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THE WHITE RIBBON.

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NOTICE.

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THE WORLD'S W.C.T.U. BIENNIAL AND B.W.T.A. ANNUAL MEETINGS.

HELD IN LONDON DURING THE WEEK BEGINNING
JUNE 16TH.

AN Executive meeting of the World's W.C.T.U. was held on Friday, June 14th, from 10.30 a.m. till 1 p.m., and from 2 p.m. till 5 p.m.; Miss Frances Willard, LL.D., presiding. There were present—The Lady Henry Somerset, Vice-President; Mrs Hannah Pearsall Smith, Adviser to the Executive; Miss Anna Gordon, Assistant Secretary. The following delegates were present:—Mrs Rose E. Peters, Newfoundland; Mrs Organe, Madras, India; Mrs Richard, China; Mrs Dann, Bahamas; Mrs Porter, Madagascar; Miss Lerche, Christiania, Norway; Miss Mary B. Willard, delegate for Berlin; Miss Jessie Ackerman, delegate for Australia; Mrs Addison,

Madeira Islands; Miss A. Y. Thompson, Cairo, Egypt; Mrs Alli Trygg, Helsingfors, Finland; Miss Wells, Burmah; Mrs Walker, Ceylon; Mrs Sagar, Queensland, Australia; Miss J. M. Ferguson, West Australia; Mrs Murray, South Africa; Miss de Broen, Paris; Mrs Todd, New Brunswick; Miss Beatrice Dickson, Sweden; Mrs Archibald, Nova Scotia; and Mrs K. W. Shepard, New Zealand.

A number of the foreign delegates had not arrived in the morning, but were expected before the day was over.

The hymn, "Give to the winds thy fears" was sung; and Mrs Todd, of New Brunswick, read a few verses of Scripture, and offered prayer.

Business then began in earnest. Miss Willard is an ideal President. It is not often one finds, either in man or woman, such a happy combination of qualities as in her exist, and so eminently fit her for the position she holds. Her long experience has made the forms and technicalities connected with the "chair" become "second nature" to her, so that she is able to give her whole mind to the question under discussion. No desultory conversation is allowed to fritter away precious time. At the least symptom of it Miss Willard's voice is heard: "Are you ready for the question? Remarks are in order"—and quick response is made by the members. Remarks are made to the chair when desired, and if not the question is settled by vote. And with all this method Miss Willard is courtesy itself to each and all. If her brain is quick, so also are her sympathies, not only where work is concerned but for the workers, and so she is careful that all present shall have an opportunity of expressing their thoughts on whatever question is being considered. She has a keen sense of humour, which adds to her charm, and helps to brighten many a discussion.

Her old and privileged friend, Mrs Hannah Whitehall Smith, was the only member who ventured to call her to order. This was usually on the occasion of some scheme which she was propounding for bringing the white ribbon into some hitherto unworked country. Mrs Smith's favourite exclamation was: "Frances, where will thee get the money from?" Miss Willard generally replied by giving instances of how on several occasions they began in faith and were not disappointed. One little speech, while intended in deadly earnest, caused some merriment:—Before Lady Henry Somerset came in, Miss Willard proposed that she should be appointed President of the World's W.C.T.U., urging many reasons why Lady Henry should take her (Miss Willard's) place. Up rose Mrs H. W. Smith and said wrathfully: "Frances, how *could* thee be such an idiot? Thee might as well propose that some one else be the mother of my children." In spite of such an onslaught Miss Willard sent round the ballot, which resulted in her own re-appointment.

Lady Henry is vice-President at large, Miss Agnes Slack, of London, is Secretary, Miss Anna Gordon Assistant Secretary, Mrs Threnley, of Canada, Treasurer, and Mrs Mary Clement Leavitt, Miss Ackerman, Mrs Andrew, Dr. Kate Bushnell, and Mrs Stewart are honorary vice-Presidents.

Superintendents were appointed for the several departments of work, and the commissions of Miss Ackerman, Dr. Kate Bushnell, and Mrs Andrew were renewed as "round the world missionaries" for the next two years, at £120 a year each.

Some new departments were created:—"Food Reform" was the first. This had been adopted by the last N.Z. Convention through the influence of Miss May Yates, and the resolution that the department be adopted by the World's W.C.T.U. was one of the instructions to the N.Z. delegate. It was unanimously passed by the Executive, Miss Yates being appointed the World's Superintendent of the department. A department of "Wholesome Amusements" was created, also one of "Politics." It was strongly recommended to the different countries that a woman be appointed to influence some woman in each of the various churches who would urge the members to join the W.C.T.U.

Dr Kate Bushnell's "doubling up" scheme was proposed, or rather suggested, to the various local Unions. It is that each local Union should affiliate itself with some other local Union in a different country, with which it should exchange reports of work, and views of various methods, and, that at each Annual Convention the local Union should report the work of its "double,"

thus bringing Unions and workers much closer together, and giving and receiving sympathy and information.

A bye-law was formed and passed by which the superintendents of departments should become members of the Executive Committee. To allow of action being taken quickly when found necessary it was arranged that the general officers, and vice-presidents should form a sub-committee empowered to act: a statement of all work to be sent quarterly to all the members of the Executive.

It was interesting to hear from the various delegates some accounts of their work, but no formal reports were received. Touching allusion was made to the names of Mary Allen West and Mrs Woodbridge, who had passed away since the last Biennial Convention. All delegates were unanimous in one thing, viz., that it was positively necessary to the life of the W.C.T.U. in each country that an organising secretary be appointed to form Unions, teach "methods of work," and revive those branches which were likely to die from inanition.

It was resolved to have a "world's" flag, made of white silk, white lilies and green leaves to form the painting decoration, and the motto, "For God, and Home, and every Land" to be in gold letters. Mrs Richards, from China, promised the white silk for the flag.

It was decided to keep open the Demorest Medal contest.

At 4 p.m., a tea-tray kindly sent by Mrs Ward Poole was enthusiastically received, and a vote of thanks accorded her.

I must not omit to mention that the hour of prayer was remembered at noon-tide, when the hymn, "Blest be the tie that binds," was sung, and prayer offered by Mrs Todd, of Canada.

K. W. SHEPPARD.

GREAT DEMONSTRATION AT THE ALBERT HALL.

THE POLYGLOT PETITION.

Even in the Albert Hall, which has been the scene of many great and picturesque demonstrations, no larger or more striking assemblage has been witnessed than that which gave welcome to the world's delegates attending the third biennial convention of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union. The day had been a busy one. At Queen's Hall a long series of resolutions—all of which had doubtless been debated in countless branches of the union throughout the world—received unanimous approval, among them being a demand for adequate protection for Armenian Christians, a denunciation of "lynching, at all times and anywhere," a strong opinion

on the opium question, and a call upon the Government to regard as "its first duty" the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Acts in India. The convention also declared that right-minded people should carefully consider the condition of public morals revealed in the recent trial of a well-known wright; and expressed its condemnations of the "sex novel" and "the prevailing style of fashionable dress."—Mrs Ingells (Chicago) denounced the universal use of tobacco; another delegate deplored the habit of snuff-taking among girls of the Southern State, and a third made serious allegations against certain almshouses in America. It was announced that a "Somerset Fountain," similar to that erected by the children of the World's W.C.T.U. at Chicago, was shortly to be erected on the Victoria Embankment. Miss Willard having offered to apply the £600 testimonial presented to her to the use of the "Round the World Missionary Movement," strong objection was taken to such a self-denying disposal of the money, and a collection (realising £25) was taken towards providing otherwise for the international missionaries.

In the afternoon, at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress received the delegates, who heartily enjoyed this exhibition of civic hospitality. Lord Mayor Renals said that of all the functions he had had to discharge on behalf of the City of London none had given him greater pleasure than to greet our "kinswomen" from over sea who were engaged in the great work of uplifting humanity.

Elaborate preparations had been made at the Albert Hall for the "grand international demonstration." Over 12,000 tickets were distributed, and not an inch of space was wasted, but literally thousands of applications for admission had to be refused. Mr H. J. Osborn, with 100 voluntary stewards, conducted the delegates and visitors to their seats. The United White Ribbon Choir of 800 voices, under the direction of Mr A. L. Cowley (Music Director to the School Board for London), in their blue print frocks and white satin sashes looked very effective in the upper orchestra. A string band assisted; and Mr J. F. Proudman, F. C. O., presided at the organ. Round the hall and at the foot of the platform was displayed the great Polyglot Petition with its 7,000,000 signatures. The opening ceremonies included a long and imposing procession, led by the entrance of Lady Henry Somerset, Miss Frances E. Willard, Miss Agnes E. Weston, and Madame Antoinette Sterling, escorted by a body-guard of men of the Royal Navy. Following these through the arena came delegations (some in uniform and others wearing regalia) representing the United

Kingdom Band of Hope Union, United Kingdom Alliance, Methodist Temperance organisations, the Congregational Total Abstinence Association, the New Church Temperance Society, Friends Temperance Union, London Wesleyan Mission, National Temperance League, Anglo-Indian Temperance Association, St Mary's Training Home for Girls, London Temperance Hospital, Gospel Temperance Army, Sons of Temperance, Rechabites, Original Grand Phoenix Order, United Phoenix Order, Catholic Total Abstinence League and Independent Order of Good Templars. The General Post Office Temperance Society was represented by a delegation of men in uniform. Teetotal policemen, teetotal fireman, and teetotal soldiers also took part in the procession, their appearance being greeted with much cheering and waving of handkerchiefs. After them came representatives in costume bearing the flags of countries in which the W.C.T.U. is organised—namely, China, India, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, Hawaii, Japan, Africa, Egypt, Madagascar, Madeira, Finland, Bulgaria, Greece, Bahamas, Newfoundland, Iceland, Norway, Holland, Denmark, Canada, South America, Mexico, Spain, France, Germany, America, and, of course, the United Kingdom. It is enough to say of the picturesque costumes worn by the young ladies representing these countries that they are, unfortunately, not now generally in use, if they ever were. While the groups, numbering in all nearly a thousand persons, passed to their seats, various national anthems were played, and the choir vociferously sang the World's Woman's hymn, "All round the world the ribbon white is twined," to the stirring and familiar strains of "Poor Old Joe." Prayer was said standing, the vast audience following the clear resonant voice of the Dean of Hereford in the universal *Pater Noster*.

Lady Henry Somerset, in her address of welcome to the delegates, said that theirs was a cause which knew no distinction of nationality, because it was the cause of God Himself. The first president of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, Mrs Margaret Bright Lucas—(cheers)—had put a cable of love and loyalty between our hearts and those of women in distant lands. Round them they saw the great petition, with its 7,000,000 signatures, which gave them heart of hope and courage to go forward. What they asked of the awakened woman was that she should be the enfranchised woman, and of the new woman that she should be the true woman. (Loud cheers) On this glad day they felt that they

were seeking a new heaven and a new earth, with a new man and a new woman—and an organised motherhood which was destined to redeem humanity.

When Madame Antoinette Sterling had sung "The Gift" (Behrens) to the delighted audience, Miss Agnes Weston, with her bodyguard of blue-jackets, received a great ovation as she demonstrated the "safe moorings" of teetotalism in the Royal Navy. She also took occasion to present a number of silver medals to non-commissioned officers of high character for temperance. The ceremony was unexpected, but not unacceptable, to a gathering which was evidently much in sympathy with her great work as "Mother of the Navy."

Canon Wilberforce said that, on such an occasion, they must recall the text "The Lord shall sell Sisera into the hands of a woman." When once the women came to the front it was absolutely impossible to resist them. At last the female brethren of the race—(laughter)—had risen, and when once they had the power by their votes of influencing humanity against its greatest curse they could not be withstood. From his heart he welcomed them and wished them "God-speed." (Cheers.)

After moving a resolution relative to the Local Option Bill, Sir Wilfred Lawson said that he hoped before the meeting was over Lady Henry Somerset, if she could not give him a medal, would, at any rate give him an old-age pension. (Laughter). But he was not so old as to be unable to share the enthusiasm of that meeting and to give a cordial greeting to their sisters from all parts of the world. The United Kingdom Alliance, of which he had the honour to be president, declared opposition to all that "debased the moral currency"—in the words of Lord Acton's recent wonderful lecture. It gave them great pleasure to know that their principles had been endorsed by the leaders of the Government of this country, and especially by Sir William Harcourt—(loud cheers)—who by that act had endeared himself to the best of the working classes of England. Sir William Harcourt had been firm in spite of all the interests, driven to desperation, of the liquor traffic and despite the doubts of the fearful and the faithless among his own party. The fight must go on until the day of triumph comes. (Cheers.)

With much enthusiasm, after being seconded by Mr J. H. Raper, the resolution was put to the meeting by Lady Henry Somerset, and carried. Miss Frances Willard, in the course of a brief response, said that she hoped the Polyglot Petition would help on the Local Option Bill. It weighed 1,730 lb., and was eight miles in length, but if three

signatures had been allowed to the inch it would have extended to forty miles. Of the signatures 700,000 were those of American women, and 500,000 of British women.

National representatives from foreign countries were then introduced, and resolutions endorsing the Polyglot Petition were carried by acclamation.

RECEPTION AT REIGATE PRIORY.

Lady Henry Somerset gave a delightful and much appreciated reception at Reigate Priory, her Surrey home, to the delegates attending the great international meetings of the World's W.C.T.U. Twelve hundred persons, nearly all ladies, and representing twenty-one nationalities, took advantage of her invitation. They left Charing-cross in two trains, and arrived between half-past two and three o'clock at Reigate Station, where carriages were placed at their disposal. Miss Frances Willard met the visitors at the entrance to the billiard-room, which opens out of the courtyard, and the hostess in the adjoining Holbein Room. All the rooms in the fine old Priory were opened to the visitors, and a good hour was spent in examining its many treasures of art. The two rooms which aroused greatest interest were the "dens" of Lady Henry and Miss Willard—the former on the ground-floor, the latter above, and both overlooking the garden. Tea was served in the grounds, beneath the shade of the fine old trees, and there was a heavy demand for the large supply of strawberries. Among the few gentlemen present were the Rev. Mr Isitt (New Zealand), Dr Docking (who chaperoned the American ladies on the Berlin), and Mr Herbert Stead. There were many picturesque groups formed on the lawn. Madame Thoumaian, in a flowing garment of white and red striped silk, Miss Krikorian (also from Armenia), and a young Hindu girl, in soft white muslin, being the chief centres of attraction. The music was contributed by the Blue Zouave Orchestra, ranged round a tree trunk decorated with white ribbon, and by the choir from the Royal Normal College for the Blind, who came on their tandem 'cycles. Madame Antoinette Sterling sang several songs standing under a tree, and Miss Hallie Q. Brown, teacher of elocution in the Wilberforce University for Coloured People, U.S.A., gave an amusing recitation. Several large groups were formed and photographed, the most picturesque being that of the foreign delegates. In the course of a short informal meeting the delegates expressed by resolution their gratitude to Lady Henry Somerset for giving them occasion to see her in her beautiful English home. Many of the delegates returned to America to-day.

Poetry.

MY LOVE.

Not as all other women are
Is she that to my soul is dear.

She doeth little kindnesses,
Which most leave undone or despise;
For nought that sets one heart at ease,
And giveth happiness or peace,
Is low esteemed in her eyes.

She hath no scorn of common things;
And, though she seem of other birth,
Round us her heart entwines and clings,
And patiently she folds her wings
To tread the humble path of earth.

Blessing she is: God made her so;
And deeds of week-day holiness
Fall from her noiseless as the snow;
Nor hath she ever chanced to know
That aught were easier than to bless.

LOWELL.

Notes and Comments.

MISS L. M. KIRK.—The Christchurch Union has arranged with Miss Kirk to visit Canterbury in the interests of the Union. A large public meeting will be held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Christchurch, probably on August 26. Lyttelton will be favoured on the 27th. On the Wednesday afternoon (28th) a meeting for women will be held in Christchurch. Kaiapoi, Rangiora, and the other branches are also to be visited. We hope our women will do their utmost to secure large and enthusiastic meetings, thereby cheering the heart of the lady who is so generously foregoing her holiday, and also taking advantage of the opportunity to arouse practical interest in the aims and objects of the Union and to enrol new members.

WE have received a copy of "The Police Department" from the author, Mr Theo. Wake, who certainly speaks with authority. Women as a rule believe in getting good value for their money. We should much like to learn if N.Z. women, after reading the pamphlet in question, imagine that as taxpayers they are receiving an equivalent for the £95,000 spent yearly in police administration.

AGE OF CONSENT.—Our legislators in the Upper House are of opinion that fifteen-year-old girls should have knowledge and strength of character sufficient to protect themselves from impure men of any age. We presume these honourable gentlemen think it necessary that their own daughters should be protected by chaperone or escort till

considerably over that age. The fathers in a lower social scale are unable to exercise such care. Have we not a right to demand that the State step in, and provide protection for those who cannot reasonably be expected to protect themselves?

VARIOUS OPINIONS ON THE LICENSING BILL.—"A year older, and a year worse." "Of its father, the Premier." "Maori women prohibited! 'What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.'" A thousand people go to the poll, 599 vote for prohibition, 401 for reduction. Result—Licenses remain as they are! This is what intelligent New Zealanders are asked to accept. Does Mr Sedden imagine we are all suffering from softening of the brain, that he should attempt to foist such an absurdity upon us, or are we to imagine that the cares of State have proved too much for even his giant intellect?

IRELAND LEADS THE WAY.—A Home paper says that among the extra conferential gatherings during the recent Irish Methodist Conference was a "Methodist Women's Convention." Social and religious problems of the hour were treated in papers and addresses by ladies competent to deal with them. We commend the idea to the authorities arranging for the yearly assemblies in connection with New Zealand Churches.

THE English Wesleyan Conference has decided that women may not act as delegates to that august assembly. Rev Hugh Price Hughes urged that for "peace sake" permission should have been granted. He evidently holds that there are "unjust judges" and "importunate widows" connected with British Methodism.

A CONSIDERABLE portion of our space is devoted to reports of the B.W.T.A. Annual Convention and the Biennial Convention of the World's W.C.T.U., held in London in June. Owing, we presume, to a shipping accident, all the reports notified by Mrs Sheppard as having been sent have not yet reached us. Several items of interest are crowded out.

WILL our readers do their utmost to swell the subscribers' lists, and send names, addresses, and half-crowns to the Business Manager, Christchurch?

AT one London police court last year over 6000 women were committed for drunkenness.

THE Chicago Women's Club has recently declared that the qualification for membership shall be "character, intelligence, and reciprocal advantage, without regard to race, colour, religion, or politics."

Parliamentary.

(From Our Wellington Correspondent.)

The Financial Statement has been engrossing the attention of the House for the last week. The proposals do not seem to give satisfaction to either party. Mr Ward has altered them, but I fear neither the House nor the country will have them as they now are. In our present depressed condition we certainly cannot afford to pay more for the necessaries of life, and the money must be raised on its superfluities.

The Premier's Licensing Bill is also a matter of interest to your readers. It is certainly an advance in Liberal directions. That no drink shall be sold to Maori women, that ballot-papers are simplified, and various other alterations, are proofs that Mr Seddon's temperance sentiment is increasing; but somehow the Premier counteracts his concessions by something retrograde: and in this case it is—That for every 700 increase of population there shall be a new license, which is contrary to the spirit of the last Licensing election.

The Southern Cross Society, a political organisation of women, was formed here on the 8th inst. Particulars in our next.

J. P.

The Home.

RHEUMATIC FEVER.

(By A. W.)

PROFESSOR KIRK—"The sweet presence of a god diffused."

As we have experienced so must we testify. I would I could in some measure express my fervent thankfulness and reverence to that lover of humanity, Professor Kirk of Edinburgh. How often have I felt the tragic pathos of mothers passively watching their anguished loved ones, yet unable, except by the doctor's instructions, to do aught for their sick, and have blessed this dear man that he has been the means of altering all that.

My little daughter was seized with rheumatic fever. The pains in her body and limbs were so severe that she could not bear even the sheet to touch her. A large hot bran poultice was prepared, which was placed under the lower part of the back across the loins. The legs and feet were packed separately in small blankets, wrung out of boiling barilla-soap water. When the blankets cooled the feet and legs were sponged, under the bed clothes, with a little acetic acid, diluted with warm water, then rubbed

with warm olive oil, and finally with guaiacum. They were then packed up warmly in cotton wool. The bran poultice, which remained hot for nearly two hours, was then removed, and the back treated in the same way as the feet and legs had been. The little head was repeatedly cooled with cloths wrung out of cold water and a little acetic acid. After nearly three hours of ceaseless endeavour, the little one fell into a sweet sleep. The next day the same process was repeated, and the child could move her limbs. On the third day of the treatment she was entirely free from pain, and in less than a week was playing about as usual.

Union and Temperance News.

HOKITIKA.—This Union has been organised since February, 1894, and has been carried on with fair success. The departments of work at present arranged for are:—Juvenile class for girls, young women's class, cottage meetings, and prison work. At the monthly business meeting, held on August 8th, encouraging reports were received from the various departments. Cottage meetings are held weekly, and the workers are heartily received, and their efforts are appreciated. The working classes meet one evening a week, the present object being to assist the Westland Old Men's Home, now in course of erection. A prayer and missionary meeting is held monthly.

WEST TAIERI.—The annual social in connection with the Union was held in the Presbyterian Church, refreshments, addresses, and music made up the programme, the speakers being Revs Kirkland, McIntyre, Paulin, and McKerrow, and Mrs Kirkland (President), the musicians were Misses Dunlop, Baird, Kirkland (2), Mrs Inglis, and Messrs Ferrar and Churton.

A "tell-tale" milk jug has been devised. It is a glass measure, graduated at every quarter-pint; below the pint and half-pint marks three lines are etched showing the thickness of the cream which should appear in average, in good, and in very good milk, thus measuring both quantity and quality.

To keep away the moth, at the beginning of spring sprinkle your furs and woollen clothes with "powdered" bitter apple. Roll carefully in old sheets.

Two entire years, working eight hours a day, were spent in arranging and putting together the Polyglot Petition.

Cycling for women is recommended as a remedy for dyspepsia, torpid liver, incipient consumption, rheumatism, and melancholia.

Gleanings.

A grandfather, well known in the House of Lords, was amicably chatting with his granddaughter who was seated upon his knee. "What makes your hair so white, grandpa?" the little maiden asked. "I am so very old, my dear, I was in the ark," said his lordship, with a reckless disregard for truth. "Oh!" said her ladyship, regarding her distinguished relative with fresh interest, "Are you Noah?" "No, I am not Noah." "Are you Shem, then?" "No, I am not Shem." "Are you Ham?" "No, I am not Ham." "Then you must be Japhet," insisted the little maiden, at the end of her historical tether, and growing somewhat impatient with the difficulty that surrounded her relative's identification. "No, I am not Japhet," answered grandpa, enjoying the joke. "Then grandpa," said the little maiden firmly and decisively, "you are a beast."

The Hon. Fred. Douglas, the noted freedman and statesman, who passed away suddenly on February 20, spent his last afternoon at the Women's Council in Washington. His last interview was with Miss Willard and Lady Henry Somerset.

There are few facts more fully established than this, that the repeated employment of small doses of alcohol is one of the most common causes of weakened and impaired digestion.—Rev H. S. Paterson, M.D.

The true character of the alcohols is that they are agreeable temporary shrouds. The savage, with the mansions of his soul unfurnished, buries his restless energy under their shadow. The civilised man, overburdened with mental labour or engrossing care seeks the same shade; but it is a shade after all in which, in exact proportion as he seeks it, the seeker retires from perfect natural life. To resort to force for alcohol is, to my mind, equivalent to the act of searching for the sun in subterranean gloom until all is night.—Sir B. W. Richardson.

In an article on "Woman as a Reformer," Dr. Kesley says: Woman is all things but a soldier; but when her equality is sufficiently extended there will be no more soldiers wanted.

The idea that it is dangerous (except in the heat of summer) to sit in a room with the window open is a widespread and most erroneous one; it is a thousand times more dangerous for half a dozen persons sitting in a room to be inhaling the foul air that is breathed from each body. If people accustomed themselves to living with their window always open, summer and winter, day and night, we should hear a good deal less of consumption.

Prayer-Book and Ledger.

By M.S.P.

A STORY FOUNDED ON FACT.

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CHAPTER III.

Gertrude raised her eyes to her husband's face and said, "But, Richard, some of my poor women may fall like the one I saw this afternoon. I was talking about it to Mrs Jones, and asking her if it wouldn't be better not to have beer in the house at all when her husband is nearly always drunk; and then I kept thinking of my own glass of wine."

"Well, Gertrude,"—Richard spoke almost testily—"what can that possibly have to do with your taking a little stimulant for the benefit of your health? I suppose your father knows what he is talking about, and are you to be debarred from what you really need just because two or three drunken sots can't stop drinking when they've had as much as is good for them? How absurd it is!" He paused for breath, and resumed more gently: "*You* stand upon a much higher level than those who don't take it at all, for you shew to the world that it is quite possible to use God's good gifts without abusing them. Come, my darling, for my sake, for the sake of our dear little son, for the sake of our work, you must do everything you can to get strong again."

He dropped on one knee and put his arm tenderly around her. Gertrude leaned her head on his shoulder with a puzzled, troubled expression, and, after thinking for a moment, replied:

"Very well, dear, it shall be as you think best; I don't know what to do."

Her husband accepted the surrender with another caress, and then said:

"These things must be ordered at once. Can Jane go to the chemist's and Murrays?"

"She has had baby all the afternoon, and is now getting tea ready; she can go after."

"Never mind, I will just run myself. Ta ta, Baby!" and he disappeared.

Gertrude commenced treatment the next day with her father's prescriptions, for her husband was determined to "strike while the iron was hot." In September he arranged with a brother curate to take his place for a month while he went with his wife and child to Cromer, where the bracing sea breezes soon put a little colour into the cheeks of the former. The tonic was discontinued but he argued that it would not be wise to give up the stout until little Lionel was weaned. Then came a bitterly cold winter, and he insisted, not knowing, mistaken man, that alcohol while producing the sensation of warmth really lowers the tempera-

ture of the body—upon its being kept up to “keep the cold out.” After that it took its place as a regular article of diet.

The long winter was followed by a peculiarly trying spring. The curate was out nearly all day visiting his poor parishioners, among whom—ill-fed, ill-clad, and badly housed—the East winds wrought terrible havoc. Meanwhile his wife spent her time chiefly in making beef-tea, soup, and other articles of invalid diet for them, and visiting any who lived near at hand. Master Lionel, the pride and delight of his parents, seemed to flourish anywhere and at all times. He was trotting about the house now with little active fingers, getting into every imaginable mischief. One morning while busy upstairs, his mother missed him, and after a search discovered the truant seated on the bath-room floor, cleaning his teeth with the soft tooth-brush which she kept for the purpose of putting polish on her shoes. The cork was out of the bottle, and inky streams trickled down his pinafore. She softly withdrew, returning a moment later with Jane, and as they peeped cautiously in to get a good view before disturbing the “little being,” the front door-bell rang sharply. It was the telegraph-boy with a summons to Chelford. The doctor had been thrown from his horse on the previous night, and now lay dying.

His daughter hurriedly packed what was necessary, while her husband studied Bradshaw and arranged for the supply of the pulpit on the following Sunday. In an hour's time they were rattling over the stones in a cab on their way to catch the mid-day express from Paddington. After the marriage of his daughter the doctor had gone to reside with a widowed sister living just outside the village. It was her son who met the travellers at the little station and imparted the sad intelligence that the injured man was still unconscious, and sinking fast. The next day he breathed his last, being visited by a gleam of intelligence only long enough to allow of his giving Gertrude one bright smile of recognition—a smile which lived in her memory through all the years to come. They laid him to rest in the quiet, moss-grown churchyard, and Gertrude undertook the sad task of arranging what should be done with his effects. Her father had not amassed a fortune, for most of his patients were poor; but all that he had was left to his beloved and only child.

(To be continued.)

During a street-car blockade a woman was heard confiding her household cares to a neighbour, said she: “Yes, I keep a maid awhile so as to rest my body; then I go without her for awhile so as to rest my mind.”

Children's Corner.

DARE TO ANSWER “NO!”

BEAR a white unsullied shield, lad,
On the battle-field of life;
Waver never, howsoever
Sore may be the strife.
Blameless heart and stainless hand, lad:
Many a subtle foe
You shall vanquish if you'll only
Learn to answer “No.”
Let your life be frank and open
As the cloudless summer skies;
Take your pleasure—but in measure
Moderate and wise.
Idleness looks like a siren;
When she cometh so,
Never flinch, lad, not an inch, lad,
Stand and answer “No.”
If your friend be brave and loyal,
Staunch in woe and weal,
Bind him to thy heart of hearts, lad,
With a chain of steel.
But when comrades stoop to counsel
Aught that's mean or low,
Aught that fears the light of Heaven,
Dare to answer “No!”

A schoolmaster promised a crown (five shilling piece) to any boy who should propound a riddle that he could not answer. One and another tried, and at last a boy asked: “Why am I like the Prince of Wales?” The master puzzled his wits in vain, and finally was compelled to admit that he did not know. “Why,” said the boy, “because I'm waiting for the crown.”—*Alliance Record*.

COCOA PUDDING.—Boil a pint of milk, and pour over $\frac{1}{2}$ lb bread crumbs; soak for ten minutes. Beat in two ounces best cocoa, one ounce sugar, and one well-beaten egg. Bake half-an-hour in buttered pie dish.

RICE PUDDING.—Boil two ounces of rice in one pint of milk; add the yolks of two eggs well beaten, mix, and place in pudding dish. Spread over raspberry or strawberry jam, and cover with the whites of the eggs previously beaten with a knife, on a plate, to a stiff froth. Place in the oven, and brown slightly.

“Nature never proclaims herself with voice of trumpet. We must look into her face with the simplicity of children and wait for the reply.”—*Landor*.