

Ida M. Merrill missing 11

The North Dakota White Ribbon.

A MONTHLY W. C. T. U. JOURNAL.

"Not willing that any should perish."

VOL. II.

FARGO, OCTOBER, 1891.

No. 1.

NORTH DAKOTA W. C. T. U.

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JUVENILE WORK.

WAHPETON, N. D., Sept. 23, 1891.

—Dear White Ribbon: I promised myself immediately upon the close of our annual meeting, that I would strive, through you, to reach the sisters engaged in the L. T. L. work. So now I come to ask them each and all to send me their address at once. I wish that the year upon which we have now entered shall be the best and most progressive in this line of work that North Dakota has ever witnessed. Last year my hands seemed tied all the time, and it was very hard for me to accomplish much in our children's behalf, either by personal presence or by letter. Now let every local superintendent, and each county superintendent of L. T. L. work send me so much as a card if

no more. Much better would be a letter containing your plan of work, your needs, and any suggestions which may occur to you that may be helpful to me or any other sister. Let us combine the minds of all as one, and see if we cannot get at a systematized order of work which will make an L. T. L. grow wherever there is a schoolhouse and children enough to demand a teacher. I can do nothing alone, and if once writing does not bring you an answer from me, try again. I answered all letters received last year, but often heard nothing further of writer or Legion. Don't be at all discouraged but pelt me with letters until you get what you want. If you wish me to come to you, I will try to do so at such time as I can leave home, at the former price of \$5.00. Having just purchased a fine "Anatomical Aid," containing several remarkably good illustrations of the effect of alcohol and nicotine upon the vital organs. I intend to use this more or less in my work whenever called to give a "Talk;" and think it will be very effective. I would like it well if we could have, early in the year, enough county "Legions," to enable us to form a State Legion, just before our next W. C. T. U. Annual. What do you say, sisters, to such a plan as that? Wisconsin has taken the lead; shall we be outdone in giving evidence of interest in, and love for, our little ones? I believe not. There are many people from Wisconsin in this state, beside myself, and I feel ambitious to follow quickly, this noble example, hoping many others will feel the same. And now, trusting you will all respond quickly to my first request, I remain,

Yours for the children,

MRS. A. M. WILCOX,
 Supt. Juvenile Work for N. D. W. C. T. U.

FROM ARDOCK.

ARDOCK, N. D., Oct. 10, 1891.—On the evening of Sept. 28th, a large audience gathered at the Presby-

terian church, under the auspices of the W. C. T. U., to celebrate Miss Frances Willard's birthday. The ladies of the union had the church beautifully decorated with flowers. A large pyramid of blooming house plants and cut flowers was artistically arranged, rising from the floor to the top of the pulpit. The organ was also laden with choice plants, the lamps were festooned with flowers, and from a side table at left of pulpit, rose another pyramid of flowers. In an arch over the desk appeared these words, "For God and home and native land; under it, "W. C. T. U.," and over these letters a bouquet of white poppies and scarlet zinnias. Flowers, flowers everywhere, filled the air with fragrance, and lent to the surroundings an air of unusual beauty. The Ardoch band was present and rendered some fine selections. Dr. J. Montgomery acted as chairman. The exercises were opened by prayer and reading of a psalm by Rev. Mr. Carrick, Presbyterian minister, after which Rev. Mr. Lane, of the M. E. church, explained the object of the meeting, giving a short history of Miss Willard's life and work, making a stirring appeal in favor of Temperance, and encouraging the W. C. T. U. in their good work. Rev. Mr. Garrick also made some earnest and enthusiastic remarks in favor of Temperance and the work of the W. C. T. U. Several beautiful songs were rendered by Mr. and Mrs. Lane, Mr. Montgomery, and Mr. G. R. Jacobi, Mrs. Lane presiding at the organ. Miss Lena Brennan recited, "The Boys That are Wanted are True Boys." A recitation by Miss Clara Luno was entitled, "Just One Glass More." Dr. Montgomery interspersed the program with earnest and laughable remarks, adding much to the pleasure of the evening. The W. C. T. U. of Ardoch deserve much credit for this charming entertainment, the first they have ever given, in honor of Miss Willard's 52nd birthday. A Loyal Legion has also been organized by Mrs. E. C. Bates. Mrs. E. L. BATES, Pres't.
 Mrs. D. CARPENTER, C. S.

CALL FOR THE NATIONAL W. C. T. U. CONVENTION.

The eighteenth convention of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union will meet in Tremont Temple in the city of Boston, on Friday, November 13, 1891, and will continue through Wednesday, the 18th. The executive committee, consisting of the five general officers, and the State, Territorial and District of Columbia presidents, will meet on Thursday, November 12, at 9 a. m., in Park street church vestry. The superintendents of departments of work will meet in the same building at the same hour. In the afternoon at 2:30 the executive committee and superintendents will convene in joint meeting. The following clause of the national constitution determines the membership of the convention:

"The annual meeting shall be composed of the executive committee, state corresponding and recording secretaries and treasurers, the national superintendents of departments, the editor, associate editor, and publisher of our official organ, the chairman of standing committees, national organizers, the president's private secretary, one delegate-at-large from each auxiliary state union, and one delegate for every five hundred paying members of auxiliary state unions. Territories and the District of Columbia to be represented on the same basis."

"There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains, the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon."

In November, 1874, the first national convention of the W. C. T. U. met in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, with delegates from sixteen states. The meeting in Boston will represent forty-four states, all the territories and the District of Columbia. These are fully and in almost every case efficiently organized and equipped. But more than this, Boston will witness a convention of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance union, embracing forty-three nations and provinces.

On Sunday, November 15th, the annual sermon will be preached by Lady Henry Somerset, president of the British Woman's Temperance association, in Tremont Temple.

Every member of the W. C. T. U.

is requested to remember this notable gathering, in prayer, morning and evening, from this time forward, asking that each one may be kept through all the pressure of business, in that quietness which, "when He giveth it, none can make trouble," that all the affairs may be transacted with wisdom, good judgment and sisterly kindness, and that the honor of our Lord and Master, and the upbuilding of His kingdom may be the uppermost desire and effort with every one. Friday, October 30th, is appointed as a day of fasting and prayer, that these meetings may be memorable in all their transactions, that "the spirit of power and of love and a sound mind" may prevail, that from the forces there set in motion, the work delegated of the Lord to the white ribbon host, may receive a vast impetus and inspiration. It is also requested that, so far as possible, in every church of which a W. C. T. U. woman is a member, this convention may form the topic for at least a portion of one weekly prayer-meeting, previous to our gathering. As those who remain at home "share the spoil" with those who have the privilege of attendance, we ask that they bear the burden of the great work before the Lord constantly during the sessions of the convention.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was born in prayer; prayer is its hope, the promises of the Bible are its strength, God is its author, His Son its leader, and the holy spirit is its inspiration, therefore, "let us bring all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in His house and prove the Lord of Hosts herewith if He will not open the windows of heaven and pour us out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

FRANCES E. WILLARD, *Pres.*

MARY A. WOODBRIDGE, *Rec. Sec.*
Headquarters of the World's and National W. C. T. U., Evanston (near Chicago, Ill.), September 1, 1891.

FROM MRS. SOWLES.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Oct. 9, 1891
—Dear White Ribbon Sisters: While taking a few weeks' needed rest my thoughts have often turned to you, and now that the extreme lassitude resulting from long continued watching and care passes away, I decide to

return to Dakota by the close of the present month.

I left the medal contest work in the care of my nephew, W. N. Saunders, during my absence, and I hope, on my return, to find that the interest in these contests is reviving, and that during the winter we shall have an earnest campaign for prohibition and the enforcement of law.

I lunched at the W. C. T. U. coffee-rooms on Washington between Nicollet and Hennepin avenues in this city a few days ago. We passed through the kitchen and four large dining rooms, and judging by the uniformly tidy, inviting appearance, the courtesy of those in attendance, and the numbers at table the evening I was there, they have a deservedly large patronage.

Sincerely yours in the work,

M. H. SOWLES,

Supt. Demorest Contests.

FOR NORTH DAKOTA Y'S.

THE PINES, Shamateles, N. Y., Aug. 28, 1891.—Dear Young Women of North Dakota: Your thoughtful and efficient state president has reminded me of a promise made in Atlanta to write to the Y's, at state conventions, where I could not be present to give a personal message. I am very glad of this opportunity to greet the dear girls of Dakota; and but for the New York state convention being held in my home city this fall, I should have made a pilgrimage to Minnesota and should then have felt I must come over the border into your brave north-western state. That privilege, I trust, may yet be in store. We in the east have become so well acquainted with you through the interest created by your coming into the union as a free state that we feel quite near at heart. I imagine some loyal maidens must have had a share and by their influence many clean ballots were cast. The motto of a class of school girls once was, "What girls have done, girls can do." May you verify this by maintaining the ground gained, and be ready to lengthen the cords and strengthen the status until you touch hands with Iowa and Kansas, sweeping clear of saloon power all intervening ground. If "westward the course of empire takes its way," when it is an empire without alcohol, we shall want it to turn back again, and

help redeem us in the east from the chains of appetite and avarice, so we look to you with expectations while praying and working for that better time to come. Our fiscal year now drawing to a close has been one of encouragement regarding different lines of work, a larger number of our members than ever before have taken up definite Bible studies, which has helped in every other department, for to be rooted and grounded in the truth is very necessary; our hearts as well as our principle must be established. We have learned also that temperance workers need to be physically strong in this moral warfare, which begins with each day anew, hence the subject of physical culture, hygienic diet and dress have claimed the attention of young women in nearly every state, again to refute the statement that "women are not business-like." Parliamentary practice has been taken up by many unions, while Work for the Children, Literature, Press, and the Flower Missions have been continued with unabated interest.

In a number of states conferences on Young Women's Work have been held during the time between the annual conventions. These may not be practicable in states where great distances separate the towns, but I believe the Y conferences held during the days of the state conventions, could be arranged at hours not to interfere with the regular sessions, and would prove most helpful to the young workers, when helps and hindrances could be discussed, when departments could be considered, timid ones strengthened, and advanced laborers aid by giving their experiences. I commend these to you, and as a result of those held during your convention shall expect to see a concise report in the Oak and Ivy Leaf, and furthermore shall be most happy to greet a delegate sent the National convention in Boston with your latest and freshest ideas for our Y's (wise) symposium there. Dear girls of Dakota, I could occupy many hours in writing upon lines of work but you will hear them verbally set forth, and I am quite sure were I to write you we should conclude together that the great need of the hour is for more consecrated workers. We want all the young women of your

state, not one can afford to be left out of this great cause, it will bring a reflex blessing into each life." Said a minister in New York not long ago, "I am so thankful for the stand the young women in my church have taken for total abstinence. I see they are not only strong at that much needed point but their whole christian characters are growing, they are developing, as beautiful, well rounded christians, bringing forth all the fruits of the Spirit, among which we find the one called temperance." Dear girls, it pays to practice self denial, it pays all the way along to work for Christ and humanity. From the bright side I would invite you to come into the white ribbon fold, and through you I would extend the invitation to every young woman in your state. When our Saviour entered the chamber where the ruler's daughter lay, he said, "the maiden is not dead but sleeping," and taking her hand he said, "Ta litha cumi maiden, I say unto thee, arise." Many young women in our land are not dead, but they are most profoundly sleeping, with regard to the temperance question, and they need to be aroused by the voice of the Master. And to those of us who have heard the call has the commission been given. In my name go to the daughters and say, "Ta lithacumi." May each maiden here decide she will so speak to her sisters in the year that is before her, that when the next ingathering shall come a four-fold number of young hearts shall have come to life and activity in our temperance world.

Yours in love and service,

FRANCES J. BARNES.

RESOLUTIONS OF LEONARD W. C. T. U.

LEONARD, Sept. 26, 1891. — Resolved, That as a society we tender our sincere sympathy to our sisters, Mrs. J. B. Ross and Miss M. H. Sowles, in the loss of their Father, Mr. S. B. Sowles.

Mr. Sowles lived to the ripe old age of 82 years ere his summons came to come up higher.

While the golden bowl has been broken and the silver cord loosed on earth, the links of the chain that bound his children to him here are only fastened more firmly to their Immortal Home.

DISGRACEFUL BUSINESS.

Last Saturday a number of masked men over in Missoula took it upon themselves to destroy several hundred dollars worth of property belonging to Chinamen and brutally treating the owners just because they were Chinamen. They had violated no law, had injured no one. They were hard-working, saving, and attended to their own business, but they were Chinamen, hence a lot of thugs and bums must be turned loose upon them to use up their property and kill them. The news was flashed to all the dailies throughout the state next day, but we have yet to find one editorial utterance condemning it.

A few women in Missouri last year went to an outlawed saloon dive, broke open the door and poured the liquor into the street. They did not even tar and feather the law breaking proprietor, but suddenly a wail of remonstrance went up from the press throughout this great nation, even such papers as the New York Christian Advocate joining against those bad women and crying for law and order. Saloon men vote and Chinamen don't; that explains the whole business. Parties and press sue for the support of the former, and have no interest in the latter. We are saying nothing about encouraging their immigration to this country, but we do brand as dastardly, infamous and devilish such work as Missoula has encouraged by her recent public gathering, for the Saturday night work was but the logical outcome of her recent mass meeting utterances.—New Issue.

Go to A. Skeoch & Sons, No. 107 Broadway, for a good square meal, or bread that beats the world, and if you want pie or cake here is the place to get it, also fine line candies and nuts.

The World's Fair Department Store

26 THIRD STREET,

GRAND FORKS, N. DAK.

HEADQUARTERS FOR

Dry Goods, Clothing,

Ladies' and Gents' Furnishing Goods,
Millinery, Notions, Boots and
Shoes, Hats, Caps, Cloaks,
Shawls, Carpets,

Draperies and House Furnishing Supplies.

All the latest novelties constantly added to our mammoth stock, and prices that are always lower than the lowest. Samples sent on application. Mail orders receive prompt attention.

PLATKY & BLANK, Props.

assured that we shall reap if we faint not.

Dear Sisters, a mighty battle is in progress and we are in the midst of it. The forces of good and evil are drawn up in battle array. At a great battle across the ocean were uttered the now famous words, "England expects every man to do his duty." Today, I would say, Beloved North Dakota expects every woman to do her duty. Let us "stand, therefore, having our loins girt about with truth and having on the breastplate of righteousness, and our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith," "and take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God." Shall we not then enter upon the labor of the coming year with a determination to do more and better work than ever before?

"So, let it be in God's own right,
We gird us for the coming fight;
And strong in Him, whose cause is ours,
In conflict with unholy powers,
We grasp the weapons he has given,
The light and truth and love of
heaven.

The Y's were not out in large numbers and the small space granted them by the program was nearly all crowded out by press of other business. And just here may not the White Ribbon suggest that it would be well the first days of a convention to open promptly on time and move the business steadily along in order not to fall too far behind the last days, and thus have much important business hurriedly and carelessly done or crowded out altogether.

The floral decorations in the Presbyterian church, in which the convention was held, were most beautiful; the members of the entertainment committee were untiring in their efforts; the homes into which the delegates were received were very pleasant in their hospitality, and the gentlemen of Grand Forks very generous in giving the delightful drive through and about the city. On the whole the convention was pronounced the best yet held in Dakota.

Mrs. Bozard gave a very pleasant address of welcome on behalf of the Grand Forks W. C. T. U., and Rev. Alex. McGregor, one in behalf of the

pastors of Grand Forks. It was brimful of genuine Scotch wit, through which came out clear and strong the statement that the American pulpit is true on this question of temperance.

The treasurer's report showed receipts, \$383.51; disbursements, \$691.70; cash on hand, \$192.44.

Willard W. C. T. U., Durbin, meets every alternate Saturday, at residence of members. Mrs. Nellie Curtis, president; Mrs. J. H. Lyke, Secretary.

"Satan does not care whether it is cowardice or humility that keeps people silent; all he wants is the silence."
—Mrs. Leavitt.

The rare singing of Mrs. McCaskey and Mrs. Bliss was greatly enjoyed by the delegates.

MISS ELIZABETH PRESTON.

As Miss Preston has passed to and fro through our state, about her work as evangelist and organizer, she has become endeared to our people by her earnest piety, her wise council, and her genuine womanly goodness. This regard for Miss Preston crystallized in the convention in the taking of pledges from individuals and by delegates, for their unions, for sums of money to aggregate into a comfortable income in order that she may be left care free concerning a support while engaged in her work among us. If any sister or any union who has not already contributed to this fund desires to do so there still is room for subscriptions.

In the account of the watch presentation to Hon. C. A. Pollock, in the September number, the White Ribbon should have said Attorney C. F. Amidon instead of Mr. H. Amerland. The editor was out of the city at the time of the occurrence noted, and in listening to an account by one who was there she confounded the two names. Mr. Amerland, however, might have said any number of good things on such an occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Lowell, of the Durbin Union, were sadly bereaved the 8th inst., by the death from drowning of their youngest child, a little

girl of three and a half years. The little one had not been missed from the home when her body was seen floating in the river that flows past the house.

AN ANCIENT DOCUMENT.

The following ancient document is of interest to us to-day as showing the advance in public sentiment since its date. It is a bill to the town of New Castle, N. H., for drink furnished the workmen on a church that was being built by the town—this being before the separation of church and state. The White Ribbon is indebted to Mr. E. C. Kinnear for this copy, the original being in his possession:

DR.

The Town of New Castle, N. H., in acct with Meshach Bell, Junior:

March ye 6th.	To Expense, Old Tenor,	£ 32 07
ye 30th.	To 2 mugs filpe,	3 08
In Oct.	To Diet, Drinke & Logan, for the Masons at work on the Meeting House,	28 19
	To Vet. Is & Drinke for Mr. Noah Sherburn, same time,	2 00 2 00
Nov. ye 2nd.	To 6 mugs filpe,	4 04
	To 4 bowles loaf sugar toddy,	3 04 09
	To 1 mug cyder and 6 pipes To 3 quarts and 1 pint wine To 8 dennors,	10 10 10 10 10 08
ye 9th.	To 14 mugs filpe,	9 16
Feb'y 12th.	To 9 mugs do,	6 06
	To 3 quarts and 1 pint wine To 5 dennors,	10 10 6 00
Oct. 11th.	To 5 mugs of filpe,	3 10
	To 2 bowles punch,	2 12
1775		
ye 19th.	To 1 gill cherry rum,	06
	To 1 mug filpe,	14
		£133 07

CONTRA CR.

By my taxes for the year 1764 £ 33 06

Balance due M. Bell, Jr., £ 99 07

New Castle, December 18, 1767.

Received the above contents of Henry Prescott,
By MESHACH BELL, JR.

On the back of the bill is endorsed:
To Henry Prescott, Collector:
Pay the within account and to the town.
THOMAS BELL,
ABRAHAM TREFETHERN, } selectmen.

A WORD FROM OUR BUSINESS MANAGER.

Dear Sisters: We send greetings with this the first number of Vol. II. We thank you for your patronage through our first year and solicit your help for the coming year. We hope to grow better, and shall, if every union—district, county and local—will help us, not only by securing subscriptions and advertisements, but will send us an account of work done that we may broadcast it over our state and help to put this paper into every home. Who will send us the first news?
H. L. CAMPBELL.

Go to A. Skeoch & Sons, No. 107 Broadway, for a good square meal, or bread that beats the world, and if you want pie or cake here is the place to get it, also fine line candies and nuts.

The North Dakota White Ribbon

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION
OF NORTH DAKOTA.

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While THE NORTH DAKOTA WHITE RIBBON is published primarily as a means of communication between the Officers and Superintendents of Departments of the North Dakota W. C. T. U. and the members of its Local Unions, it will endeavor to furnish its readers with a resume of all important W. C. T. U. news of general interest.

Brief Communications on W. C. T. U. topics are solicited.

Address all communications intended for publication to the Editor.

FARGO, N. D., OCTOBER, 1891.

CONVENTION NOTES.

Mrs. Mary Clement Leavitt, the honored guest of the convention, now sixty-one years of age, merits more than a passing word. A slight, rather feeble looking lady, with a kindly, motherly face, but keen, alert, watchful, a clergyman's daughter, for years a prominent teacher in Boston, refined, cultured, lady-like in many points, she presents a strong contrast to Miss Anthony, the honored guest of last year's convention at Jamestown. Eight years ago Mrs. Leavitt accepted an invitation from our national Woman's Christian Temperance Union to carry the white ribbon around the world. During this eight years' journey she has traveled 102,806 miles. Ninety-seven steamers and many railroads have conveyed her from land to land, from city to city. She has established unions wherever she could find or make an opportunity. India has sixteen among the native women. She has studied closely mission work in all its phases in these various countries, and speaks in highest terms of the earnest self-sacrificing work of those who have left friends and native land to carry the gospel to the heathen. Readers of the Union Signal (and all who would be broadly intelligent concerning W. C. T. U. affairs should read the Union Signal) are greatly interested in the series of articles now appearing in "Our Round the World

Missionary." It is impossible to more than hint at her work in the limits of our report.

Her first meeting in London was presided over by Cannon Wilberforce. She was entertained by Lady Carlisle, Lady Somerset, and the Archbishop of Canterbury. She enjoys the distinction of being the first woman ever asked to speak in the Free Assembly Hall of Edinburg. A large hall in Bombay, India, the Franze Cowajze Hall, seating 2,000 persons, was crowded four successive evenings with persons eager to hear her. Thus all round the world in England, Scotland, Australia, China, India, Japan, has she carried the gospel of temperance.

In her forcible, pure, and beautiful use of our English language, Mrs. Leavitt may well serve as a model to our younger sisters who aspire to platform honors.

Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Leavitt presided over a question box and her ready answers to the varied questions manifested her individuality more than a formal address would have done.

She stated that the most difficult class to make understand the nature and design of the white ribbon movement are "English high society ladies." That the so-called upper classes of continental Europe scarcely comprehend the meaning of total abstinence. "In Berlin I did not meet a single lady who was a total abstainer." That is of those who live there. One question, "Did you ever find the white ribbon a means of protection?" was answered, "I did not find it a means of protection, probably, because I never realized that I was in danger."

The United States lead the world in advanced temperance sentiment, next comes Canada, afterward, neck to neck, come England and Australia. The clergy of the church of England are coming grandly to the front in the temperance reform. Fifteen years ago the Church of England Total Abstinence Society had but fifteen clergymen, now they number 4,500.

What is now needed in the heathen lands is temperance missionaries to go and live, as the missionaries from the churches do, attending to organizing and supervising unions and opening up to the minds of the people as they become able to grasp it the

broad scope of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The missionaries of the churches, while uniformly friendly and helpful, have their hands and hearts filled with their own work which they cannot leave.

Wednesday evening, Mrs. Leavitt spoke to a crowded audience in the Presbyterian church. The address was an informal one, drawn from her varied experiences in foreign lands. She "was very emphatic in her denunciation of the drunkenness existing in Europe, and stated that England was debauching India, Burmah and the strait settlements simply for the revenue so obtained. The people of the west coast of Africa were being driven to death by the rum traffic conducted by Europeans and Americans, and Mrs. Leavitt asked all who had any influence with the United States senator to use it to secure his vote in favor of the suppression of this traffic as the question will come up before that body at the next session."

The address in the Metropolitan Opera House, Thursday evening—"God in Government," we would be glad to give to our readers entire, but at this time can only say that it was fine and strong.

* * *

The annual address of the state president, Miss Kinnear, was a very able paper, by far the strongest we have heard her give. The review of the work of the year was clear and comprehensive—the outlook into the future full of hope. In closing, she said:

"Henry W. Grady, the lamented orator of the South, has said, 'The best reforms of this earth come through waste and storm and doubt and suspicion; the sun itself, when it rises on each day, wastes the radiance of the moon and blots the starlight from the skies, but only to unlock the earth from the clasp of night. Behind that sun, as behind this movement, stands the Lord God Almighty, Master and Maker of this universe, from whose hand the spheres are rolled to their orbits and whose voice has been the harmony of this world since the morning stars sang together. With the Lord God behind the work shall we give place to discouragement? Rather, let us go forward in His strength, doing His work, being

MOTHER'S INFLUENCE.

(For the White Ribbon)

An invalid weary with ceaseless pain,
Sat by her window at the midnight hour,
The woes of her lot, an endless chain
Seemed to weave about her with mystic
power,
But, as the hallowed hush of a sleeping
world
Calmed the tumult of heart and brain,
The thought of one watchful and mind-
ful of all,
Brought peace and rest again.
As she thought on the Father's tender
care,
His mercies which compassed her life
around,
Deep gratitude displaced despair,
And sweet content gave joy profound,
As, meditating, thus she sat,
A sound impinged on the midnight still,
As, two, belated, stayed to chat,
She heard this converse and clash of will.
"Come, Jim, you *must* join in this lark
to-night,"
(With tones incisive, terse and strong)
In answer came, "*had I not promised, I*
might,
But for me to yield I know would be
wrong,
For mother'll not sleep an hour to-night
If I keep not my promise faithfully given,
I *wish* to join you, but *no, 'tis* not right,
I'll not go. Goodnight, 'till to-morrow at
seven."
Then *stronger* urged the tempter to sin,
With arguments specious and bland,
And, wavering, listened the poor weak-
ling, Jim,
For his strength seemed founded on
sand
"Oh God!" said the watcher, "grant the
mother prevail,
May *her prayers* be the *strength* of this
faltering one,
May the darts of the evil one, fruitless,
assail,
May a mother's petitions save a waver-
ing son."
Thank God! with a *boldness* of *God-given*
strength,
This mother's boy severs the chains that
enthrall,
And with step firm and buoyant, his home-
ward way bent,
Victor, now, over all that may enticingly
call,
Said the weary one, watching, "pray on
mothers all,
To Him who can mark even each spar-
row's fall,
Your loved ones He'll guard 'gainst
allurements to sin,
And *your prayers,* and *His love* will garner
them in."

MARGARET BLAIR,
Orange, New Jersey.

The platform adopted by the re-
publican state convention of New
York, Sept. 9th, declares for local
option—a long step in advance for
the party in New York.

THE LESSON OF A DREAM.

"And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of
silver."—Malachi 3: 3.

I had laid myself down to rest and
as I closed my eyes, my mind wander-
ed back to the words I had been read-
ing in the Bible a few moments before,
about the great Refiner. I remember-
ed also, the old process of refining
silver, how the metal was considered
unfinished until it reflected the re-
finer's image. Thus thinking, I fell
asleep, and was gently led into "dream-
land," where I thought myself in a
studio. I looked around wondering,
for it did not seem like anything I had
ever seen before. There were many
easels standing about, holding un-
finished pictures, and pieces of canvass
with simple outlines, were resting
against the walls on all sides of the
room, just leaving a corner, where an
old man with silvery hair and softened
features, sat slowly painting. In a
few moments I noticed that he stopped
and put aside his brush and palette,
when only the very last touch seemed
wanting to complete his labor.

I was puzzled with the scene before
me, and eager to have it explained, I
said, "Sir, will you tell me why there
are so many pictures unfinished and
what all those outlines are for!" He
replied, "I am the artist of the King
of kings, and he has bid me paint the
pictures of his children. I can only
paint them as they grow like him in
their characters, and alas! it is very
slow work. Sometimes there are years
in which I cannot touch a picture al-
ready begun, for the characters do
not grow, they are ever as a sleep.
Others grow quite rapidly and sudden-
ly stop, as if they were wearied, and
so the pictures must remain as I left
them. The outlines you see, are those
who bear our Lord's name, but have
never shown any likeness to him. I
am watching each day, hoping to fill
them in."

I thought to myself, is there a pic-
ture here of me, or am I one of those
simple outlines? but I will ask, for I
ought to know where I stand. So I
tremblingly said, "Is there any thing
here of me?" The artist moved to a
corner I had not noticed, and drew
from it a picture just commenced.
There was something more than the
outline and there were touches that
looked quite fresh, as if they had been
put on lately. I looked at it with eyes

scarce able distinguish, they were full
of tears, as I saw how little was paint-
ed, and yet hardly expecting anything,
I was glad and grateful. The old man
seemed touched by my emotion and
said to me, "You have been growing
more this last year; you have been
working for others as our Lord com-
manded. Many times you have not
pleased yourself, and we are told in
Holy Scripture, that was part of the
Savior's life; "for he pleased not him-
self." Take courage! and let me paint
diligently. When you become like
unto him, the picture will be done."

Then I understood why there were
so many unfinished portraits in this
quaint old studio and why the dear,
gray-haired artist stopped just as his
work seemed completed. It was be-
cause our Lord's disciples stopped in
the way of their duty; and with these
thoughts I awake from my strange
dream.

But I felt as if I had looked "beyond
the veil." The studio with its un-
completed pictures and bare outlines,
were all plain before me; the gentle
face and the touching tones of the
artist, were with me too, all were
stamped upon my memory. The
partial picture of myself, I felt I never
could forget, and yet I was humbly
thankful that it was not a simple out-
line. It had begun to be something.
Let us not be content until we are full
pictures of him "who paints our every-
day lives." Let us not be weary and
pause in our duty, but with his grace,
go steadily, lovingly on, until the last
touch is added to the canvass, when it
will leave the studio of earth, for
the walls of heaven. — Advocate and
Guardian.

HOW TO LEARN TO TALK
WELL.

Learn to listen well, and soon you
will find yourself speaking the word
in season, and surprising yourself, as
well as others, by the quickness with
which your thoughts will be well ex-
pressed.

Read the works of great writers,
think them over, and conclude in what
way you differ from them. The woman
who talks well must have opinions—
decided ones—but she must have them
well in hand, as nothing is so
disagreeable as an aggressive talker.
Say what you have to say pleasantly
and sweetly; remember always that

the best thing in life, dear, sweet love, has often been won by that delightful thing, "a low voice."

Do not be to critical; remember that every blow given another woman is a boomerang which will return and hit you with double force. Take this into consideration — it is never worth while making a malicious remark, no matter how clever it may be.

Worth what while? Worth, my dear girl, the while here, which is, after all, so short, and the while hereafter, which is, after all, so long and sweet. It seems to me that when you and I stand before the good God, it will be the little gossip, the petty talks about others, of which we will be the most ashamed.

Never forget that mere idle talk is quite as bad as gossip, for nobody is gaining any good from it, and as no vacuum exists in nature, none can in every-day life. Not to be an interesting woman, quick in your sympathy and ready always to give the word of gladness to those in joy, or to speak your tender thoughts to one who is in affliction, is to be that most unpleasant of people, an unfeminine women. — Ladies Home Journal.

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