

tive, then as a good citizen you should join the forces moving forward to the abolition of the saloon.

#### A struggle for Life.

Seventeen years I had the drink habit; eight, the drink habit had me. If during the last six years of that quarter century I was sober once, I do not remember it. Day by day I added to the strength of my weakness until the disease—and disease it had in truth become—brought me, nerve-racked, unstrung, broken, palsied, to the verge of delirium and disgraceful death.

Then, when without brandy and ever more brandy I could not lift food or drink to my lips, I took the fag end of a misspent life that remained and made a man of it.

How? Not day by day, hour by hour, as the habit grew, but instant by instant; with every instant a poignant agony of body and soul. Moment by moment I postponed the drinking of the brandy carried in my pocket, though every moment of those first days was a suffering such as I trust may never again fall to my lot. Every fiber of my being, distressed, screamed out, "Brandy! Brandy! If ever you needed it, you need it now!" But always my answer was, "Not yet. In a second or two perhaps, but not yet."

Many times during that first terrible day, and the scarcely less dreadful days that followed, I asked myself if I could live another hour—a half hour—fifteen minutes—without brandy. I did not know. A second? Perhaps. I was not sure.

At last, weakening, as I now marvel that I did not weaken sooner, I drew forth the flask that seemed to hold my only hope of life; opened it; with two hands shakily raised it to my lips.

Then came the thought: If I must die of brandy, I can die without more; if not, I can live without any. And again I said, "Not yet. In another moment, maybe; but not yet."

That was six years ago. After the first month, I threw away my flask—and have tasted no intoxicant since.

My moment-by-moment method was based upon the thought that all of life is measured out in fractions of a second; and that, for the brief present fraction that is all the life we have, any torture is endurable.—Thomas Harding.

#### The Saloon-Keeper's Advertisement.

Having recently had my saloons closed up in Kansas and Iowa, and appreciating the advantages of high license, I have moved over here and leased commodious rooms in Mr. Lovemoney's block, corner of Ruin Street and Perdition Lane (next door to the undertaker's), where I shall continue my business of manufacturing drunkards, paupers, lunatics, beggars, criminals and "dead-beats" for sober and industrious people to support. Backed up by the law, I shall add to the number of fatal accidents, of painful diseases, of disgraceful quarrels, of riots, and of murders. My liquors are warranted to rob some of life, many of reason, most of property, and all of true peace; to make fathers fiends, wives widows, children orphans. I shall cause mothers to forget their infants, children to grow up in ignorance, young women to lose their priceless purity, young men to become loafers, swearers, gamblers, skeptics and "lewd fellows of the baser sort."

Boys and girls are the raw materials out of which I make drunkards, etc.; parents may help in this good work by always sending their children to buy the beer.

#### A Deliberate Plan to Ensnare Children.

In an address at the liquor men's convention held in Columbus, Ohio, one speaker said:

"The success of our business is dependent largely upon the creation of appetite for drink. Men who drink liquor, like others, will die; and if there is no new appetite created, our counters will be empty, as well as our coffers.

"The open field for the creation of appetite is among the boys. After men have grown, and their habits are formed, they seldom change in this regard; and I make the suggestion, gentlemen, that nickels expended in treats to the boys now will return in dollars to your tills after the appetite has been formed."—Temperance Instructor.

#### We Must Have More Boys.

"We must have more boys," hear the villains cry,

As they click their jingling glasses; 'Tis strange how fast the drunkards die!

A hundred thousand graves heaped high

Each year marks off as it passes.

"We must have more boys—at least twelve each hour

We must win by cunning devices. To gather the brightest of youth's flower,

From the garden of home and innocence's bower,

We must use every art that entices.

"We must have more boys. Then let fiends be sent

To make their persuasive offers; Get the boys to drink; a nickel that's spent

On a glass for a boy, is money lent To bring dollars back to our coffers.

"We must have more boys; for only with boys

Is the army of drunkards recruited; Slay the fathers' hopes and the mothers' joys,

Use the devil's most deceptive decoys, And render the boys imbruted.

"We must have more boys. Then let us begin

To pursue them in every quarter; With a hustle and bustle and din we shall win;

Then scurry and hurry them into their sin;

Push them on like sheep to the slaughter."

—Rev. Norman Plass.

#### Dare to Say "No."

Dare to say "No" when tempted to drink;

Pause for a moment, my boy, and think—

Think of the wrecks on Life's Ocean tossed

For answering "Yes," without counting the cost;

Think of the mother who bore you in pain;

Think of the tears that would fall like the rain;

Think of her heart and how cruel the blow;

Think of her love, and at once answer "No."

#### A MORNING PRAYER.

The day returns and brings us the petty round of irritating concerns and duties. Help us to play the man, help us to perform them with laughter and kind faces; let cheerfulness abound with industry. Give us to go blithely on our business all this day, bring us to our resting beds weary and content and undishonored; and grant us in the end the gift of sleep. Amen.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES

### HOW TO BE STRONG.

M., Nov. 6. Strong in faith. Rom. 4:20.  
T., Nov. 7. Strong in patience. 2 Cor. 12:1-10.  
W., Nov. 8. Strong in goodness. Matt. 5:43-48.  
Th., Nov. 9. Strong through study. Josh. 1:1-9.  
F., Nov. 10. Strong through prayer. Mark 14:38.  
S., Nov. 11. Strong through gentleness. Pr. 18:35.  
Sun., Nov. 12. Topic—How to Be Strong. Heb. 11:32-40; 12:1-4.  
Faith as a source of strength.  
How does spiritual vision make us strong.  
How does good will make us strong?

Being strong is having the power to do something. It may be physical or mental or spiritual. Every one admires strength. The well-developed muscles in the racing horse awaken admiration, because they give him strength for speed. The great locomotive, as it pulls its long train of cars, attracts attention, not because of any beauty in it, but because of its strength. When notice is given that one of the strongest men in the world is going to give an exhibition of his strength, great crowds gather to see him.

The teacher who is recognized as having a strong mind, which he knows how to use, will attract students, who will admire him because of his mental powers. So in other professions and in the business world.

The greatest strength is the strength of soul. There may be weakness of body, and a lack of strength of mind, and yet real strength of soul. There is nothing that makes a more lasting impression than a strong spiritual character. Men admire and are attracted by a strong spiritual character. One of the striking characteristics of many of the preachers, who have attracted the greatest crowds and done most in winning souls, is that by ordinary standards they would not be considered specially strong mentally. D. L. Moody is a striking example. He had little opportunity to secure mental training and strength. What every one noticed about him, and that which enabled him to accomplish so much, was his strength of soul.

The question is often asked by every one: "How can I become strong?" The boy wants to be physically strong enough to excel his companions, and trains hard to accomplish his purpose. The student wants to be strong enough mentally to solve the many problems of life, and he spends years of hard work, not so much in an effort to obtain knowledge, but to train his mental powers so that they may be strong. The consecrated child of God wants to know how he can become strong for the Master's service, so that he can accomplish His work.

The passages of Scripture which make up our readings for the week tell us wherein we may be strong and how we may obtain strength.

**Strong in Faith.** (Rom. 4:20.) Abraham's faith was his trust in God. He did not doubt God, but was strong in his faith in Him. God's promise of a son to him seemed unreasonable. He and his wife were past the age when they could expect a child, but that did not prevent him from believing what God said. So when he was commanded to take Isaac, his only son, and sacrifice him on the altar, it looked as though that was making impossible the fulfillment of God's promise, that he should be the father of a great nation. But he was strong in faith and believed that God would make it all right in some way. Our Saviour said that if we had faith like a grain of mustard seed we could move mountains.

**Strong in Patience.** (2 Cor. 12:1-10.) Another way in which we can be strong is in patience. The patient man is much stronger than the irritable, impulsive, impatient man. The horse that "frets under the collar"

does not accomplish the same amount of work as the one that pulls steadily and quietly at his load. The patient worker, who sticks to his task, no matter how difficult is the work, is the man who will be successful and will show his strength in the results which he will accomplish. Patience in dealing with others is, especially under provocation, is an evidence of strength, and will be the means of our accomplishing more with them and for them than we possibly could do otherwise.

**Strong in Goodness.** (Matt. 5:43-48.) Goodness in dealing with others grows out of love in the heart. Our Saviour says we are to love all men, even our enemies or those who have done us an injury. There are some who say they cannot do this, that they cannot love those who are unlovable or who have injured them. This is possible, or Christ would never have commanded it. Next to prayer for God's help is to look for whatever is lovable in the person, and there will be found some good in even the worst man. The worse the man is the more he needs our pity, which is very close kin to love. The more we exercise the virtue of love the stronger it becomes.

**Strong Through Study.** (Josh. 1:1-9.) Joshua was commanded by God to study the "book of the law," which meant the Pentateuch, or the first five books of the Bible. God told him that if he would do this, and would follow its teaching, he would be prosperous and have good success. When the athlete wants to get strong he studies himself and the best methods of developing his strength. He secures the best teacher he can and reads the best books he can get. We have the best book that was ever written to help man. It is the Bible. We have the best Teacher that was ever given to man. He is the Holy Spirit. He teaches us through the Bible and in many other ways. Let us learn all that He has to say to us, and then be careful to follow His teachings. He will show us what faith is and how we can grow strong in faith and love.

**Strong Through Prayer.** (Mark. 14:38.) By prayer we make our wants known to God. Through prayer we receive strength from God. When we need strength to overcome the temptations of Satan, we can get it by asking God for it. When we need strength for our work, we can get it in the same way. God is always ready to give strength for every need, if we ask Him.

**Strong Through Gentleness.** (Ps. 18:35.) Some people have the idea that strength and roughness go together. But the strongest forces in the world are the quietest and the gentlest in their operations. The winds may blow and the storms may beat upon the rock and have no effect upon it; but a little seed dropped in a crack produces a tiny shoot, which grows silently and gently until the great rock is split. The lightning flash with its roar of thunder may do some destruction, but it is the electric current that flows silently through the wire that works for man's benefit. The greatest force in all nature is gravity. It is the power that holds the earth together and all things upon its surface in their place. And so it holds the heavenly spheres in their appointed positions and regulates their motions in their orbits. This tremendous power is one of the gentlest of all forces in its operation.

The most influential man in the community is not the bully, but the man who deals gently with others and leads them rather than drives them. God is very gentle in His dealings with us, and we should deal gently with others.

**How to Be Strong.** (Heb. 11:32-