

The Temperance Cause.

INTEMPERANCE IN JAPAN.

A MISSIONARY in Japan sent to a Christian paper in Tokio a notable article on sake drinking. Besides ably discussing the question in sanitary and religious aspects, he gives some striking and interesting facts. It seems that the Chinese Emperor Buo, three-thousand years ago, was a radical temperance reformer. His laws on the subject were strict, and their violation was punished by death. This system, somewhat modified, was afterwards introduced into Japan, where it remained in force nearly a thousand years. But its influence has long since been lost. To-day intemperance is one of the growing and desperate evils of Japan. The Japanese spend yearly 80,000,000 you, or more than \$50,000,000 for sake, in the manufacture of which 26,000,000 bushels of rice are consumed, or almost one-fifth of the total yield of the country, leaving a short allowance for food, and none for export. This one drink costs the people as much as does their entire government. The temperance question is, then, for Japan, as for many another more Christian land, a very serious and pressing one, which we hope the present large outpouring of the Spirit will do much to solve.

THE United Kingdom Alliance, which has for thirty years carried on a vigorous campaign against the liquor traffic, has prepared the statistics of the past year, from which some idea of the magnitude of the liquor trade in Great Britain may be gathered. Thus for 1883 no less than 1,900,000 licenses for the sale of intoxicating drinks were issued. The annual turn over of this mighty vested interest is £134,000,000, or nearly \$700,000,000. The abstainers, men, women, and children, all told, are computed by the alliance leaders to number not more than four millions out of the entire population.

Mr. George R. Sims in his fourth letter on "Horrible London" asserts that more than one-fourth of the daily earnings of the denizens of the slums goes over the bars of the public houses and gin palaces. Showing how close a relation intemperance bears to the terrible problem which now fills such a large portion of the public mind, he gives several illustrations.

It is the custom in England, on Christmas, to give the postmen hot drinks when they go around with letters. In December, the Post-master-general issued a circular begging people to remember that this is a mistaken kindness, which is "calculated to bring the postmen into trouble and disgrace.

SIR ASTLEY COOPER says; "I never suffer ardent spirits to be in my house thinking them evil spirits; and if the poor could see the white livers, dropsies and shattered nervous systems which I have seen as a consequence of drinking, they would be aware that spirits and poison are synonymous terms.

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What is Catarrh?

(From the Mail, Can., Dec. 14th). CATARRH is a mucous-purulent discharge caused by the presence and development of the vegetable parasite amoeba in the internal lining membrane of the nose. This parasite is only developed under favorable circumstances, and these are:—Morbid state of the blood, as the blighted corpuscle of tubercle, the germ poison of syphilis, mercury, toxæmia, from the retention of the effluvia of the skin, suppressed perspiration, badly ventilated sleeping apartments, and other poisons that are germinated in the blood. These poisons keep the internal lining membrane of the nose in a constant state of irritation, ever ready for the deposit of the seeds of these germs, which spread up the nostrils and down the fauces, or back of the throat, causing ulceration of the throat, up the eustachian tubes, causing deafness; burrowing in the vocal cords, causing hoarseness; usurping the proper structure of the bronchial tubes, ending in pulmonary consumption and death. Many attempts have been made to discover a cure for this distressing disease by the use of inhalants and other ingenious devices, but none of these treatments can do a particle of good until the parasites are either destroyed or removed from the mucous-tissue. Some time since a well-known physician of 40 years' standing, after much experimenting, succeeded in discovering the necessary combination of ingredients which never fails in absolutely and permanently eradicating this horrible disease, whether standing for one year or forty years. Those who may be suffering from the above disease should, without delay, communicate with the business managers, Messrs. A. H. DIXON & SON, 305 King street west, Toronto, and get full particulars and treatise free by enclosing stamp.

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S. P. C. K. Depository, WM. GOSSIP'S No. 103 Granville Street, Halifax. Commentary on Old and New Testament, Bookform, and in serial parts, at 15c. a number. In Volumes, \$1 each. The Narrow Way, 17c. Communicants Manual, by Bishop How, Bishop Oxenden, Sadler, Burbidge, Wilson, from 16c. 25c. Blomfield's Family Prayers, 23c. Commentary on Book of Common Prayer, 63c. Dr. Barry's Commentary on Prayer Book, 75c. Large supply of Church Tracts, Confirmation Cards, Baptism Cards, Cards for first Communion, Lectures on Confirmation, (Morse) 30c. Official Year Book for 1884, 75c. Book of Offices, \$2.50 and \$1.50.

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