

drink alcoholic liquors, yet we take it that the Leagues know their own business and have a right to decide for themselves. We also claim the same right to decide for ourselves. The W.C.T.U. has many departments of work, and needs as members and officers every woman who is willing to work for God, and Home, and Humanity. The splendid record of Mrs Hewitt's temperance work appears in our columns of this issue in the "Report of work among the Maoris." We do not know whether Mrs Hewitt is a prohibitionist, but if not, is it to be for one moment supposed that we would turn her out of office and stop her work? Our authorities are wiser than that. The report of the Dunedin Union of work done among the seamen is heart-stirring. Are we to demand that the kind-hearted women who labour for the good of our sailors must accept the prohibition ticket or resign office?

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It must not, for one moment, be supposed that the W.C.T.U. is half-hearted in its desire for prohibition. Anyone who has, for any length of time, been engaged in the work of "educating public sentiment up to the standard of total abstinence," of "training the young," of "saving the inebriate," cannot help coming to the conclusion that we must have "legal prohibition of the liquor traffic." That conclusion was arrived at by the W.C.T.U. many years ago—many years before there was any thought of separate prohibition leagues. While we do not demand to know which of our objects each member may be most in sympathy with, yet the W.C.T.U. is practically a solid body of prohibitionists. We rejoice most heartily that it is so. But we will firmly resist any attempt to impose any inquisitorial test on women who may wish to become members of our organisation. Our work and our sympathy is wide and varied, and we will gladly welcome any good woman who, being a total abstainer, will sign the constitution and pay her dues.

Some Notable Women.

By K. W. S.

(Continued from March.)

MRS MARGARET SIBTHORP

is a prominent and important figure among women-workers in London. One can learn something of her mind and spirit from *Shafts*, the monthly paper which she so ably edits; but it is a further revelation to look into her face, where one can see her strong, brave soul shining forth. Mrs Sibthorp looks as if in times past she had suffered; but, if so, the result, happily, has not been to embitter her nature, but to draw out her sympathies for

others, and especially for women. She is one of the pioneers in advance thought, advocating the principle of perfect freedom for women. She believes in their economic independence, their right to citizenship, equality in everything with their brothers in the eyes of the law, their right to equal remuneration for equal work in the industries and professions, and especially in the right of married women to their individual freedom. She is as strongly against the "subjection of women" as ever John Stuart Mill was in his day, and strikes out fearlessly at everything which tends to perpetuate the evil. She has made a study of hygiene, and has thought out and adopted a certain style of dress, which she invariably wears. She is a lover of animals, and so is an anti-vivisectionist. She often pleads in the columns of her paper that the lives of birds might be spared, and that women would give up wearing wings and feathers in their head gear. She calls the habit of wearing such ornaments a relic of barbarism, and the wings, &c., "death trophies." Mrs Sibthorp is strongly opposed to vaccination, is a vegetarian in practice as well as theory, and an abstainer from alcohol.

Her love for suffering humanity is a passion with her, and yet her emotional temperament does not hinder her strong brain from going straight to the cause of the suffering, and trying to remedy the conditions which induced the trouble rather than endeavouring to palliate the immediate effects. She corresponds, and tries to keep in touch, with women in all English-speaking countries, and takes the keenest interest in their welfare and progress. She is constantly asking the question, although the form varies greatly:—

"If she be small, slight-natured, miserable,
How shall men grow?"

And her great longing is to see women strong and free, and taking their rightful place in the world. One feels inclined to "thank God and take courage" after meeting such a woman! Long may she be spared to edit *Shafts*, and through that paper to stretch out a hand of kindly sympathy and help to all who need it.

MADAM SARAH GRAND,

whom we have known best as the authoress of the "Heavenly Twins," opened the discussion already referred to at the Pioneer Club—viz., "Moral versus Physical Force," and, judging from the reception she received, was very much appreciated. She has a strikingly expressive face, pretty, soft hair, and she dresses most artistically. Her voice is pleasant and tuneful, and she enunciates clearly and without effort. As I sat listening to her I wondered whether if some of those who had criticised her book so severely, and