

a thousand of such acts do not create a ruffian on the surface of society? But as we wish not to arouse indignation against the rum seller, we do not ask for it. We ask for pity for the liquor seller, and for the exhibition of that pity by driving him from his trade. His trade is hardening his heart to flint; it is brutalizing his soul; it is benumbing his conscience; it is leading him to hell. Let then renewed efforts be put forth to close these dens, so fatal alike to buyer and seller.—*Am. Presbyterian.*

### INTERESTING EXPERIMENT WITH JUVENILE CRIMINALS.

Two or three years ago general attention was drawn to the sad prevalence of juvenile crime, and a society for its prevention was formed in Liverpool, under the title of the Liverpool Juvenile Reformatory Association. The first principle laid down was, that the institution should be conducted entirely on Protestant principles, so far as the religious portion of the training was concerned, and upon this understanding the Association was brought into operation. The next principle adopted was, that the experiment should be tried upon boys alone at first, and that these boys should be bred to the habits of a seafaring life. The admiralty granted for the purpose of a school frigate the "Akbar," which was originally a 50 gun frigate, and which had lain useless for many years as a lazaretto. Upon getting possession of this very suitable craft, the Committee went to work to make the necessary alterations and repairs required to render her quite fit for their purpose. In this way about £2000 of the money subscribed has been expended to the present time, as a training school the "Akbar" is now almost perfect. The system pursued is that of a man of war. The boys are divided into two watches, port and starboard, and subdivided again into fore-castle men, fore-top, maintop, and mizentop men, and the after-guard. They are under the absolute control of a superintendent, who ranks not lower than a Commander in the royal navy, and he is assisted by a schoolmaster, boatswain, second boatswain, carpenter, steward, cook, master-at-arms, and two seamen, all, with the exception of the schoolmaster, formerly belonging to the royal navy. The system of discipline is carried out with a view of "leading" the boys, rather than "driving" them, to be good; but a strict obedience to orders is enforced. This should be done, so as to render wild spirits amenable to the requirements of order and morality, without tyrannizing over them; but those who doubt the possibility of doing it should pay a visit to the "Akbar."

Hitherto the "Akbar" has, partly from motives of economy, been moored in the centre of the Great Float, at Birkenhead; but as the Float has shortly to be run dry, in order to be deepened, it lately became necessary to remove her into the river. Just as the vessel moved through the dock gates, the youngsters sprang up aloft manned the yards, sang a verse of "God save the Queen," and cheered most lustily and loyally. A very large concourse of people were spectators of this scene from the quays and the windows of the houses looking upon the docks. It was during the short trip from the Birkenhead docks to the moorings in the Mersey, and the operations which succeeded, that the lads gave the visitors a taste of their quality in seamanship. There were various bawlers and lines to be

hailed on board, stowed away, or made ready for paying out again; sundry blocks to be rove on to tackles, and numerous other nautical feats to be accomplished, all of which the little fellows got through in a smart, seaman-like manner. Not a bad word was spoken; there were no sour looks, no skulkers; but all the lads seemed to take a pride in what is popularly termed "showing off" their abilities before the visitors. While the vessel was being moored, the visitors were shown over her, and many interesting anecdotes were related in illustration of the improved dispositions of the boys. It appears that the first great change which has to be effected in their characters when they are received on board in their vagrant state, is to make them "boys." They are all too old, too knowing, too sharp, when they come on board; too much up to the ways of the world,—and not the best ways either,—and too little acquainted with that childish innocence which exhibits itself in a love of play. When they step on board they are mere city grubs, whose hands are against every man, and who believe that every man's hand is against them. Strange anomaly as it may seem, they have to be taught to play as well as to work. They readily learn to do both. In addition to the arts of seamanship, of learning how to reef, and steer, and splice, and brace, they are taught how to make their own boots, trousers, blue shirts, and sea-chests, and they were justly proud of a grand display they had got up in honor of the occasion; the whole ship's company being rigged out in new white "ducks" of their own making.—*Liverpool Courier.*

### A GLASS OF BRANDY.

It can't hurt any body! Why, I know a person, yonder he is now, a specimen of manly beauty, a portly six-footer. He has the bearing of a prince, for he is one of our merchant princes. His face wears the hue of health, and now at the age of fifty odd, he has the quick, elastic step of our young men of twenty-five, and none more full of mirth and wit than he, and I know he never dines without brandy and water, and never goes to bed without a terrapin or oyster supper, with plenty of champagne; and more than that, he was never known to be drunk. So here is a living example and disproof of the temperance twaddle about the dangerous nature of an occasional glass, and the destructive effect of a temperate use of good liquors.

Now it so happened that this specimen of safe brandy drinking, was a relation of ours. He died in a year or two after that, of chronic diarrhoea, a common end of those who are never drunk, nor even out of liquor. He left his six children; and he had ships at every sea and credit at every counter, which he never had occasion to use.

For months before he died—he was a year in dying—he could eat or drink nothing without distress, and at death, the whole alimentary canal was a mass of disease; in the midst of his millions, he died of inanition. That is not the half, reader. He had been a steady drinker, a daily drinker for twenty-eight years. He left a legacy to his children, which he did not mention. Scrofula had eaten up one daughter for fifteen years; another is in the mad house; the third and fourth of unearthly beauty, there was a kind of grandeur in that beauty; and they blighted, and paled and faded into heaven we trust in their sweetest teens; another is tottering on

the verge of the grave, and only one is left with all the senses, and each of them is weak as water. Why, we came from the dissecting room, and made a note of it, it was so horrible.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

A CLERICAL GENTLEMAN AND A NINE GALLON CASK.—No less than four young men employed by me, as clerks or amanuenses, victims to the "besetting sin," who, otherwise, were men of talents and probity. One was a clergyman who had produced three respectable literary works, from whom I had anticipated valuable assistance at a time when I was oppressed with the periodical production of the Beauties of England, the Architectural Antiquities, and other engagements. He was invited to my house and expected to render me daily aid in my library. Unfortunately, I had a nine gallon cask of stout "Kennet ale" just tapped at the time. He was delighted with its quality and flavor, praised it as the most wholesome and nutritious of all liquors, said that it excelled the nectar, the hippocras, the methueglin of the gods and men of former times, and that his talents would be called forth by its salubrious and animating powers. In the mornings he seemed attentive to his task, and busy and zealously employed in studying books, writing notes &c. A fortnight passed in this way: very little was written, and that little useless. The nine gallons of ale were gone, and I found it necessary to part with my clerical friend. He then took lodgings in Kentish Town: was often seen going into and coming out of a certain public house.—In a few months afterwards he was discovered a corpse in the street.—*Britton's Autobiography.*

LEARN TO OBSERVE.—The habit of constant, accurate observation is of priceless value to a person. None enjoy a better opportunity to exercise this habit, than the gardener and the farmer. They are brought into close and almost constant contact with nature, where they ever behold the workings of her processes, both in the animal and vegetable world. How delightful to read, study, and observe these legible pages of "animated nature," whose leaves are ever spread out before the seekers of knowledge and understanding. By observation, priceless wisdom is obtained. Therefore with your crop, get what is better than gold or merchandise.

## Poetry.

### THE WORLD'S GREAT ENEMY.

BY H. ROWLAND BROWN.

There's a demon forth! there's a demon forth!  
He roameth a conqueror free.

He is loosed from the realms of dark despair,  
And a maniac's laugh, laughs he.  
He leaps in ten thousand fearful breasts,  
He mocketh the haggard eye,  
And death and disease are his bosom friends,  
Want, sorrow, and misery.

He goeth forth with a treacherous smile,  
And his blood stain'd banner we see:  
His hand doth the fairest scenes defile,  
But followers many has he.

I see him go forth in the dark, dark night,  
He goes with a flashing eye,  
And mocks, with a fiend's impure light,  
The God of the Heavens on high.