

# W. C. T. U.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Andover meets the first and third Thursday in each month.

All white ribboners feel a sense of personal bereavement in the death of Mrs. Mary T. Lathrop who entered the higher life Jan 3, 1895. Because of her eloquence on the platform she was styled the "Daniel Webster of the temperance reform."

The political woman of 1894 has drawn her neglected tea-table from the corner of her boudoir. She has shaken up the cushions on her divan, and is settling down to every-day home life. Yet it is said things will not be the same as they used to be before the election. Studies in civics are in juxtaposition to the teaspoons, and a Dictionary of American Politics lies on one corner of the couch—all of which serves to prove that politics and the home are not seeking an immediate separation.

It does not take the last drink to make a drunkard—but the first—Ram's Horn.

Not to train up the boys properly is to help the barkeeper.—Ram's Horn.

The man who drinks when he wants to will some day have to drink when he doesn't want to.—Ram's Horn.

Never shall my hand or voice be lifted against so-called temperance fanatics. If ever a cause justified fanaticism, the temperance cause does. To me there is nothing more disgusting, or more disheartening to the cause of humanity, than the selfish, ease-loving, luxurious man indulging in dissipation and denouncing temperance fanaticism.—Rev. Phillips Brooks.

In the recent number of the *Banner of Gold*, Dr. Leslie E. Keeley has an article on "Woman as a Reformer," which is one of the most reasonable and practical that we have any where seen. Science and philosophy are brought to bear upon his argument. He believes in such a standard as would permit any woman to do anything in the home or society, in church or state, that she can do well. He takes the ground that women are born equal to men; that their mental action is more intense; that they are better morally than men; that their participations in the work of the world will elevate labor and capital, purify business and politics, cleanse not only the polls, but the streets; and that they are, indeed, in the very van of moral evolution. It would not become us to say that this is true, but we are glad that one who has an influence so wide and helpful as that of Dr. Keeley does not hesitate to take the advanced positions that we have indicated.

Carlton Cornwell, foreman of the *Gazette*, Middletown, N. J., believes that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy should be in every home. He used it for a cold and it effected a speedy cure. He says: "It is indeed a grand remedy, I can recommend to all. I have also seen it used for whooping cough, with the best results." 25 and 50c bottles for sale by L. A. Burrows.

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# Improve Our System of Road Work.

With the present pathmaster system of working our public roads, in a great many instances the farmers are too busy with their farming to attend to the improvement of the highway, so that the work is often postponed till the last of June or first of July. At this time, the seeding of buckwheat and cultivating the hoed crops are crowding the farmer preparatory for haying, so that the road work in many instances is slighted and poorly done, and in some cases it is not done at all. There seems to be a good many men that think so much labor on roads is time thrown away, and under the present pathmaster system will do just as little as they possibly can and have the time pass off. Another great drawback is the incapacity, many times, of the men that are appointed to fill this position. How often do we hear the remark that the pathmaster is laying out most all the work along his own farm, and letting the rest of the road go, and it needs the work as bad as this or worse. It is a noticeable fact that with the present system of road building there is but little thought given to good drainage of the road bed, which is a very important matter for the maintenance of a good solid road-bed at all times. The water is allowed many times to flow in the side ditches long distances before it finds an outlet and runs off, and often pond holes of considerable size are left in the side ditches keeping the road-bed soaked and making it more easily rutted by the wagons. Another quite as important feature in the system of road drainage is cross ditches or sluices. In the great hurry to get through with the road work it is frequently neglected from year to year, or if done at all most generally will put in two poles, lay across three or four stringers and put on some plank, or set up two plank, one on either side, and spike one on top and the work is done. With this manner of proceeding the dirt soon settles away and the plank become misplaced and a rough, jolty spot in the road is the result. Where there is but a small quantity of water to conduct across the road-bed some large iron pipe that could be covered would remain in place a long time. For large water courses an arched culvert well laid with stone and mortar is all that need be desired. It will last for years if well done.

A much better plan than the one we now have in force would be to divide each town into two or three districts and elect the most competent men in town to fill the office of road commissioner for each of the several districts. Take the road question out of politics and select the men from all parties. Grant them the exclusive right to collect all road tax in the way of money and labor, and that such money and labor so collected be faithful worked out in their respective districts. In some of the road districts as they are in force at the present time, there is more road tax than is necessary to keep the road in nice condition, while others are very materially lacking in that respect. In districts where tax payers own road machines the commissioner to use the same and allow the tax payers pro rata according to his tax for the use of the machine at a fair valuation, and collect the balance in money, to be expended in the construction of the public highway in his respective district. Each town should own a good stone crusher and a heavy iron road roller that could be used at any or all times by the commissioners in the construction of the roads. By this system of road work it could be commenced as soon as the frost was out of the ground in the spring, with the road machine and followed by the roller to pack it down. The soil at this season of the year will pack down much more solid then it will later in the season, and by going over the roads at least two or three times during the season, each time followed by the roller, always keeping the bed of the road a nice oval, we can have as good roads as is possible to make with dirt. Swampy places which are not susceptible to good drainage and for some distance along terminal roads leading to business centers, use crushed stone.

People of Hornellsville are discussing the proposition to utilize the City Park for a site for new city buildings. This park, which was the Jones Driving Park, was bought from the Hornellsville Farmers' Club for \$50,000, and those who now urge its abandonment say it is nothing but a useless burden. Parks' Tea clears the complexion. Mrs. N. M. White of LeRoy, N. Y., says: "I have used Parks' Tea and find it the best remedy I have ever tried. Sold by Benedict & VanNoy." The News office does the best job printing.

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