

Selections.

THE SALOON.

If I had the skill of "Angelo" and was going to paint a saloon, this is the style I would adopt:—

On one side of the canvass I would paint the angel of death, riding on a pale horse, his arm wielding a thunder bolt. The hoofs of his swiftly flying steed, treading down everything fair and lovely; the Garden of Eden before him, and a blacken, desolate waste behind him. On the other side I would draw a picture of a wretched hovel, once a happy home, surrounded with plenty of richest ornaments, and filled with abundant supplies, each inmate wearing a smile of contentment and happiness, but now, the roof has fallen in, the chimney is not higher than the mantle-piece. The walls are blackened with smoke and covered with soot, while the windows and cracks are stuffed with rags. In the doorway stands a weeping wife, with the children clad in rags clinging to her skirts, piteously beseeching her for bread, of which she has not a morsel to give them.

In the distance should be seen the once happy and prosperous husband and father, now a reeling drunkard, on his way from the village saloon to the hut he calls his home. On the bar, in half view of the bloated creatures that stand with the cup to their lips, I would paint a company engaged in fiendish hilarity around a fire fed by alcohol, burning in lurid flames of blue, and over this I would write in glowing letters, "here is the fuel which lights and feeds the flame that burns to lowest depths of the deepest hell."

Opposite the bar should be a lonely and dishonored grave, a lightning blasted tree should stretch its leafless branches over the desolate spot, and on a withered bow should perch a melancholy owl, hooting to the saloon keeper by the pale light of the wintery moon. At the foot of the grave should be seen the angel of mercy, kneeling with hands upraised to the pitying heavens, and at the head of the grave should be the angel of justice carving with stern relentless hand upon the tomb stone, these fearful words of doom, "No drunkard shall inherit the Kingdom of God." And the drunkard maker is worse than he.

In the intervening space I would have here, a grinning skeleton and there, a broken heart, a shattered hour-glass, a stranded boat, and torch extinguished in blackest darkness; while from over the doorway and from the ceiling, should look down all kinds of woe, stricken faces, ghostly, imploring, despairing, and deathly. The walls of the room should be shrouded in sackcloth, and the floor covered with ashes, and the bar wreathed in weeping willow and gloomy cypress, while the vessels that held the damning fluid should be black; yes, as black as the sooty walls of eternal doom.

Then I would call the saloon keeper; if he would, to take his place behind the bar; and though a few besotted wretches steeped in liquor, and hardened in crime, might stagger up to the bar and drink defiance to their fates, yet I would hope that the young, the pride of mothers, and the light of homes, would turn away as though they had caught a glimpse of the infernal regions.

There is a day appointed in which God will judge the world in righteousness, by the man whom he hath ordained to be the judge of the "living and the dead." Then will he reward every man according to his works. Then, will Christian men and women be called to account for their influence as well as their overt acts. In view of these solemn facts I beseech every one who shall read these lines, to think and ponder well the question "On which side of the line do you stand?" There are only two sides to this question, and responsible humanity stands on one side or the other of it. As to middle ground there is none at all, "He that is not for me is against me," saith the blessed Son of God, and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."

Again, read Gal. 6th ch. "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." If the poor man who has yielded to the tempting wine cup, which at the last biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder," and sends the soul of the poor drunkard into the presence of an avenging God, steeped in the foul stench of alcohol, what think you will become of the men who for the sake of money vote to license men to debauch the young men, your boy, and mine, by enticing him to drink.—Christian Guide.

PLEDGE YOUR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

Now that the Prohibitionists have shown their strength in the Plebiscite and carried a majority of the constituencies, how best to bring this influence to bear upon the Government in power, and make it felt, is a live question, and was recently discussed at the annual tea of the Church of England Temperance Society here.

It is hardly probable that any Government will bring down a National prohibitory Law unless they feel that they have strength enough in parliament to carry it through. Sir John A. Macdonald once said to a temperance delegation who waited upon him, that if there was such a burning desire in the hearts of the people for Prohibition, it would certainly be manifest in Parliament, and members would be elected who would champion the cause upon the floor of the House of Commons. This certainly is a very common sense remark, and one which any Premier might well make.

It would seem therefore, that the proper course for prohibitionists now to take, is to insist upon the candidate nominated at party conventions pledging to vote in favor of a prohibitory law if presented in Parliament by any Government or member. If this was done, it would only be a few years until a lot of members were tied up hard and fast for Prohibition.

Why not try this in East Simcoe? After carrying the riding by about three hundred majority, either party ought to get its candidate to come out flat footed on the right side of this question. It is said politicians will stand on their heads if they can only be convinced that it is popular to do so. Why then, should they not be ready to accept the expressed wish of the majority, and cast their influence in favor of the abolishing of the liquor traffic.—Orillia Times.

PRINCIPLE BEFORE PARTY.

It is perfectly clear that both parties are afraid of each other's alliance with the liquor fraternity. It ought to be perfectly plain that neither party has any respect for public opinion that, in face of rich and powerful interests, is incapable of adequate expression at the ballot box, and fails to secure representation upon the floors of parliament. The liquor traffic is a powerful political ally, a fierce and inveterate foe.

Only by following Sir John Macdonald's advice and sending a majority of prohibitionists to parliament, can we hope for its enactment and enforcement. We cannot get it by voting blindly for distillers and brewers, or shareholders in the business, or their nominees screened by party banners and endorsement. What hope have we in looking to a party which, in a constituency that gave a large majority for prohibition, gives a distiller a unanimous nomination? Both parties will accept the nominees of distillers and brewers if they can succeed in hoodwinking their temperance supporters.

If prohibitionists are honest, true, intelligent and patriotic, they have got no alternative, sooner or later they must see that to vote for the man or devil nominated by parties blind, deaf, dumb, paralyzed in face of a great peril, is simply playing into the enemy's hands. Vote for

"Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office can not buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor, men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And scorn his treacherous flatteries without winking;
Tall men, sun crowned, who live above the fog
In public duty and in private thinking.
For while the rabble will their thumb-worn creeds,
Their loud professions and their little deeds,
Mingle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps,
Wrong rules the land, and waiting Justice sleeps.

—Forward.

GREAT OFFER.
READ CAREFULLY.

his paper. You will need it more and more as the prohibition fight gets on, and the issue of prohibition is before our Legislatures. Read carefully it in column headed "Important" on page 2.

Although the price of the CAMP FIRE—Twenty-five cents per year—is very low, we have decided to make a special offer of premiums for subscriptions received during the early part of the present year.

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FAMOUS DIALECT RECITATIONS.



This book contains a large and careful selection of the most popular recitations in the Yankee, Negro, German, Irish and other dialects, and is full of the best and most amusing recitations of the day. The contents embrace humorous, dramatic and pathetic selections, both in prose and verse, some of which are the following: "The Stolen Watermelon," "The Spelling Book at Angel's," "Caleb's Courtship," "Denver Jim," "The Foreclosure of the Mortgage," "The Bartender's Story," "The Hunkin' Bee," "Grandpa's Courtship," "The Cowboy's Christmas Ball," "Tommy's Confession," "The Surprise Party in Dutchtown," "Old Daddy Turner," "Paddy's Courtship," "Davy and Gollard," "The Blacky Bootblack," "Little Johnnie's Christmas," "Joe's Wife," "Uncle Anderson on Prosperity," "The Irishman's Panorama," "Biddy's Troubles," etc., etc. The contents of this book have been selected with great care, the aim being to include only the best, hence it contains the cream of fifty of the ordinary recitation books, and is without doubt the best collection of dialect recitations and readings ever published. A book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers. It will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

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