories—the one which teaches that such is the natural nobility of human nature, especially of those generous natures which are popularly supposed to accompany a proclivity for drink, that if the will can only be enlisted on the right side, it will certainly accomplish the work of reformation; the other—standing on a totally different basis—that, since the grace of God is omnipotent, it can destroy the appetite for liquor (whether inherited or acquired) by a word, so entirely, that its victim may be as careless concerning it henceforward as any other man in whom such an appetite has never existed. The first theory scarcely needs refutation at this advanced stage of public opinion. It begs the question, for it is the weakening or even total destruction of the will-power, which lies the extreme difficulty of reformation; and, moreover, if it be true that originally noble and generous natures are those which fall easiest prey to the temptations to excessive drinking, it is equally true that these qualities are soonest withered by the fiery breath of the drink-demon, and there is on

Only once-in Ernest had ... and recounted ... followed some usual haunts and the very death ... Let him that he ... Ernest ; ... He was saved, ...

earth no such spectacle of embodied selfishness as that of a man daily blighting the lives of those living with, and dependent upon, him, and spending the time and means on which they have a claim in sensual gratification or in the purchase of that low-born and easily-earned popularity which wins for the traitor the reputation of "a good fellow." But the second is a more serious consideration, because of the blessed truth of which it is an abnormal development, i. e. that "the blood of Jesus Christ cleanse us from all sin."

that nameless something which told of his belonging to a higher caste than the majority of his hearers ; a circumstance which, in spite of our republicanisms, is almost as potent in America as in India. It is true his scope of topic or illustration was not very wide, for the wasted hours of boyhood and youth could not be miraculously made up even by the enthusiasm of middle age ; but his audiences were mostly fresh ones, and the thrillingly-told story of his fall and redemption never failed to interest. While a few carpers would wish that the personal pronoun held a less prominent position in his narrations, and that the redemption could occupy more space than the fall, on the whole the effect of his addresses was marvellous. Multitudes of pledge-signers always responded to his invitations, and multitudes of people constantly assured him with tearful eyes how much they had been "blessed" by his words.

in the spirit of the "seventy times seven" to do all they could for the fallen, and, at least, to go and comfort his poor wife. But the subject of all this mortification was rapidly putting himself into a condition wherein their remarks, had he heard them, would have been as powerless to arouse anger as the voice of his own conscience was now to awaken repentance. There were too many open grog-shops, Sunday night though it was, between the Hall and the home whither his blind instincts led him, to leave any semblance of the intellectual Christian man in the stupid, idiotic being whose stumble into the open door that calm, stary Sunday evening, announced to the happy Marion and her bright-faced children that their life was a desolation once more.

or signal, one uncontrollable impulse seized at the same moment every living being in both hosts, and men, elephants, horses, and camels, rushed headlong to the sparking waters and drank.—*Monumental Egypt*, vol. II., p. 151. So in the blessed river of the Gospel, Jews and Samaritans quenched their thirst and became friends.—P.

III. "A spurious conversion." A few dead trees in the forest, or dried stalks in the fields, do not prove that spring is a failure, or that the sun does not impart real life. The debris at the edge of the Nile floods, left high and dry and useless, does not prove that those floods do not fertilize Egypt, and make it a garden of fertility.—P.

PRACTICAL.

1. A lively, but indefinite, obscure excitement of the religious feeling always exposes men to a variety of dangerous delusions.—*Nwander*.
2. True joy differs from false, as the spring sunshine differs from the lamps in a scene of midnight revelry.
3. The wonders of false religions excite astonishment and awaken curiosity; the wonder of Christianity are for the blessing of men and the saving of the soul from sin.
4. Verse 14. The Gospel makes enemies love each other, and breaks down the barriers which pride and nationality have built up.
5. Verse 15. The great blessing for the Christian is the gift of the Holy Spirit.
6. Verse 18. Bad men think all men have bad hearts as they.
7. One who knows the truth is not equal to one who loves the truth.—*India Proverb*.
8. Note the test of true conversion in the motives. The false convert seeks self-advancement; the true convert seeks the good of others.
9. Verse 20. The best things can never be purchased—love, faith, truth; they can only be given.
10. Verses 22, 23. Sin is always bitter in its fruits.
11. Sin is a bondage; only the good are free.
12. There is an unpardonable sin, because there is a sin which will not be repented of.
13. Ver. 24. They who mock at the mercy of God by their hypocrisy in such seasons of privilege, are in special danger of becoming aggravated sinners.—*Taylor*.
14. False repentance is sorrow, not for the sin, but for the punishment.

SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

This lesson cannot be understood except by going back to the previous verses. There is much that can be taught here on the nature of true faith and conversion. The subject may be true and false conversion contrasted. (1) First contrast—of men. Philip and the believing Samaritans on the one hand, and Simon on the other. (2) Second contrast—of works, verses 14-17; the useless wonders of Simon; and the gift of the Holy Ghost, with its healings and casting out of devils, and saving of men. (3) Third contrast—of heart. Simon still selfish—believing with mind, and not with heart—and Philip and the apostles loving and serving Christ.

POINTS FOR TEACHERS.

1. Be punctual in your class every Sunday at the appointed time.
2. Make special preparations for your lesson, so as to be able to explain and illustrate it.
3. Cordially greet each scholar, not only in the class but wherever you meet him.
4. Look after all absent scholars, and ascertain why they are absent, and secure their return.
5. Make special efforts to obtain new scholars, and encourage the members of your class to do the same.
6. Go home with a new scholar and get acquainted. Visit each scholar of your class often. Take an interest in him, and he will reciprocate it.
7. Be full of vivacity and interest and your class will feel its influence.—*Gospel Teacher*.

TOPIC FOR PRAYER-MEETING.—A German minister, in speaking of the security of God's people and the precious promises of the Bible, said : "How often the words 'fear not' occur in the sacred volume; I have counted up into the seventies, and I thought that was enough I need not look for any more."

To be Continued.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' TEMPERANCE TEXT-BOOK.

BY H. L. READE.

(National Temperance Society, New York.)

LESSON IX.—ALCOHOL AND THE HUMAN BRAIN.

What is the brain? The brain is a soft, gray and white mass enclosed in the skull. Of what is this white mass made? It is made of the same material as the nerves.

What relation does the brain bear to the nerves which are found throughout the body? The brain is the centre of the whole nervous system of organized life.

Do these nerves of the body connect with the brain? They do. They run from every part of the body to the brain.

Is the brain supplied with blood like the other parts of the body? It is; and some of the veins through which the blood passes are as fine as the threads of a spider's web.

How is the brain easily reached? The brain is easily reached through the nerves, and through the stomach by means of the blood.

When alcohol is taken into the stomach what immediately follows? The nerves which are in the lining of the stomach, telegraph instantly its presence to the brain.

Is this all? It is not. The stomach rids itself of it as soon as possible, by sending it out of itself and mainly into the blood.

What then becomes of it? The disturbed heart, sympathizing in the nervous agitation, with its rapid strokes, forces it all over the body.

What effect has the alcohol as it passes through the body? It irritates the inner surface of all the blood-vessels.

What portion of the blood-vessels does it irritate most? It irritates most those portions that are most tender and sensitive.

Where are the blood-vessels which are the most tender and sensitive located? In the brain.

What is the effect of this irritation? Always unnatural action and frequently diseases, that embitter life and often destroy it.

HINTS TO TEACHERS ON THE CURRENT LESSONS.

(From Peloubet's 1st Lect. Notes.) April 1.—Acts 8: 14-25.

ILLUSTRATIVE.

- I. Verse 14. "Missions of the Church." The safety and happiness of the church depend thus, under God, on its efficiency as an aggressive force upon the world. Stagnation is death. The physical philosopher tells us that heat is only a form of motion; and the warmth of Christian love is only one of the forms of Christian activity. The pool is very soon corrupt, but the river filters itself into purity as it flows, and sings the while a sweet song in the ear of God.—*Wm. M. Taylor*.
- II. "The Gospel reconciling opposed parties, Jews and Samaritans." Mr. Osborn tells us of two hostile armies in southern India, who, after a long march over the dusty plains, met each other on opposite banks of a river. Without the interchange of a word

THINKETH HE ... se this true It would be only for better with one which nobility of these generous supposed to link, that if n the right h the work nding on a e the grace e destroy the inherited orly, that its ncerning it n in whom nisted. The ation at this n, It begs n or even ver, where- formation; e originally those which ons to ext- t that these e fiery here is on

## The Weekly Messenger.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 24.

### IRISH AFFAIRS.

Attempts were made on Tuesday of last week to blow up the public building at Westminster and the office of the *Times*, in London. In the latter case the explosive was discovered before it had been set off, but an explosion occurred at Westminster, which shattered one of the public buildings as by a bombardment. Westminster Abbey, the Parliament houses and all the buildings of the neighborhood were shaken by the concussion and the streets were covered with broken glass from hundreds of windows. The only personal injury was that of two children being thrown out of bed and having their faces hurt. Had the explosion occurred in business hours great loss of life must have resulted. There is no doubt in the public mind of the connection between the explosion and the Irish grievances, and some papers make Mr. Parnell, the Irish leader, morally responsible on account of his having threatened Parliament a few days previously with an increase of the land agitation if the Land Act should not be amended. The House of Commons rejected his amending bill only the day before the explosion by a vote of two hundred and fifty to sixty-four. Leading Irish agitators and Fenians in the United States acknowledge that the explosion was the work of their people, and Pat Crowe, a dynamit. advocate in Chicago, rejoices in the event, but says his plan is to place thirty men with petroleum in the chief cities of England and burn them on the first windy night. Mr. Parnell on the other hand, declares the Irish had nothing to do with the explosion, their party being honestly endeavoring to secure remedial legislation through the regular courses of Parliament, and hints that the idle and hungry laborers of England and Scotland are more dangerous than the same class in Ireland. Another sensation has been an attack Lady Florence Dixie says she sustained from two men disguised as women, near her family seat at Windsor. She says they tried to stab her with knives, but a corset turned the blows, her big dog defended her, and a passing cart frightened the villains away. The matter is full of mystery, as persons in the neighborhood of the alleged assault knew nothing of it. Lady Dixie's attacks upon the management of the Land League funds were of course connected with the account of the attempt upon her life, but the most charitable construction upon later accounts is that the lady has been the victim of dreams. Earl Spencer, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, has informed the Bishop of Connaught that it is impossible to give further loans to poor tenants. It is maintained by the Roman Catholic authorities that the accounts of famine have not been exaggerated, but that the people have not even enough seaweed to eat. The Catholic clergy of the diocese of Swineford, county Mayo, have passed a resolution charging the Government with neglecting the distressed people, and condemning the offered remedies of the work-house or emigration. It is said Joe Brady, one of the prisoners in Dublin, has confessed that it was he who murdered Lord Cavendish and Mr. Burke. Bowles, another prisoner awaiting the murder trials, has died in an epileptic fit. John Walsh, arrested in Havre, France, has been released, and Captain Aylward, in the United States denies he is the much-sought Number One mentioned in Carey's confession. Egan, the

fugitive Treasurer of the Land League, has been making speeches since coming to America, charging the British Government with trying to crush national life out of Ireland by means of spies, informers and packed juries. Mr. Parnell is in Paris, where in an interview he denied all connection with or knowledge of the "Invincibles," the authors of the Dublin murders and other outrages. He said England cannot treat Ireland, in vengeance for the explosion, worse than she has been all along doing, for while the Irish people are starving the armed soldiers quartered among them have abundance of food, misery of the worst kind is increasing and spreading, and very little seed having been sown, a grievous famine is impending. There is no chance, however, for the Fenians to do anything, he said, for if they assembled they would be shot down by the soldiers without truce or mercy.

### BUSINESS NOTES.

A manifesto has been issued by a committee of the labor unions of the United States, which denounces the majority of the national Senate as lawyers retained by federated capitalists, demands an extra session of Congress to take measures to prevent impending strikes, and calls for recruits to the labor unions of the country. The iron works at Trenton, New Jersey, have been closed on account of the men declining to accept reductions in their wages. A printers' strike is threatened in New York by the Typographical Union, which numbers but one-fifth of the printers employed. The stone masons of Boston will demand four dollars a day after the first of May. Three thousand weavers in Huddersfield district, England, have struck owing to a disagreement regarding wages. Some of the painters and printers of Toronto are on strike. An arcade of three stories, with glass roof, to contain thirty-two stores and many offices, is to be built in Toronto between two of the principal streets, at a cost approaching three hundred thousand dollars. Trade in portions of the United States is again reported in an improved state, but the spring trade does not meet the expectations of those who anticipated a brisk season. There is an increased call for vessels, with better rates, to carry petroleum and grain across the seas. Two hundred and thirty-three failures in the United States were reported last week, twenty-five more than in the preceding week, ninety-three more than in the same week in 1882 and eighty-three more than in that of 1883. Canada had forty-two failures, an increase of eight.

### CASUALTY.

A sleeping car was burned on the Pennsylvania Railway the other day by the overturning of a lamp. The passengers all escaped, but lost most of their clothing. A fire broke out in a schooner in St. John, New Brunswick, and a man named William Conway, who was on board in an intoxicated state, was burned so badly as to cause his death in hospital shortly afterward. Two ladies named Judson perished in a burning house at East Hartford, Connecticut. A passing train shook down a wall in Matamoros, Mexico, and many people were injured, three women fatally, and a woman and two boys were killed. Mr. Thomas Dodman, a prosperous farmer at Thamesville, Ontario, was killed by being thrown backward from a sled and dragged on the ground. He had struck a spirited pair of horses with the whip, and they sprang forward suddenly with the result stated. Mrs. W. Downey, of Lower Brighton, New Brunswick, wandered off the road in returning

from a store, and in climbing a fence fell head foremost in a snowbank, where her frozen body was found two days later. A strange coincidence occurred at Altoona, Pennsylvania, last week. William Brady, a brakeman, was thrown on the track through the neglect of another brakeman to uncouple the cars. He was badly mangled by the cars and died two days later on Thursday. Hines, whose neglect caused the accident, obtained the dying man's forgiveness. On Thursday night Hines was thrown from the cars and killed on the same spot where Brady was injured. Another terrible warning against leaving firearms in the way of children has been given. A boy of ten named Kline, at Westbury, Long Island, was left alone with his sister of eight, and he placed her on a bench and shot her fatally with his father's shot-gun. He washed the wound and told the child to say that she cut herself with glass, and then got a doctor, who discovered the truth. The ship *Dunstaffnage*, from Calcutta for Liverpool, has been wrecked on the Scottish coast, fifteen men and several women and children being drowned. In a panic caused by fire in New Orleans on Sunday night several were trampled upon and some fatally hurt. Many deaths have lately been caused by venturesome people trying to cross railway tracks ahead of trains. Thomas Grady, in St. John, New Brunswick, lost his life in this manner a few days ago, his horse, frightened at the engine, throwing him out on the track, where he was run over. The Mississippi floods have subsided. Thousands of acres of the richest lands in Arkansas have been flooded, and seven miles of the Mobile and North-Western Railway swept a mile and a half out of position. Among the curious incidents related of the floods is an account of a colored preacher climbing on the roof of his church, the building being half under water, and preaching to his congregation attending in kiosks.

### DISTURBERS.

Nihilists, Socialists, Anarchists, Communists and the like are making trouble in almost every country in Europe. In Russia the membership lists of the Nihilists are distinguished by many people of rank, and army and naval officers are among the prisoners shortly to be tried in St. Petersburg for treason. The Russian police have been warned from Paris of an attempt to assassinate the Czar. It is believed that the terror of the Nihilists is so great outside the country as to prevent foreign princes from appearing in very strong force at the Czar's coronation in May. The Duke of Edinburgh will represent Queen Victoria on that occasion, and it is reported that the Prince of Wales wanted to go but the Queen would not grant him permission. A leading female Nihilist named Figner, recused last year of the murder of General Strelnikoff at Odessa, has been arrested. At the instance of Russia negotiations are in progress between the great Powers with a view to taking joint measures of protection against all dangerous secret societies. The Communists made a demonstration in Paris, France, a fortnight ago, which resulted in rioting, but the mob was dispersed and several persons arrested by the police, who also stopped five hundred men who were marching to the residence of President Grevy. Since then several attempts at h'ol mass meetings have been foiled by the authorities. Trouble was feared in Paris on Sunday the eighteenth instant, the anniversary of the Communists, but the celebration was confined to private festivities and a few public squabbles among drunken members of the society. It is

found necessary to move troops in Spain in order to provide against Socialist risings. The mayor of one town received a letter threatening to poison the drinking water if the repression of the Black Hand society was not abandoned. Twelve hundred persons in all have been arrested in the Province of Andalusia in that country, three hundred of whom are charged with murder, agrarian outrages and being abettors of the Black Hand. Twenty-ni. Socialists are on trial in Vienna, Austria, for conspiracy to rob and murder. Discoveries of explosives and of revolutionary documents are very frequent in all the countries troubled with these associations of desperate people.

### FIRES.

Sixteen buildings were burnt at Liverpool, Nova Scotia, on the fourteenth of March, causing a loss of twenty thousand dollars. A large summer hotel and other buildings were burnt at Rocky Point, Rhode Island, on the sixteenth—the loss, covered with insurance, being a hundred thousand dollars. Capel's tin factory at St. Johns, Quebec, was destroyed by fire on the sixteenth, a loss of twenty thousand dollars. The steamer "Grand Isle," which took the place of the lately wrecked "Yazoo," was burned on the Black River, Louisiana, on the fifteenth. She was worth twenty-five thousand dollars. The cargo of cotton and seed was destroyed, but no lives were lost. At a fire in the Women's Refuge of London, Ontario, many of the young inmates had to be lowered from the third story. The entire business portion, seventy-six buildings, of Forest City, California, was burned on the sixteenth, leaving hundreds of people homeless on the streets, who had in many cases saved nothing and barely escaped with their lives. The estimated loss is a quarter of a million dollars. The fire started in a hotel kitchen. The town water supply was poor and fire apparatus bad.

Two SERIOUS PANICS within one day are recorded. In Albany early on Friday morning a fire broke out in the kitchen of the Delaware House. The halls filled with smoke and most of above a hundred guests fled from their rooms panic-stricken and half-clad. They were able, however, to return in safety in half an hour, when the flames were subdued. At a theatre in New York, the evening of the same day, an iron column under a balcony was forced through the floor, creating a panic among a thousand people. There was a bad crush at the doors, in which several women were hurt. The performance was resumed when quiet was restored, but persons on the upper balcony set up such hissing and hooting as to frighten those below into another panic, which was checked by the police and the performance ended. There was much loss in clothing and pocket-books to lament by some of the audience.

THE LEGISLATURE OF MISSOURI has passed a high license law that is believed to be applicable in the city of St. Louis. Both State and city need some mora' regulation, to judge by the accounts of crime which come thence. A despatch intimates that the members of the Legislature are rushing business through at a great rate. They took it too easy until the time limited for full pay was up, and being since then entitled to only a dollar a day they must be losing money all the time they stay. Diligence under such circumstances does not demand great praise, and the people can laugh at the statesmen who overdid the effort to make their labors fill full-pay time, if public interests do not suffer through hasty law-making.

## CRIME.

A postman who was sent from the general post-office in Berlin, Germany, to pay money orders was attacked by an unknown man, murdered and robbed of about twelve hundred dollars, and the assassin escaped. John Jesserang, in gaol at Glendale, Montana, accused of murdering one Davidson and burning his corpse, was hung up six times by the mob to make him confess, and was afterward taken forcibly from gaol and hanged till he was dead by the same unlawful hands. Three persons tried for murder in Winnipeg have all escaped hanging through verdicts of manslaughter. Crocker, a notorious horse thief, committed suicide in gaol at Granbury, Texas, leaving a confession that he was well connected in Georgia, and that he had killed three men and one woman and regretted that he could not kill two more men. Lotteries have no legal standing in New York; a man named H. D. P. Allen has been arrested in the city for mailing lottery circulars to a country town. Otis Randall, a broker in Boston said to be worth over a million, has been arrested on a charge of buying stolen postage stamps from office boys at low prices. Owen, the defaulting teller of the Third National Bank, St. Louis, Missouri, has been sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary. The train robbers, two Johnson brothers and Herndon, who murdered a conductor in Missouri, have escaped from gaol. A fight with razors and knives occurred among Italians at a christening in New York, and one man had his head almost cut off. Three men named Barber, Kelly and Howard are on their trial in Philadelphia for complicity in the forgery of fifty thousand dollars' worth of Railway bonds. Timothy Milloy has been sentenced to be hanged in Montreal on the sixteenth of April for the murder of William Nesbitt, committed a few weeks ago.

GENERAL BUTLER, the Governor of Massachusetts, is ruling as well as reigning. The State Legislature was surprised a few days ago to receive a message from the Governor vetoing the bill making appropriations of four hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars for charitable and reformatory institutions. He set forth that the bill contained a mixture of good and bad appropriations, which was a continuation of a vicious practice of uniting in one bill appropriations for different objects. The appropriations in this bill for salaries, he estimated, were sixty-nine percent of the money devoted to the maintenance of the institutions, and he declared that the commonwealth employs more officers and agents than is necessary to do its business; the State institutions are managed with unnecessary extravagance, and their accounts had not been investigated by, nor their affairs reported to the Legislature. Under such circumstances he declined to be responsible for the bill and would not allow it to become law without his approval. He asked the Legislature to pass another bill, cutting off large amounts from the salaries and placing proper checks upon the expenditure of the money. Official firmness may be sometimes carried to undesirable extremes, but none will deny that it might be exercised in worse directions than in defending a public treasury against unnecessary, unwise or improper draughts.

TROUBLE HAS ARISEN in India over the elevation of native magistrates to having jurisdiction over whites in certain cases. It is said that wholesale resignations of white soldiers will be a result of carrying out the proposal.

## THE WEEK.

RECENTLY AN ATTEMPT was made in Taganrog, Russia, to blow up the Jewish bank with dynamite.

A MAN IN BALTIMORE has been fined for fixing his own watch on Sunday, the law of Maryland forbidding work or recreation on that day.

A BLACK MAN has been elected Vice-President of the United States of Colombia, Central America, an unusual distinction to his race in that country.

RAILWAY RATES are to be reduced in India, it is said, to enable wheat-growers in that country to compete on more equal terms with American producers.

ELLEN CONWAY, who sold newspapers in New York, was found dead in bed surrounded by every evidence of poverty, but five thousand dollars were found in the room.

SOME CHANGES are proposed in the English Ministry. It is believed by thoughtful and independent people in England that the Irish difficulty will ultimately drag Mr. Gladstone's administration down.

AN EARTHQUAKE SHOCK of severity sufficient to shake houses and their contents alarmed the people of Harford County, Maryland, on Sunday week, causing women to run screaming out of their dwellings.

COUNTERFEITING has largely increased in the United States since metal currency was resumed, and much more base money is now current than before that resumption. Coin must therefore be easier to imitate than bills.

MYRON BAXTER, of New York, has secured a patent for a long distance telephone which gets over in a remarkable degree, it is said, the difficulties that have hitherto stood in the way of telephone communication between distant points.

THE PRINCE OF WALES has received the honor of being created a field Marshal of the German army, and it is believed the compliment will be returned by Queen Victoria appointing the German Crown Prince to a similar distinction in the British army.

THE DECREE AGAINST AMERICAN PORK has at length been proclaimed in Germany, going into effect in a month from publication. Prince Bismarck has suggested that, in order to prevent evasion of the law, hog products be only admitted to the country on attested proof that they are not from America.

BISHOP KEENER, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, claims for that body that it has far exceeded all others in the work of educating the African race. He had himself preached for sixteen years to the colored people, but said scarcely any of them were now in the church, though the conferences used to have them by tens of thousands.

THREE CROFTERS in the Isle of Skye, Scotland, have each been sentenced to twenty-one months' imprisonment for resisting a sheriff. The lot of these small farmers of the western isles of Scotland is much worse than that of the tenant farmers of Ireland, but it is only lately that they have lost patience with their hardships and resisted the service of processes upon them. It appears the limit of forbearance with the Skye crofters was reached when their landlord without warning took from them a common which had formerly furnished grass to keep their cows, thus depriving them of an important part of their living.

PROPOSALS ARE INVITED by the Navy Department, Washington, from American ship-builders, for the building of three steel cruisers and despatch boats.

THE WILL OF HENRY SEYBERT, of Philadelphia, who left over a million dollars to public charities, has been admitted to probate, opposition raised by relatives having been withdrawn.

MR. CHARLES DE LESSETS, son of the eminent French engineer, has arrived in Panama from France with a party of engineers, and as soon as an early-expected powerful dredge from the United States came, work on the mouth of the canal on the Atlantic would be begun.

AN IMPOSTOR IN THE GUISE OF A PRIEST, representing himself as connected with the diocese of Ogdensburg, New York, is begging in portions of Canada for alms for some purpose, and is described as about five feet ten inches in height and dressed like an ordinary priest.

A BOY IN QUEBEC had been in the habit of worrying a dog—a huge mastiff—with a boomerang, and at length the brute took his revenge. He attacked his tormentor on the way home from school and bit him severely, and was dragging him along the road when the boy's cries brought assistance.

A FRAUDULENT CONCERN of magnitude has run its course in Indianapolis, Indiana—the Marion Trust Company. It has existed a year and taken in two hundred thousand dollars against fifty thousand paid out. All creditors can find an office furniture and a heap of circulars, and it is unlikely the institution will pay anything.

THE PARTY DISPOSED TO MAKE PEACE with the invaders of their country in Peru is said to be gaining strength, and a newspaper in Lima expresses hopes that the Chilians will make terms with the peace party. Small-pox is reported raging in the southern departments of Chili, and there has been a fight between Argentine and Chilian troops.

THE TENNESSEE TREASURY was a pasture for thieves long before Polk, the Treasurer now in prison, was detected. The legislative committee of investigation reports that during the administration of four State Treasurers, since 1865, the State has suffered heavy losses by defalcations and otherwise. Legislation is recommended by the committee to put an end to systematic robbery of the State.

A CASE OF COMMUNISM between beasts of different kinds is reported from the Mattawa, Ontario, lumber district. Two horses that strayed away in June last were searched for in vain, although a reward was offered for their recovery. Within the present month of March, however, an Indian tracked a moose to its yard in the woods and there found the missing horses, healthy but a little thin, lodging peacefully with the moose.

A JOURNAL OF BRADDOCK, Pennsylvania, lately contained an article on the depravity of the young men of the town. The views of the article were resented by a young man of the town, who challenged the local editor to fight. They met outside the town limits and fought nine rounds in prize ring style when the editor was declared the winner. It is to be presumed that no one will again venture to question the depravity of the young men of that town, so long as that editor writes them down as depraved and is able to pound them down, too, if they meddle with him.

BROCKVILLE.—We are glad to notice that a practical temperance step is being taken at Brockville, Ont. A canvass is being made for stock for the establishment of a well conducted coffee house in that town. Such houses are needed in every town in Canada.

THE BREWERS OF INDIANA are in a state of excited activity on account of their business, in which millions are invested, being in danger. A recent judicial decision, that the prohibition amendment to the constitution is void, is to be reviewed by the Supreme Court. The State Brewers' Association was in session in Council Bluffs last week and resolved to do everything possible to prevent prohibition from being declared legal.

DR. CRAMER, the American ambassador to Switzerland, has fallen under rebuke for making a mistake as to his official functions. He had made a demand on the local authority of Berne for the punishment of persons who made a disturbance in a church of which he was patron. The Federal Council has just informed him that he is accredited to the Federation, not to the Cantons. He should, in other words, have complained of the church disturbers to the national and not the municipal authorities. Everybody needs a lesson occasionally.

QUEEN VICTORIA slipped in going down stairs a few days ago and injured her knee. She was just setting out for a drive, and rather than alarm her subjects by staying home on account of the accident, she proceeded with the drive. Upon returning the knee was swollen so that Her Majesty could not get out of the sleigh without assistance, and, although the physicians say there is no immediate danger, yet it is feared that at the Queen's advanced age the injury may take a serious turn. The business and work-people of London show their love and sympathy for Her Majesty by suspending their usual duties and flocking wherever they can get the latest tidings of how she does.

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT is doing what it can to drive Americans out of China in retaliation for the prohibition of Chinese immigration into the United States. Obstructions are placed in the way of Americans doing business within the Empire, and new enterprises are prohibited if conducted by Americans. The United States Consul-General at Shanghai has sent two thousand three hundred dollars to Washington for the Garfield Memorial Hospital. Three hundred dollars were contributed by Chinese, who said they would be happy to head a Chinese subscription list, but to ask their countrymen to subscribe to a hospital built in a country that will not permit Chinese to enter it for ten years is more than they dare do.

SOUTH AFRICA is again in a very disturbed state, the Boers and the neighboring tribes of natives being at war. The Boers have met with more than one defeat. In the British House of Commons Mr. Gladstone said the Government declined to undertake any military expedition to the Transvaal to put matters right there. Interference by Great Britain would mean annexation, and that would involve a costly war, and the Government did not propose to enter upon an unjust war. Some Englishmen, however, believe that Great Britain has a right to protect the Bechuanas, whose country lies in the neighborhood of the disturbed territory, as they are friendly toward the English, having been Christianized and civilized through English effort.



## PARADISE FLYCATCHER.

These birds are very beautiful creatures found in different parts of Asia, particularly in India. The body of the bird is some six inches long, while the tail is thirteen or fourteen inches. The bird's head and crest are bright steely green; the upper part of the body is white, curiously streaked with a narrow black line down the centre of each feather. The quill-feathers are white, edged with black. The tail-feathers are white, with black shafts.

These birds, sometimes from their shape called Rocket Birds, are very restless, flitting from branch to branch, or darting rapidly after their prey. One of these birds will perch upon some lofty branch, and when it sees an insect passing within easy reach, will make a sudden swoop upon it, catch it with a hard snap of the beak, which can be heard at some distance, and return to its post, ready for another object of prey.

These flycatchers are rather solitary in their habits. Generally there is no more than a single family of them together at a time, and sometimes they will be found alone.

The study of these different birds is very interesting. It shows us the wisdom and power of God, the wondrous skill with which he fits their living and take care of themselves.—*Child's Paper.*

## JOHN WELCH AND THE FRIAR.

The celebrated John Welch, the minister of Ayr, was compelled, in the year 1606, to fly to France to escape the anger of the Scottish king, James VI. While he was minister in one of the French villages, a friar came to his house asking to be lodged for the night. He was kindly entertained and had a bedroom assigned to him adjoining that of the minister.

Happening to awake during the night, he heard a continuous whispering, which troubled him not a little, ascribing it to evil spirits haunting the Protestant house.

Walking abroad next day, a peasant saluted him, and asked him how he did.

"Where lodged you last night?"

"With the Huguenot minister," said the friar.

"What sort of entertainment had you?" asked the peasant.

"Very bad; I always believed that these Huguenot houses were haunted; but I never proved it till last night. There was a continual whisper in the room next mine, and I am sure it was the devil and the minister talking together."

"You are mistaken," said the peasant, "it was the minister at his night prayers."

"What! does the minister pray?"

"Yes; more than any man in France; and if you will stay another night, you may make sure."

The friar returned to the Huguenot house, and begged lodging for another night, which was at once granted.

"Before dinner," says the old narrative, "Mr. Welch came down

The evening came, and with it the "evening exercise," quite like that of the morning, to the friar's yet greater wonder.

They supped and went to bed. But the friar was resolved to keep awake and hear the strange sounds which he had heard the night before. He went and put his ear to the door to satisfy himself as to what the sound really was.

"Then," writes the old bio-

him, bidding him welcome in the name of God, and showing him the true light which had been so long hidden from him. That light entered his soul, and in it he walked till his dying hour.—*See.*

## "THE MASTER SAID SO."

About 600 years before Christ, there arose in Greece one of its earliest and greatest philosophers, Pythagoras by name, whose authority with his followers was so supreme that they seldom, if ever, allowed themselves to question his positions; and the expression "The Master said so," settled every disputed point, and silenced all objections. This was the legitimate power of a great mind.

But a far greater than Pythagoras once visited our earth, who propounded principles, authorized sentiments, issued commands, and laid down laws for his people and followers which should be to them the end of all controversy; and are so, in fact, when they are right-minded; as, at a certain time, when the fisherman disciples had toiled all night and caught nothing, yet, upon the direction of their Master to let down their nets, they answered, by the mouth of Simon, "Nevertheless, at thy word, we will let down the net." "And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes." No one ever lost anything by embracing a sentiment or performing an act "at Christ's word."

When a cavilling world asks, "Why send abroad your choice young men and maidens among the heathen?" the all-sufficient answer is, "The Master said so." "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." To every creature? At home, as well as abroad? Yes; for so saith the Master. "For I must go into the next town, and preach the gospel there also."

Shall I confess Christ before men? Shall I join the church, and frequent the Lord's table? Shall I be for him, and not against him, in the world? Shall I take his yoke fully upon me, and follow him all my life long, in the regeneration of this world? Yes, yes; for so he advises, exhorts, and commands me.—*American Messenger.*

THE Rev. E. E. Hale once said: I am tired of hearing people say that they prefer to worship God in the fields in summer, by the side of some babbling brook. What if they do! We are not permitted to live for our own pleasures but for the glory of God and the good of the world. United worship in the sanctuary makes the world better. Therefore we have no choice in the matter. It is our duty to attend the house of God regularly.



PARADISE FLYCATCHER.

from his chamber and made his family exercise according to his wont. He sang a psalm; he read a portion of Scripture, commenting on it; and then prayed."

The friar looked and listened with astonishment. Dinner was then served, and the friar was kindly entertained; the good Huguenot minister, asking no questions and entering on no disputes.

grapher, "he heard not only the sound but the very words; and in these words communications between man and God, such as he had never believed to be in this world."

The day broke, and Mr. Welch came out of his room. The friar went to him, bewailed his ignorance, and asked instruction. Kindly did the minister receive



"There goes Al Hooper and his wife. He keeps the big bar room on St. A Avenue, and rides in his carriage, while I can hardly support my family."

The reason why he can't. —Harper's Weekly.

PASTE THIS IN YOUR HAT.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, March 21st, 1883.

The advance of last week in grain proves to have been a purely nominal one, nothing having occurred to justify it. In fact were it not for the dulness of the market quotations would be lower. We quote Canada White Winter \$1.14 to \$1.15; Canada Red \$1.18 to \$1.20; Canada Spring, \$1.14 to \$1.15. Peas, 93c per 66 lbs. Barley, 65c to 70c per bushel. Oats, 39c to 40c. Rye, 65c to 70c per bush.

Flour.—The flour market this week has been extremely dull all round and what flour has found a market has done so at easier prices than are quoted. Quotations are as follows:—Superior Extra, \$5.00 to \$5.05; Extra Superior, \$4.90 Fancy, nominal; Spring Extra, \$4.80 to \$4.85; Superfine, \$4.60 to \$4.65; Strong Bakers', Canadian, \$5.15 to \$5.25; Strong Bakers', American, \$6.25 to \$6.75; Fine, \$4.10 to \$4.20; Middlings, \$3.90 to \$4.00; Pollards, \$3.55 to \$3.65; Ontario bags, medium, \$2.35 to \$2.40; do. Spring Extra, \$2.25 to \$2.35; do. Superfine, \$2.15 to \$2.20; City Bags, delivered, \$3.10 to \$3.15.

MEALS.—Unchanged; oatmeal, \$5.25 to \$5.50 for Ontario, and \$5.80 for granulated. Cornmeal \$4.80 per barrel.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter. There is no change in this market, but this is owing more to the fact that there is no business being done than anything else. Quotations:—Creamery, fresh made, fine flavored, extra, 25c to 27c; do., good to fine, 23c to 25c; Eastern Townships, 18c to 22c; Morrisburg, 18c to 22c; Brockville, 17c to 20c; Western, 15c to 18c. Add 2c per lb. to all of the above for the jobbing trade. Cheese firm, but small business—10½ to 11½ for August, and 13c to 14c for choice September and October; common grades, 7c to 9c.

Eggs.—Are still weak. Fresh at 22c to 24c, and lined very dull at 20c to 22c.

HOG PRODUCE.—The market is extremely quiet with no change in quotations:—Canada, short cut, \$22.00 to \$22.50; Western, \$21.50 to 22.00; Lard, in pails, 14c to 14½; Hams, city cured, 14c; Bacon, 13½ to 14c; Dressed Hogs, \$8.40 to \$8.60 in car lots; \$8.75 to \$9.50 in small bunches.

ASHES.—Steady at \$5.00 to \$5.05 for pots.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Fat cattle have been arriving in large numbers from the West lately, but there seems to be an active demand by shippers, which helps to give a firmer tone to the market, and prices continue high. Extra butchers' cattle sell at from 6½ to 8c per lb. live weight, and pretty good common stock at 5½ to 6c per lb. Ordinary rough steers,

fat cows and oxen bring from 4½ to 5½; leanish cattle and milkmen's strippers' 4c to 4½ per lb. Calves are getting more plentiful, and sell at from \$3 to \$10 for common, and from \$15 to \$25 each for extra large and fat. Sheep are in active demand at from \$5 to \$10 each, and spring lambs at \$4 to \$6 each. Live hogs are arriving more freely and sell at from 7c to 7½ per lb. Milk cows are in active demand, as the milkmen have been selling their strippers to the butchers. Pretty good fair sized cows bring from \$50 to \$60 each, and ordinary country cows \$35 to \$45 each with small bosses at \$22 to \$30 each.

There is not much being done in the horse trade by American buyers, but the demand for local purposes seems to increase as the spring draws near. A number of heavy draught and carriage horses have been bought for city purposes, at from \$200 to \$250 each, and ordinary working horses at \$75 to \$150 each.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The continuance of stormy weather and drifted roads prevents the farmers from bringing their produce to the city markets, and although the dealers seem to have considerable supplies on hand, yet the prices have an upward tendency. Flesh meat of all kinds seems to increase in price as the Lentine season draws to a close, while the fish dealers are anxious to dispose of their surplus stock of frozen fish, and are selling haddock at unusually low rates. The prices of cabbage and celery have advanced considerably of late; the former brings from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per barrel; the latter from 50c to \$1 per dozen. Good apples are held at firm rates, although the demand is not brisk, and oranges have advanced about 50c per case. Packed eggs are getting more plentiful and prices are coming within the reach of common people. Oats are 90c to \$1.05 per bag; peas 90c to \$1.00 per bushel; potatoes 70c to 80c per bag; dressed hogs \$9.00 to \$9.25 per 100 lbs; beef forequarters, 5½ to 6½ per lb.; do. hindquarters 7c to 8½ do. Geese, 13c to 16c per lb; turkeys 15c to 20c do. Eggs, 20c to 40c per dozen; tub butter 20c to 27c per lb; print butter, 25c to 45c do. Hay \$7 to \$10 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs; straw \$4 to \$5 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

TEMPERANCE NEWS AND NOTES.

NEW IRELAND, MEGANTIC CO.—A respected correspondent writes: There are apparently more grog-shops and more liquor sold in Ireland than any township in the County. At the last session of the Local Council there were six applicants for licenses, but, to the credit of the Mayor and Council they refused every one of them and decided to give no license this year. In the midst of so much drinking and drunk-

ness it is refreshing and cheering to see the gentlemen comprising the Council withstand all entreaties and manfully do that which every honest man knows is for the good of the Municipality.

LAMBTON CO., ONT.—A correspondent writes us that it is probable another effort will be made to secure the adoption of the Scott Act in Lambton County, as soon as the law will require a vote taken. Two votes on that question have already been taken in the County. At the first the majority was in favor of adoption, but the liquor sellers managed to have the election declared void, as it took place on the day of the nomination for the Local Legislature. At the second election there was a majority against the Act. The Dunkin Act was one time adopted in the same county by a good majority, but the by-law was quashed because of some legal quibble.

ANOTHER VICTIM.—On Saturday night, 3rd inst., while Mr. Wilson, of Ireland, Megantic Co., was returning home, very much the worse of liquor, he had both his hands frozen, and is likely to lose some of his fingers. Some of his neighbors treated him, and such were the results. A correspondent writes: "Poor Wilson had resolved not to drink anything that day, as he expected a visit from his sister next day and wanted to be himself when she came. Those who treated him are morally responsible for the unfortunate plight in which she found him."

KANSAS.—Ex-Governor St. John of Kansas has recently written a letter to a New York journal to correct the impression that some have in regard to the result of the State elections last June. He claims that there was not a defeat of the Prohibitionists, though he, as their candidate for Governor, was not re-elected. The majority of the members of the House of Representatives are favorable to the Prohibitory Constitutional Amendment, as it now stands. During the recent session of the House an attempt was made toward repealing the amendment but the motion was defeated by a majority of fourteen. As it would require an opposite majority of two-thirds it will be seen that the anti-party are in hopeless minority. Mr. St. John says that although it cannot be claimed that all the liquor-selling shops of the State are shut

up or have ever been shut up by the present law, yet it has been as successful in suppressing crime as other laws of the State usually are.

A GOOD MOVE.—In the Island of Jersey grocers' licenses for the sale of liquors have been abolished. They ought to be abolished everywhere.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

SECOND QUARTER.

LESSON I.

April 1, 1883. [Acts 8: 14-25]

SIMON THE SOULREEL.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 20-25.

(Revised Version.)

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: who, when they were come down, they prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: for as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they had been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. Now when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay my hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy silver perish with thee, because thou hast thought to obtain the gift of God with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right before God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray the Lord, if perhaps the thought of thy heart shall be forgiven thee. For I see that thou art in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity. And Simon answered and said, Pray ye for me to the Lord, that none of the things which ye have spoken come upon me.

They therefore, when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Thy heart is not right in the sight of God.—ACTS 8:21.

TOPIC.—God's Gifts cannot be Bought.

LESSON PLAN.—1. GIFTS OF THE HOLY GHOST, vs. 14-17. 2. THE SOULREEL'S OFFER, vs. 18, 19. 3. THE APOSTLE'S REBUKE, vs. 20-25.

Time.—A D. 36. Place.—A city of Samaria.

INTRODUCTORY.

The martyrdom of Stephen was the beginning of a great persecution. The disciples were driven from Jerusalem and went forth, spreading the good news of the gospel. Philip, one of the seven deacons, went to a city of Samaria—which one is unknown—and preached Christ. Great success attended his labors, and the city was filled with joy by the miracles he wrought and the glad tidings he preached. There was in this city a sorcerer, Simon, who had great influence with the people. He saw that there was here a higher magic than his own, and was baptized, in the hope, probably, that he might get the power that Philip exercised. He professed to believe, or he would not have been baptized, but our lesson shows that he did not.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 14. RECEIVED—heard and accepted. SENT UNTO THEM PETER AND JOHN—those if the work was real, and to aid and qualify him. V. 15. THE HOLY GHOST—his miraculous gifts, to confirm their faith. V. 16. HE WAS FALLEN UPON SOME OF THEM—with any outward visible sign. Ch. 2: 4. V. 17. LAID THEIR HANDS ON THEM—an act which of itself conveyed no grace, but was a symbolical of a divine gift in answer to prayer. RECEIVED—not from the apostles, but their Master. V. 18. HE OFFERED THEM MONEY—he wanted to buy, not the gift of the Holy Ghost, but the power to impart that gift, to do what he had seen it to do, so as to make money by it. V. 20. THY MONEY PERISH WITH THEE—strong expression of horror and indignation. God's gifts cannot be bought; they are freely given. V. 21. IN THIS MATTER—in the blessing and work of the gospel. THY HEART IS NOT RIGHT—he was looking after gain, not godliness. 1 Tim. 6: 5. Religion is a matter, not of the outside but of the heart. V. 22. IF PHILIP—Peter tells him how to seek forgiveness, and gives him some hope of obtaining it, at the same time hinting that he may have passed the line beyond which God never pardons. V. 23. IN THE GALL OF BITTERNESS—in the very essence of bitterness of moral corruption; as the gall of serpents was supposed to contain their poison, IN THE BOND OF INIQUITY—a whole bundle of iniquity, the Galilean proverb. V. 24. NOSE OF THESE THINGS—he was frightened, not penitent; afraid of the consequences of sin, without having any real grief for it. MANY VILLAGES—once John would command fire from heaven to consume one of the villages of the Samaritans; now he goes through "many" of them, spreading the fire of the gospel to bless them.

TEACHINGS:

1. There is a great difference between a true and a false faith.
2. Baptism and church-membership do not make us true Christians.
3. All is wrong if the heart is not right.
4. God's favor cannot be bought with money; we can have it only as a free gift.
5. It is not enough to ask others to pray for us; we must pray for ourselves.

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