

TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

Church Bells, London, England, says:

The chief difficulty of the Temperance reformer in London and our large towns is to suggest what folk are to drink if you debar them from the foaming tankards of the public-house. Water from the crystal spring is refreshing and delightful, but water which has come through miles of lead pipe is flat and uninteresting. We cannot always use tea, coffee, or cocoa. Most non-alcoholic aerated waters are either chemical or medicinal in taste; so that any trader who can produce a really palatable drink, which is not intoxicant, and which can be sold at a popular price, is a real benefactor to the race. Mr. Henry Lowenfield, after years of experiment and an expenditure of £50,000, claims that he can now supply a 'good, wholesome, non-alcoholic drink, acceptable and accessible to all classes.' 'Kops ale,' as he calls it, is brewed from Kentish hops, on a similar method to honest English home brewed ale, and yet it is free from alcohol. The official organ of the Cyclists' Union, with nearly thirty thousand members, after a year's trial, recommends Kops ale as the only thirst quenching non alcoholic beverage which has come under their notice. Mr. Lowenthal is so confident of the value of his Kops ale that he publicly offers to send a sample dozen free of charge to any magistrate, clergyman, doctor, or public official in London. We have availed ourselves of the offer, and have invited our friends to taste and test this beverage, and the only criticism of Temperance enthusiasts is, that in colour, 'head,' and taste, it is too like the real article! Nevertheless, it contains less alcohol than lemonade. We hope that Kops ale may soon become popular. The brewery at Wandsworth Bridge, Fulham, turns out, we are told, 75,000 bottles a day, and the plant is shortly to be doubled. Every Temperance worker and lecturer should make trial of Kops ale, and then, when the complaint is made that teetotalers are robbing the poor man of his beer, the reply will be available—Not of his beer, but only of the drugged and doctored stuff which passes under that name.

The Home Secretary, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said it was correct that the number of apprehensions for drunkenness had risen from 20,658 in 1887 to 27,368 in 1889, while the average number of summonses against crink sellers in the same period did not exceed 146.

Mr. Walter Besant, who was formerly in favor of having intoxicating drinks sold at the East London People's Palace, now says that it has been proved that no one wants them.

The report on the spread of drunkenness in Russia which has lately appeared makes sad reading. It seems there are 150,000 village drinking houses that are licensed,

and perhaps an equal number of secret beer and spirit 'Kabaks.' Drunkenness among women is reported to be enormously on the increase.

LADY MACDONALD AS AN AUTHOR.

Just before her bereavement, Lady Macdonald, widow of the late Sir John Macdonald, completed her first ambitious literary effort in a series of articles for The Ladies' Home Journal, the first one of which will appear in the August number of that periodical. Last summer Lady Macdonald, with a party of friends, traveled in her private car through the most picturesque parts of Canada, and in a delightfully fresh manner she describes her experiences on this trip, in these articles to which she has given the title of 'An Unconventional Holiday.' A series of beautiful illustrations, furnished by Lady Macdonald, will accompany the articles.

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