

be shed before the individual is full-grown, and stands forth a man as Milton says, "For contemplation and valor formed." But I must hear this lecture even if I have to go alone, for it is not likely that papa will care to go out again this evening. I wonder if Howard—no, no, Judge McKee—has changed much in appearance during these ten years! Now what were those lines that I was reading in one of Scott's novels a day or two ago?

"Youth! thou wear'st to manhood now,  
Darker lip and darker brow,  
Statelier step, more pensive mien,  
In thy face and gait are seen!"

Is it possible that I shall find him changed so much? Perhaps so."

We will not say positively that the above were the exact thoughts in Miss Raymond's mind as she sat for a few moments gazing into the glowing coals. But we may infer that these were nearly similar, for soon she arose, cast a sly glance into a large mirror, smiled and blushed just a little at what she saw, and then left the room. Half an hour later, warmly wrapped in cloak and furs, she came into the sitting-room again, and found Mr. Raymond, who had come in during her absence, reading an evening paper which he had taken from his pocket.

"Why Nellie," inquired the latter looking up from his paper as she came in, "are you going out this evening?"

"Yes, papa, I am off to the lecture. Will you not go, too?"

"What lecture?"

"To the lecture at Library Hall."

"Oh yes! the temperance lecture. I had almost forgotten it. Judge McKee has the reputation of being a very fine speaker."

"Then you had better come with me and hear him," said Miss Nellie.

"I should be pleased to do so," replied Mr. Raymond, "but I think it would probably be better for me to stay within doors for the remainder of the evening."

"Well, then, I suppose you will find

your paper sufficient company without me," Nellie affirmed, rather than asked, as she passed out of the room and set out on her way to Library Hall.

Arriving there she found the Hall so crowded that it was with some difficulty that she found a seat. She was a little late, too, and the speaker had already begun. As she entered the room, he was saying that he desired to speak especially to young men; to such young men as were gradually almost unconsciously, perhaps, departing from the paths of honor and virtue, and deteriorating in true and noble manhood, as they yield to the insidious charms of the tempter and deceiver, alcohol. "I know whereof I speak," he continued, "because I have had experience."

At first he spoke with great deliberation; but as he warmed with his subject, he became grandly eloquent, bending and swaying the vast multitude of minds before him, as if they had been but a single mind. If Howard McKee possessed a noble physique and manly bearing at twenty, still more was he a noble and symmetrical type of manhood at thirty. His brow was broader and higher, and his blue eyes, though less brilliant, had more of the calm and considerate look of manhood.

The lecture lasted about an hour, and at its conclusion, Nellie, shunning her many friends, stole quietly out of the hall and walked rapidly homeward, as if in haste to be alone with her own thoughts. When she reached home, she found that all had retired except Aunt Jemima, who, though ostensibly engaged in reading, was in reality dozingly awaiting Miss Nellie's return. Aunt Jemima was Mr. Raymond's oldest sister, and since the death of Mrs. Raymond, about two years before the time of which we are writing, had been living at her brother's.

"Well" observed the latter lady as Nellie entered the room, "it seems to me that the lecture was rather long."

"Yes," replied Nellie, "it was some-