

The Sunday School and the Temperance Cause.

Address of Rev. C. Brown Cox, of Burlington, Delivered Before Sunday School Workers.

It pays to stop to think. The temperance movement, like all great moral movements, was inaugurated through and has been attended by much sensationalism and fanaticism. The overly zealous still seek to meet the issue with such weapons.

But after a half century of this earnest, though comparatively ineffectual campaign, the temperance question is settling down to a scientific basis, and the friends of temperance are meeting the issue with less sensationalism, but with truer wisdom and greater effectiveness.

To deny the evils of intemperance is futile—they are acknowledged by all. A weakling might have stood in the path of the San Francisco conflagration and have bewailed the awful devastation which it wrought; but men and women were fighting for life and property, challenging the onward sweep of the flames, and contriving ways and means for the prevention of such future disaster.

My purpose now is not to entertain nor to enthuse, but, if possible, to instruct. It is well to be thoroughly grounded, and to formulate your scheme of reform upon principles fundamentally correct. True and lasting reform cannot be achieved by artificial means, but must be based upon a correct theory of the nature and constitution of man, since these determine largely his social, moral, intellectual and religious tendencies.

Two great laws or principles underlie human nature and determine its manifestations and tendencies. These are heredity and environment. As principles, or laws, they are fundamental and supreme; and God has ordained that through them shall be accomplished man's salvation or his doom.

Our present problem is a study of the relation of these fundamental principles of human nature, heredity and environment, to human character, thought, and conduct, with especial reference to the question of intemperance. In this brief study we cannot give ample consideration to any phase of the subject, and shall therefore content ourselves with emphasizing in brief the well attested results of the researches of the great master minds of modern times.

HEREDITY.

"Heredity is the law through which the individual receives from his parents by birth his chief vital forces and tendencies—his physical and spiritual capital." "Heredity is that biological law by which all beings endowed with life tend to repeat themselves in their descendants."

It is "that property of an organism by which its peculiar nature is transmitted to its descendants."

Each child bears within him signs of his parentage, not only in his bodily organism, but also, with equal clearness, in his mental and spiritual constitution. This ancestral influence is so prevailing that characteristics of the child and all his tendencies, if not determined before his birth, are at least very clearly defined, that for him to go outside the lines laid down by his ancestry will be very difficult.

I make no effort to prove this law. It is not a new discovery, but has been recognized throughout all time. It is called into prominence now because the deeper study of man, under the new system of thought, has furnished overwhelming proof of the operation of the law, and has vastly broadened its scope. All thinkers admit its existence and realize that every advance in the study of man is but cumulative evidence of its inexorable operation.

Lake produces like, is the law. The offspring receives the impress of the ancestor. The law holds not only with reference to the species, but also as to the race, the family and the individual.

It is true, furthermore, that not only are general characteristics transmitted, but it is agreed that acquired characteristics are transmitted, though the opposing schools

differ as to the manner in which this occurs. Moral excellency in the parent tends to repeat itself in the child; moral degeneracy in the parent pitilessly imposes its curse upon the unblamable and unsuspecting offspring. If any law is well established, it is the law of heredity as manifested in the transmission of qualities and tendencies that lead to vice and crime. A large proportion of the dangerous classes have received from vicious ancestry qualities and tendencies, which, with their environment, they are almost if not altogether powerless to resist.

All men are at first invariably what others make them. Our parents determine the time and place of our birth. Their virtues and their vices reach down into our lives and bless or curse them. Disease, habit, moral and intellectual tendencies and qualities, vices and virtues,—all are in the stream of heritage which comes from our ancestry. It is a stupendous fact that the past is at work in the present, its power reaching down to us, modifying every human life, touching every individual's thought and will, and more than all other forces coloring his story.

And now let us consider the heredity of the tendency toward intemperance. No one maintains that intemperance itself is transmissible; but that the tendency to intemperance—the condition which makes intemperance easy—almost natural, is transmissible, is universally accepted.

Elam says: "The most startling problem connected with intemperance is, that not only does it affect the morals, health and intelligence of the offspring of its votaries, but that they also inherit the fatal tendency and feel a craving for the very beverages which have acted as poisons on their systems from the commencement of their being."

Moral says: "I have never seen the patient cured of his propensity whose tendencies to drink were derived from the hereditary predisposition given him by his parents."

HABITUAL VICE NOTICEABLE AMONG CHILDREN.

Elam says again: "An acquired and habitual vice will rarely fail to leave its trace upon one or more of the offspring, either in its original form or one closely allied"—"the habit of the parent becomes the all but irresistible instinct of the child."

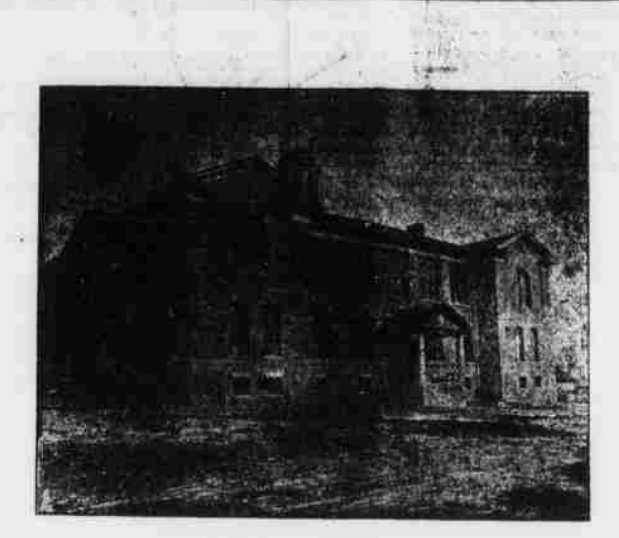
But the most terrible fact which confronts us is that the vice of intemperance in the ancestor becomes the disease of intemperance in the offspring.

Specialists are agreed that "inherency, though the result of vice is a disease, with clearly defined symptoms, and that it is often the result of inherited tendencies."

Dr. A. Jeffrey, in Revue Scientifique, declares that Alcoholism is a disease. He says "in the creation of these new morbid aptitudes, this hereditary predisposition which dominates almost all pathology, alcoholism stands preeminent, doing more harm and counting more victims than tuberculosis. Alcoholism not only affects the individual, but its effects are continued to his descendants. One cannot be, with impunity, the son of an alcoholic. Alcoholism begins with the father, and strikes down the children; and generally its action continues, until in the fourth or fifth generation, it has destroyed the family. But before this final result is reached, the alcoholics and their descendants are, according to circumstances, hurled into diseases, man's or crims, filling our hospitals, asylums and jails."

ALCOHOLISM, A DISEASE.

Hence, we stand face to face with the appalling fact, that alcoholism in our day is not only, perhaps not chiefly, a harmful vice, but it is a devastating disease. Generation after generation has consumed its ocean of alcohol, until alcoholism as a disease has fastened itself upon the race. Many years for the good old days, when without restriction could man view his own intoxicants and



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all imbibed liberally and at will. Perhaps those were good old days; but their pleasurable vice has been handed down to us as a dreadful disease, whose ravages are appalling and against which we must oppose every known remedy, for the sake of the life, health, happiness and loftiest ideals of the race.

Alcoholism is a disease, and is described by Elam as "an impulsive desire for stimulating drinks, uncontrollable by any motives that can be addressed to the understanding or conscience, in which self-interest, self-esteem, friendship, love, religion, are appealed to in vain; in which the passion for drink is the master passion, and subdues to itself every other desire and faculty of the soul." Moral says: "In such cases there is a complete abolition of all moral sentiments."

Elam says again: "Theoretically considered this impulsive tendency may not be absolutely irresistible, but PRACTICALLY, it is almost if not altogether so."

Therefore any wise and adequate remedy for the evil of intemperance must be based upon correct pathological principles.

ENVIRONMENT.

Let us turn our attention now to the other fundamental principle. Man starts life with a vital capital stock furnished him by his ancestry. From the moment of his birth, indeed even before his birth, another law, the law of environment, begins its work and continues it while the life exists. A man's tendencies or aptitudes are determined before his birth; a man's character is the result of his birth-stock as shaped and developed by the law of environment.

Environment is the "sum of the influences and agencies which affect an organism from without." It includes all the forces and agencies outside of the individual himself, which in any way affects him, such as climate, type of civilization, social, political and religious conditions, education, ideals, etc.

And powerful as is the law of heredity, its operation is affected by the law of environment.

Environment may either accentuate or deter the tendencies given by heredity. The offspring of vicious ancestry, being placed in evil surroundings, will almost inevitably follow his evil tendencies; while the same offspring placed in elevating surroundings is less likely to develop his evil tendencies and will develop them to a less degree. It is equally true that the offspring of upright parentage placed under favorable surroundings will maintain the standard of uprightness; but if placed under evil surroundings will sink to a lower standard of character.

Now in this principle lies the hope of advancement and reform. This is the principle upon which the redemption of the race must be achieved. Doleful indeed would life if man were doomed to the unhindered operation of the law of heredity; but the law of environment opens a way of escape, offering to man the possibility of bettering his condition in so far as he is able to control his environment.

But greater than this, and fraught with larger hope for man, is the admitted fact that environment reacts upon heredity. As the forces of environment develop or dwarf

WELL KNOWN SUMMER RESORT BURNED.

Three Persons, Young Lady and Two Chambermaids Perish.

Charlotte Sept 9. —Cleveland Springs Hotel near Shelby was completely destroyed by fire which started early Monday morning. Three persons perished in the flames.

They are Miss Smith of Ellenboro N. C. and two unknown negroes employed by the hotel. The loss is estimated to be about \$15,000, with \$10,000 insurance. The fire was caused by lightning striking the kitchen about 12:15 Monday morning.

The Charlotte Observer Destroyed by Fire.

The Charlotte Observer building and plant were damaged by fire early Monday morning to the amount of \$25,000. The fire originated on the third floor to which the fire was confined. The newspaper department on the first floor and basement were little damaged except by water and disarrangement.

Geo. Wilson a deaf and dumb boy who was asleep in the building was found on the third floor a corpse after the fire had been extinguished.

The States best citizens as well as the newspaper fraternity were deeply concerned on hearing of the serious conflagration in the Observer building Monday morning, but were consoled by the fact that this, one of the State's best papers will continue publication without interruption.

Equal to this, as well as other disastrous arrangements have been made by the management for issuing the paper until the plant can be put to running again. The Observer is to be congratulated upon possessing a force of men who undaunted by the serious accident, bent every energy toward issuing the paper to its patrons despite the inconveniences encountered.

The Observer has the sympathy and best wishes of the state.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

O. E. Kearns has sold his home at High Point to J. F. Hayden, of the North State Telephone Co.

Last week at Salisbury, City Engineer J. D. McNulty was convicted of manslaughter and given the minimum sentence of four months in jail to be hired out for killing Robt. Owens, Superintendent of the county pest house.

At a meeting of the Guilford county board of Education held last Saturday \$4,000 was appropriated for the erection of a modern school building at Springfield, near High Point; \$600 and \$500 was appropriated for buildings at Jamestown and Friendship respectively.

W. J. Oliver, of Knoxville Tenn, has been awarded a contract for dump carts to be used in the construction of the Panama Canal to the amount of over half a million dollars.

The concert by the song and class from the Oxford Orphan Asylum are of unusual excellence. They give pleasure to our people. They are worth more than the price of admission. They are in the interest of orphanage work. At the Graded School Auditorium Friday night, Sept. 13.

Enthusiastic Meeting of the County Sunday School Workers

Enrollment Out Numbered that of the State Convention—Profitable Meeting—Resolutions.

The largest Sunday School Convention ever assembled in the county met in the Methodist Episcopal Church in this place on Thursday and Friday of last week. Almost every township in the county was represented, and many visitors were present. Among the latter were Rev. C. Brown Cox, of Burlington; F. S. Blair, of Guilford College; Mrs. E. R. Michaux, of Greensboro; Dr. S. B. Turrentine, Presiding Elder, of Greensboro District.

The convention was called to order promptly at half past ten o'clock Thursday morning by Prof. J. M. Way, who has been president of the Association for the past three years. At this session there were no less than 150 delegates present. After the reports of the officers were read, the convention was organized and delegates assigned to homes.

In the afternoon session the Primary Department was discussed. The report of the Secretary for the past year was read, and an able discussion on "Methods" by Mrs. C. C. Hubbard in which she illustrated the use of the blackboard.

The evening session, although slightly marred by a heavy rain and wind storm, was the most profitable of the convention. The organized class work was discussed under two heads: The Barrens and Philathea Classes, the former being discussed by Dr. G. C. Hubbard and the latter by Prof. J. M. Way. The especially interesting and instructive feature of this session, was the very able, learned and earnest address by the Rev. C. Brown Cox, of Burlington, whose paper appears in full elsewhere in this issue.

HANDLEMAN HEADED LIST OF PLEDGES.

The forenoon session on Friday was more largely attended. There being over 200 delegates present. The program consisted of a very able discussion on the "Preparation for Teaching" by E. Moffitt, followed by a soulstirring address on the "Application of the Lesson" by N. R. Richardson. At this session pledges were taken for the County work. Nearly every township responded liberally, Randleman leading with a contribution of \$75.00 and \$297.00 in all was raised. The election of officers closed the session.

HOME DEPARTMENT DISCUSSED.

The session after dinner was devoted to the work of the Home Department. Miss Martha Redding, Secretary of this branch of the organized work, made a very encouraging report. Dr. Hubbard discussed in detail every phase of the home work, which was followed by a beneficial open discussion. At this time the convention was divided and Mrs. E. R. Michaux, with the primary teachers of the county, organized a Primary Union with Mrs. W. D. Stedman as President and Miss Esther Ross as Secretary. The last session on Friday evening was well attended by the people in Asheboro. After an excellent program of music by the choir, in which Mrs. Kohlert rendered a beautiful solo, Prof. J. J. Scarborough Supt. of the Asheboro Graded School, made a timely address on "The Greater Outlook of the Sunday School." Dr. Turrentine followed with a learned effort on "The Relation of the Sunday School to the Church." The convention then adjourned.

Judging from the 254 delegates enrolled, the excellent reports of the officers, and the general interest manifested by all present. This was the best convention ever held in the county and the organization is much stronger and more effective than ever before in its history.

The following officers were elected:

President—E. Moffitt, Asheboro, N. C.
Vice President—Dr. W. J. Sumner, Randleman, N. C.
Secretary—Miss Dora Redding, Randleman, R. F. D. No. 3.
Assistant Secretaries—Geo. Smith, Liberty; Miss Berta Ellison, Frank-

linville; Miss Linnie Shamburger, Hills Store; Miss Ocia Redding, Progress.

Home Department Secretary—Miss Martha Redding, Asheboro, N. C.
Primary Secretary—Mrs. W. D. Stedman, Asheboro, N. C.
Secretary of Organized Class Work—W. B. Webster, Asheboro, N. C.
Central Executive Committee—Dr. C. C. Hubbard, Chairman, Worthville; Chas. Beasley, Randleman; E. O. York, Central Falls; Wiley Ward, Asheboro; Prof. J. J. Scarborough, Asheboro.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Trinity Township—J. W. Blair, Archdale.
New Market Township—Mrs. B. F. Ridge, Edgar.
Randleman Township—Dr. W. I. Sumner, Randleman.
Providence Township—J. W. Pugh, Esq., Millboro.
Liberty Township—Geo. Smith, Liberty.
Columbia Township—M. E. Johnson, Ramseur.
Franklinville Township—C. H. Julian, Franklinville.
Asheboro Township—J. O. Redding, Asheboro.
Back Creek Township—J. C. Bulla, Asheboro, R. F. D. No. 2.
Tabernacle Township—S. M. Delk, Cox.
Concord Township—M. N. Morgan, Jackson's Creek.
Cedar Grove Township—Z. A. Lewallen, Asheboro.
Grant Township—J. J. Allen, Kemp's Mills.
Coleridge Township—L. E. Brady, Cole's Store.
Piney Grove Township—J. P. Phillips, Arch.
Brower Township—T. B. Tysor, Erect.
Richland Township—Prof. G. F. Garner, Seagrove, R. F. D. No. 1.
Union Township—S. N. Allen, Aconite.
New Hope Township—J. M. Varner, New Hope Academy.

Resolutions were adopted by the convention expressing the appreciation of the body of the retiring President, Prof. J. M. Way, for the upbuilding of the Sunday School work in the county.

DEATH OF ALVIN WINSLOW.

Sad Death at the Home of Mr. A. Winslow Monday Morning.

Monday morning a gloom was cast over Asheboro by the intelligence of the death of Alvin Winslow which occurred at the home of his father early that morning.

Mr. Winslow had been in ill health for several months, having contracted consumption in the mines of Mexico. He returned from Mexico about five months ago. The deceased was 33 years old, his birthday being four days before his death. He is survived by his father, mother, one brother J. T. Winslow, and two sisters, Mesdames Mattie Lowe, and Ida Phillips, all of whom live in Asheboro. The deceased has a host of friends in Asheboro and Randolph County who offer sympathy to the bereaved family in their deep sorrow. The funeral was conducted at the M. E. church Tuesday morning. A large number of friends from every section of the county attended the funeral.

Educational Rally.

There will be a big Educational Rally at Randleman next Saturday. Hon. Ashley Horn and others will make addresses. A large crowd is expected.

The business houses in Asheboro will close every morning from 9:20 until 10:30 that everybody may have the opportunity of attending the revival now in progress at the M. E. Church.

C. F. Bruton, of Wadeville, spent yesterday in Asheboro.