

TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

An article in the *Guardian* gives an awful account of the 'Poor Man's Beer' drunk in England. Probably a similar character could be given to the whisky drunk in this country. The deleterious stuff palmed off on the working man to do duty for these respective articles is something terrible to think of. The mad effects resulting must be put down in a large measure to such adulteration. 'The horrible game,' says the writer, 'is, I believe, going on still over the whole country. The beer which many labourers drink is first 'stretched' with water, and then its strength and taste brought up again by means which I am told that a certain class of men called 'brewers' druggists' understand very well. 'That there beer always do make a man so thusty,' said a labourer's wife to me, speaking of the stuff sold under a great provincial brewer's name in one of my village houses. A gentleman, belated after hunting, is said to have called in for something to eat and drink at a village 'public.' Such as they had was set before him, but, said the good woman, 'I doubt you won't like the beer, sir. 'Tis only that there muck of X---'s. It was Mr. X--- himself, the great brewer in question, who was sitting before her, pleased, no doubt, with her appreciation of the means by which his good fortune had been made.'

Among the vile stuffs requisitioned for the purpose are tobacco, cocculus medicus, molasses, 'eye and head ache,' and black copperas. We believe that vitriol is a common ingredient in the whisky retailed in the low gin palaces throughout Ireland. It would be a movement in the right direction if the friends of temperance, while they are fighting the drink traffic, would put forth some of their strength to bring it about that as long as men will drink they shall at least get pure beer and pure John Barley-corn.—*Irish Eccles. Gazette.*

The praiseworthy attempt of the authorities of the Church Army (London) to reclaim tramps and inebriates has now had a short trial, which has furnished some statistics that enable us to judge of the hopefulness of the effort and its probable success in the future. The home was opened last January, and between then and now has received fifty men. Of this number seventeen turned out to be failures—twelve from drink, one committed a theft and absconded, four were idle and were discharged. This leaves 33, of whom fourteen are now in the home, and appear to be hopeless cases. The remaining nineteen have 'been restored to society and self-respect,' and are all—except one young man, who has gone back to the parental roof—earning their livelihood in various situations, and receiving on an average 25s. per week. This scheme of practical philanthropy has, it will be seen, secured a large measure of success. The percentage of failures appears, at first sight, to be high—about 33 per cent—but when the

character of the material is considered, it is, we think, rather a matter of astonishment that it is not greater. Certainly the restoration to society and self-respect of two of every three of those who enter the home is no slight evidence of the success of the effort.

The managers of the great International Fair and Exposition of the United States and Canada, to be held in Detroit, Mich., Aug. 26th to Sept. 5th, inclusive, have rigidly excluded all forms of gambling, and all selling of intoxicating beverages, from their buildings and grounds. In order to prevent evasions of this strict temperance policy, the Association has printed in the body of all its contracts and licenses for restaurant, lunch, dining and all other refreshment privileges, a conditional clause that the license may be revoked if this condition is evaded. As this great International Fair was attended last year by a quarter of a million of people, and a much larger attendance is expected this year, many thousands of dollars have been vainly offered the managers for privileges to sell intoxicating beverages, and also many thousands for licenses for various gambling devices. This course is adopted by the managers, not only because they consider it right, but also because it is believed by these shrewd and experienced business men to be the policy best calculated to please and attract vast numbers of the well to do classes of people from all over the continent.

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