

way of the filthy practice complained of, and of placing the young people in a situation to easily resist the temptation if they so elect. The most effective way to introduce the desirable habit is to educate the young to a full comprehension of the situation, both as to the ill of the tobacco habit and the religious obligations relating thereto.

In this connection it might not be inadvisable to suggest to Sunday school workers that a department dealing with the physiological effects of narcotics and stimulants might be exceedingly valuable as a standard course of instruction among the youth. The illustration of their operation upon the human system, upon plants and animals, would be an object lesson to reach minds which cannot be easily penetrated by admonitions of a general character, especially when home instruction has been faulty. In competent hands there would be a broad field for this class of instruction, in connection with its religious phases, that never need be tedious or unproductive of good. As a means easily available its use would be eminently proper in impressing the great truths of the Word of Wisdom.

There is never any occasion for rashness or excessive zeal in contending with error in any field. In the contest against wrong, the work of the friends and advocates of right is a labor of love in its highest aspect. As such it also should be a persistent labor. Hence among the Saints and especially with those who have to impart instructions and counsel at the fireside and in assemblages of the children, the good work now inaugurated of impressing the Word of Wisdom upon the people should be prosecuted steadily and vigorously, yet with prudence and consistency, until the Saints shall be an example of typical compliance with the Divine will in this regard. Keep the ball rolling until the desired goal is reached.

#### MUMMIES IN KENTUCKY.

The *Weekly Leader* of March 14, 1895, published at Lexington, Kentucky, contains the following brief account of, and comment upon, the finding of a number of skeletons or mummies in a cave in the vicinity. It will be noted that the *Leader* writer is somewhat reckless in his use of adjectives—as for instance “petrified,” “antediluvian,” etc.; but the fact of the find itself is interesting enough to evoke charity for the ordinary luxuriance in description that always attends comment upon the marvelous. The item reads as follows:

John Bachelor accidentally discovered Thursday, on the Dr. Terrill farm, near Petersburg, Boone county, Ky., a small cavern, in which were found four petrified human bodies. They were in a sitting position and had been wrapped in handages of some material resembling cloth, but which crumbled to pieces when touched. The bodies were small in stature and of dark complexion, and looked like Egyptian mummies. It has long been known that an antediluvian burying-ground existed in this locality, and on many previous occasions bodies have been exhumed similar

to those so recently found. The indications sustain the theory that this section of the country was inhabited by a peculiar and extinct race of people, who dwelt in the Blue Grass regions and along the banks of the murmuring Ohio many years before the foot of the red man pressed its ancient soil. Several years ago half a dozen bodies similar to those recently discovered were found in the same locality, and Dr. Sutton, of Aurora, secured one of the bodies, which he kept on exhibition in his office at Aurora, Ind.

#### KEEP OFF THE TRACK.

For some time complaints have been made of the exploits of a gang of small boys near the southern boundaries of the city, all calculated to annoy the employes of the Salt Lake City Street Car company. Said boys will run in front of the moving cars, or in the cover of darkness decorate the wires with indescribable rags, or otherwise display the lamentable negligence of their parents. Nothing worse was done by these little outlaws in embryo until last (Monday) night, when, so we are informed, they undertook to grease the car track for a considerable distance at the intersection of Eleventh South and Fourth East streets. The deed was probably intended for a practical April joke, but it is of so serious a nature as to call for a warning. The car tracks must be left alone, or the youthful jokers be hunted down and given a practical lesson in criminal law. Serious consequences might have resulted. Considerable traffic is going on along the streets mentioned. The motormen were unable to check the speed of the cars or stop in the crossing, the wheels gliding as on ice. Under the circumstances collision with a passing team might have been unavoidable and in such a case loss of life would probably have resulted.

The attention of parents living in the vicinity of the track where the annoyances complained of have been going on for a long time is called to this last dangerous pastime, because it is felt that if some measure is not taken by those whose immediate duty it is to do so, to stop further “jokes” or the same character, the inventive genius of the gamin may carry him too far. The next experiment might be in the line of placing obstructions on the track for the fun of seeing a car ditched, and as the conductors claim to know with some degree of certainty the leaders of the youthful marauders, any further device of theirs against the safety of the traveling public are sure to bring them serious trouble.

It is admitted to be extremely difficult for parents to watch every movement of their children and to prevent them from mischief. Still, that plea does not free the former from responsibility. One duty of parents is to know where their children are, particularly at night, and what company they keep. To a neglect of this sacred duty many youthful escapades may be traced. Boys love liberty and need a good deal of it for the development of their individuality, but when freedom of action degenerates into malicious mischief it must be checked promptly, unless the intention is to lay the

foundations for full-fledged anarchy in the next generation.

#### MYSTERIES OF THE TEA TRADE.

It is perfectly astonishing to what enormous proportions the trade in tea has grown in the civilized world since the shrub first became known in Europe through travelers in eastern Asia. Even in the United States that by no means has the first position on the list of tea-drinking countries, the yearly consumption is estimated at considerably more than seventy million pounds a year.

At an early stage of the history of the beverage a great deal was said and written against it. To drink it was designated a “base, unworthy, Indian practice.” One medical writer of the eighteenth century asserted that its effects are “not less destructive to the animal economy than opium, or some other drugs which we have learned to avoid.” Others ascribed to tea the growing desire for intoxicants. Dr. Letisom is quoted as saying that the rise of the pernicious custom of intoxication “is often owing to the weakness and debility of the system brought on by the daily habit of drinking tea; the trembling hand seeks a temporary relief in some cordial, in order to refresh and excite again the enfeebled system, whereby such persons almost necessarily fall into a habit of intemperance.” Another author asserts that by its use “men seem to have lost their stature and comeliness and women their beauty.” Notwithstanding this vigorous opposition the consumption of tea continued to increase and enormous fortunes were made by the handling of the little dried leaves.

It ought to be of some interest to tea-drinkers generally to know a fact or two about the manner in which the article is prepared for the market. In the large warehouses of China, travelers who are fortunate enough to receive admission sometimes behold sights of anything but an edifying nature.

The statements of Mr. Frank G. Carpenter in a recent letter to the *News* are important enough to be referred to again. He visited such warehouses at Hankow. Just outside one of the largest establishments he saw a half-naked coolie who was picking out of the seams of his gown certain unmentionable little creatures, and a moment later this same coolie with his bare feet was standing in a box of tea treading the leaves with all his might in order to pack them closely for shipment to England. A dozen other barefooted coolies were similarly engaged in other boxes. The weather being warm, the perspiration streamed down their yellow skins in little rivulets and, of course, partly went with the leaves to the British consumers. In another part of the establishment a lot of girls were picking over and sorting leaves according to grade. Their tiny feet were covered with second grade leaves that they had thrown down into the baskets below them. These statements need no comment to be fully appreciated. The fact is that they convey but imperfectly an idea of the dangers to health and life imported and dearly paid for under the name of tea. Even if the leaves them-