

prevalent, will support on an average 200 to the square mile. This would swell the amount of population more than a hundred times greater than it now is--and according to these speculations our own expressive language will daily be spoken by more than one-half of the entire number.

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### I see a Man.

I do not see his shabby dress,  
I see him in his manliness;  
I see his axe; I see his spade;  
I see a man that God has made;  
If such a man before you stand,  
Give him your heart--give him your hand  
And praise your maker for such men;  
They make this old earth young again.

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### What might be done?

What might be done if men were wise--  
What glorious deeds, my suffering brother,  
Would they unite,  
In love and right,  
And cease their scorn of one another?

What might be done? *This* might be done,  
And more than *this*, my suffering brother--  
More than the tongue  
Ever said or sung,  
If men were wise, and loved each other.

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### The Pledge.

A pledge we make,  
No wine to take;  
No brandy red,  
To turn the head;  
No whisky hot,  
That makes the sot;  
No fiery rum,  
That ruins home;  
Nor will we sin,  
By drinking gin;  
Hard cider, too,  
Will never do;  
Nor brewer's beer,  
Our hearts to cheer.

To quench our thirst we always bring,  
Cold water from the well or spring;  
So here we pledge perpetual hate  
To all that can intoxicate.

## THE STAGE: A PROMOTER OF IMMORALITY.

BY J. W. M.

WHEN a disease that is infectious exists, and is likely to spread its contagion, it becomes the duty of all persons to warn the ignorant and unwary, and to apply those antidotes which are the most operative and the most lasting. Although many good men are uniting their efforts to effect the good of the rising generation--to train children to habits moral and religious--and to remove them from that heathenish darkness, which too much and too long has pervaded the region of the poorer classes of society--yet, I think with all their zeal, and all their endeavors, the desired end will not be accomplished, unless the great evil of our theatres be pointed out in a more general and public manner than has been hitherto done. It is this object which dictates the present observations; and, doubtless, the discussion of so general a question as the good or evil tendency of the stage, will prove of the greatest utility in assisting the labors of those benevolent individuals, who employ their time and their property, and exert their influence, in favor of the general good.

For my own part, I am not aware of a more delusive amusement than the stage. Nothing, perhaps, has contributed more to corrupt the morals of a people, than play-houses and stage-poets. Nor is it difficult to make this appear so to the candid inquirer, if he will call to mind the means that are used to accomplish the intention of the authors. Let us not forget the general *sentiments* of most plays. There we find that pride, resentment, and false honor are conspicuously sanctioned; that piety is very often represented in a ridiculous light; and that those who assume the character of public instructors, are made to be "wolves in sheep's clothing." It is frequently the case, that the grossest licentiousness is considered a minor fault, and matrimony, the ordinance of our Creator, is made a scene of burlesque, and contemptuous merriment. Is not the rake frequently the favorite of the piece? and at the end of the play he often gets rewarded for his libertinism. Yet notwithstanding the no-