

have been expressed uncontroversially, and what we have to say hereafter will be said without reference to persons or parties.—The annexed, which we copy from the *Templar's Magazine*, is not without its directness to the question, and without endorsing all that is contained in the extract, we yet think the example of the *Conneautville Courier* worthy of imitation in so far as intoxicating drinks are concerned. The article is intended to bear particularly against patent medicines. We wish to confine our application to the whole list of strong drinks used as a beverage:—

The following article, which we find in the *Conneautville (Pa.) Courier*, comes so near our ideas of a correct position, that we cannot refrain from inserting it. We commend the course of this independent editor particularly to the conductors of temperance journals. It is well known to those who have taken the trouble to carefully examine the nostrums with which our country is flooded, that the active principle of a large portion of them is alcohol. Many others contain poisons equally as deleterious, and the evil consequences arising from the whole family of patent medicines are second only to those from the use of intoxicating drinks. We confess, when we see temperance papers advertising such vile stuff, we are half inclined to believe they would advertise rum, brandy, &c., if they were not afraid of losing subscribers. But to the article:

"It is amusing to witness the astonishment exhibited by agents and vendors of medical nostrums, on application at this office for the purpose of getting their panaceas, balms, elixirs, bitters, &c., advertised, when informed that the columns of the *Courier* are forever barred against them.

"What, not advertise patent medicines, when we pay you more liberally for the same amount of services than any other class of advertising customers? besides, if required, payment will be made in advance."

"We believe the ten thousand popular medicines offered to the public, and represented to be infallible cures for diseases," said we in reply to the above interrogatory, the other day, "to consist of the most heartless impositions ever offered to an unthinking public. An analysis of several of these compounds proves them such. The celebrated German bitters, which we see generally advertised by our exchanges, and of which it is said very liberal sales are made, were tested in Philadelphia a year or two ago, and shown to contain nothing but molasses, whiskey and wormwood. The sarsaparilla extracts, which abound in our shops and are advertised in almost every paper in the country, contain in most cases more of *corrosive sublimate*, a most deadly poison, than of sarsaparilla. We believe the whole class of these secret medicines to be injurious to health, else their discoverers, who make such claims to be "benefactors to their race," would make the secret public, that all might enjoy its advantages. Benefactors usually show some benevolence, but we are not conscious of any discoverer of a remedy which will prolong human life, and who has turned his attention to the manufacture of his panacea, who has exhibited any traits of this kind, unless it were in the sale of his medicine at an exorbitant price."

"I have travelled through the northern states the last three years," said he in reply, "and devoted my whole time to the establishment of local agencies for the sale of patent medicines, and to the making of contracts with printers for advertising, and you are the first person I have met with who has objected to publishing our advertisements. Religious and temperance papers have alike opened their columns to our use, and I cannot see why you should set yourself up as a model in this particular."

"We do not set ourself up as a model, though we believe that the public press would be doing their readers good service should they take us for an example in this, as also in advertising the sale of spirituous liquors."

"You do not pretend to say that you will not advertise the sale of spirituous liquors in your paper?"

"We do pretend to say so, and more than that, we do not advertise them on any consideration whatever."

"Well, you are a strange fellow, and shall be reported to Barnum as a curiosity. Refuse money when offered for advertising, because by so doing you will be instrumental in carrying out an imposition which others are practising upon the public! A model editor, truly! You will command a good price, and the great curiosity humbug shall have the pleasure of exhibiting you through

the principal Atlantic cities, if money is any consideration to you. Jenny Lind or the woolly horse sinks into the shade."

"Our astonished customer, during the delivery of his last remarks, had opened the door, ready for a precipitate retreat down stairs. He closed it with the last expression, and we have not seen him since—whether he is trying to make the necessary arrangements with the exhibitor of Jenny Lind to bring us before the public, will be determined in due time."

"The above is but one of the many dialogues which occur almost weekly in this office on the subject of advertising patent medicines. We have another for which we came near being whipped by the proprietor of the compound, which we may be induced to relate after a while."

The Sabbath.—The Sons.

We take the earliest opportunity of expressing our total dissent from the doctrine laid down by a professed organ of the Sons of Temperance, respecting the sanctity of the Sabbath, and the test of religious character. We regard the opinions of the writer to whom we refer, not only as unsound and unsatisfactory, but also, as immoral and dangerous. Quoting scripture as a text, and making the divine Saviour justify Sabbath breaking is most unwarrantable, and proves the incapacity of the writer for holding any responsible situation as the guide of mind and morals. Most gladly do we know and state it unhesitatingly, that the Sons as such do not hold and teach the miserable system of casuistry, which has more than once disfigured the pages of what pretends to be a literary gem. We congratulate Mr. A. McCallum on the way he has defended the gospel and the Sons, against the fatal errors of one who is not and never will be the appointed exponent of our faith and practice either as Sons or Christians. We leave this matter for the present, but shall return to it at an early opportunity.

The Maine Law.—P. T. Barnum.

One of the most enthusiastic and delightful meetings we ever had the pleasure of attending, was held on Friday evening last, in the City Concert Hall. It had been announced by the Montreal Temperance Society that the man whose name is known all the world over, as the synonym for curiosity, would appear before our citizens and give a lecture on Temperance and the Maine Law. He came! Some even doubted whether the genuine Barnum would appear and speak; but, when that manly figure with well-formed and expressive countenance stepped forth, there was no longer doubt. Senses and wit, pathos and power, striking anecdote and withering sarcasm were combined; and, for a couple of hours, about two thousand people were unable to wish themselves away, but seemed at the end to regret that it was not to be their privilege to sit and hear till midnight. At the present we have not space for Mr. Barnum's speech—in our next we hope to furnish copious extracts. Suffice it now to say, that his explanation and defence of the Maine law was most complete and satisfactory, his illustrations clear and convincing; and we do not see how any individual could answer his argument or justify the traffic in liquor. This first direct Maine Law Meeting in Montreal was well attended, and will have its beneficial effects. His honor the Mayor kindly presided. Mr. Barnum's services were entirely voluntary. All the expenses were paid by him—his lecture was free, and he desired the Montreal Temperance Society to take up a collection for the purpose of aiding them in their benevolent operations. We desire to express our gratitude for this generous conduct on the part of Mr. Barnum. We hope he will not lose anything by devoting some time and strength to the great end of gaining the Maine Law for all America. He strug-