

the enjoyment which comes to us from its proper use.

1. Prohibition denies me my right to this moderate and social enjoyment, which, I claim, no man has a right to do. You have a right as a community or a society to prevent anything that hurts or injures the welfare of the community at large. No one disputes our right to regulate for the benefit and progress of the whole, but we do deny the right of king or state to deprive the individual of his personal enjoyment and social amusement, when his enjoyment and amusement does not interfere with anybody else. If you as a society have a right to interfere with my personal liberty as to how I shall entertain and amuse and enjoy myself, when I do not interfere or injure or molest another soul, then you may claim the right to come into my bedroom, and into my bathroom, and into my study, and into my dining room, and Prohibit me from sleeping, excepting for "work" purposes from bathing, excepting for "appearances"; from reading and studying, excepting for "utility objects," and from eating, excepting for "strength purposes." I must not eat because I like, because I relish, because it suits my palate; I must only eat to gain strength.

If you have the right to stop me drink for pleasure, and enjoyment and sociability, you have the right to do the above.

But surely, this is carrying social rights and authority too far. There surely must be a limit to the rights and authority over personal liberty of even the King and country.

And this is the limit. Abraham Lincoln laid down a wise law when he said: "I am for the people of the whole nation doing just as they please in all matters which concern the whole nation; for that of each part doing just as they choose in all matters which concerns no other part; and for each individual doing just as he chooses in all matters which concerns no one else."

This is the line. When my drinking and eating and sleeping and reading and walking does interfere with some one else, then my liberty becomes a license, and the state can step in. That is ABUSE. Now you have a right to interfere with my liberty