

"Then there was another young man waiting that I would like to know about. He was of a very different type—one of the plodding, hard-working kind," I suggested.

"Yes, I know whom you mean. John, too, is one of our boys. He lives a good many miles from here, but he comes to see us whenever he is in trouble. He came to know of us from seeing the sign, 'City Mothers' over the outer door of the building. At the time he discovered us he had just buried his father and his mother. There were five grown children in the family, of which he was the eldest. At the death of his parents the children were left considerable property. As the children had known only hard work and had never had the handling of money they did not know how to care for what they had inherited. One sharper after another had cheated them until it looked as if it might soon all be gone. John was discouraged and down-hearted when he saw our sign and he felt the need of a little mothering. He came in and told us of his misfortunes. We gave him the name of a lawyer whom we knew could be trusted and advised him to consult him before making any deal. John did as we advised and his losses ceased, but he occasionally meets with other troubles, which he always brings to us. He loved his mother dearly, and I believe we have come in a measure to take her place in his life."

Just then Mother Gilbert's phone rang. When the conversation was over she turned to me and said: "That is another case we have been able to help. The father of the girl we assisted just phoned to tell us how thankful he is for what we have done for his daughter and his home. The daughter is a very pretty girl eighteen years old. The girl is not bad at heart but she is thoughtless and is always doing foolish things without regard to consequences. Some time ago a young man picked her up on the street and took her to her home in his car. He was fine looking and she took a fancy to him. She learned his name and where he was employed, and day after day she phoned to him. They met a number of times and after a time he took her to a cabin in the mountains where she stayed three or four days.

The parents found out what their daughter had done and they were heart-

broken. The father and the mother came to us and brought the girl with them. She admitted her guilt and confessed that she had made the first advances.

"We sent for the young man. He was well connected in the city and we knew he would not want the affair to become known. When he came we questioned him and he admitted his guilt, but when we asked him if he would marry the girl he answered quickly, 'Marry that kind of girl! Never!'

"When we told the girl his answer we showed her that her partner in sin did not consider her a fit mate. That that view point was a matter of tradition but that it held in the world at large. That it lay with her to decide whether she would become a woman outcast looked down on by the men. That in looking for a mate the young man always sought the pure woman.

"The girl went home sadder and wiser for her experience. The father says she is doing all in her power to make their home life happy and that he can never repay us for saving his daughter."

These are a few of the stories told me in the short time that we talked.

"Our principal work is with the children. We try to keep young offenders out of the Juvenile Court, for it always brands a child to be brought into court. When you get the view point of the child you know how to deal with them. Then we try to keep homes from being broken up. We do what we can to adjust matters between husband and wife, parents and children," Mother Gilbert continued.

"With what class do you work principally?" I asked.

"With all classes. The rich and the poor, the learned and the ignorant. Many doctors of philosophy come to us with their troubles. Most people have troubles that they will not confide to their most intimate friends but they will come to us for advice. They seem to think that out of the varied cases we have helped that we have probably met with some case very much like theirs."

So the good work goes on day after day. It is evident that the City Mothers are filling a great need in the life of the city. They fill this need because they are women of sympathy, tact and understanding. Though they have the power to coerce where coer-

cion is necessary, they are thought of only as friend and counsellor and mother. Every one speaks of them as Mother Gilbert and Mother Harris and their names are spoken with affection and respect. They are mothering a big city and the good they have done it would take volumes to tell.—"The Light."

PERSONAL.

Almost immediately after the close of Convention our Dominion President and Corresponding Secretary are starting upon their travels. They go to the U.S.A., and will gain first-hand information upon the working of Prohibition. They may even extend their tour to embrace Great Britain. They intend to be present at the W.C.T.U. Convention in U.S.A. next November.

We are looking forward to great help in our next campaign from the silver-tongued oratory of Mrs Don and the logical and persuasive pen of Miss Henderson. May God be with our beloved officers, keep them safe in all their wanderings, and send them back to us fit physically, invigorated mentally, and inspired spiritually.

Another wanderer from our shores is Mrs Lee-Cowie. About her the Ponsonby Union sends us the following:—"Our dear President, Mrs Lee-Cowie, sailed by the s.s. 'Makura' on the 12th inst. We gave her a happy send-off. Many bouquets and love tokens were given on the wharf; about 100 friends gathered. A few suitable hymns were sung as they sailed away in beautiful weather. Prayers are asked for her safety and safe return. God bless her!"

I would be true, for there are those who trust me;

I would be pure, for there are those who care;

I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;

I would be brave, for there is much to dare;

I would be friend of all—the foe—the friendless;

I would be giving, and forget the gift;

I would be humble, for I know my weakness;

I would look up—and laugh and love—and lift.