

## CAESAR'S BETTER HALF.

The late Colonel Morrison, a cousin of an "ill" Morrison, of Illinois, was quite an orator and liked to meet his friends at the festive board. One night he returned from a banquet at which he had been with his friends with him to enter the house and enjoy a night cap or two. His friends remonstrated, saying that the hour was late to disturb the family. The Colonel insisted that he should enter, and breaking up, started with emphasis that he was Caesar in his own house. Mrs. Morrison, who had waited for her liege lord, was leaning out of the window and delivered himself thus: "You may go home, gentleman; I'll take care of Caesar." The Colonel's form at once disappeared into his residence.—*Bonifant's Wine and Spirit Gazette.*

## FAULT FINDING GUESTS.

People Should Remember What They Pay and Have Consideration for Running Expenses.

The guest who criticizes a hotel and its management will do well to take into consideration how much himself is doing at the table, it may require the special power of observation to recognize the fact that the house could employ more waiters and thus add to the service; that the stock of champagne might be replenished and the appearance of the tables thereby enhanced; that new table linen would not come amiss and that in minor details the house is capable of being improved. The guest is not infrequently able to reason thus far, and were he only given the enviable position of manager what a reform would speedily come off! But from the manager's side, there is room for improvement, and how eagerly would such improvements be inaugurated were there no obstacles in the way. But the hotels in which a manager has the authority to act, and in which the hotel management are few and far between, and seldom if ever are they found in the moderate-priced establishments, where a guest has the right to expect only that for which he pays. There is occasionally a hotel plant, owned by some wealthy corporation, perhaps conducted in connection with a railway line, where the profits are not the first consideration, and where perfection in service and display are the results most desired. But even in these instances there comes a time when the stockholders wish to know why the hotel does not pay, and the manager is asked to "cut down the help" must be employed, cheaper supplies must take the place of first-class goods. The change that comes over the manager's dream of how things should be and how they actually will be, is not a sudden one, and to add to it the nightmare the guests begin to observe the change. Blame is laid on the manager, who must grin and bear it or step out.

In the case of the proprietor the same rule frequently applies. He is not conducting the house for fame or glory. The rule made on opening the house that as soon as a dish is chipped it should be put upon the retired table goes good in its day; it involved a high principle in hotel keeping, but stern facts are now dead against it. But, says one, you cannot afford to use chipped dishes, or old linen. It will not pay to discuss some of the working force; the best service is none too good. True and not true. Surely no one knows better (in most instances) than the man whose money, time and effort are at stake will not pay, and what will not pay, it may be very desirable to purchase a new dining-room outfit, but with no balance in the bank the wish is overthrown by the most incontrovertible of

arguments—the utter impossibility of gratifying it. The careful proprietor makes the most of what is abundant; he looks to cleanliness, to see that the help employed does its duty, that there is no shirking, makes the purchase of supplies the paramount question in his mind, and, if possible showing he can under the circumstances. In doing this he may, if he happen to be proprietor, be guided by circumstances not understood by the guest; and he is left to his own judgment. The hotel that is making money is far more apt to be superior in every way to the long-established one, and the difference in the two cannot be laid upon the shoulders of the manager of the more unfortunate house.

## "IT WAS NOT ALWAYS THUS."

SOME years ago England's Grand Old Man gave expression to the view which statesmen of eminence in all countries entertain at present with regard to the liquor traffic. Said Gladstone in the speech referred to: "The principle upon which the case of the two cannot be laid upon the shoulders of the manager of the more unfortunate house. The duties upon spirits has been, not that we ought to lower the duties upon them as much as we can consistently with the interests of the revenue, but that we ought to raise the duties upon them as much as we can consistently with the policy and necessity of preventing the growth of a contraband trade. That liquors should be taxed, regardless of the necessities of the Government, is undubitably the prevalent opinion of public men in all countries. But, we may add, though entertained by so venerable a man as Gladstone, it is but a modern opinion at best, viz. it is the outgrowth of a wide-spread hostility to the liquor-traffic. It is one of the indications, not of the growth of prohibition itself, but of the spread of the sentiment that it is as such a source of never ceasing alarm to the manufacturer and dealer alike. Such opinions having gained almost universal foothold, what will be the next step in the crusade against this ancient and honorable calling?"

It is no part of our purpose in this connection to enter upon any criticism of the principle expounded by the late Premier of England, however promising the field might seem to be. We are satisfied for the present in showing that it is a principle of modern development. It is quite as ripe in the United States as in England. We are not prepared to discuss to-day the temperance relations of the liquor traffic, but it is a notorious fact that her now world-wide commerce was largely founded on spirits.

Without the inducement to raise the price of the distilleries upon foreign markets that country would not to-day be known as the foremost country of traders on the globe. And quite naturally when her ships were seeking every port and harbor of the sixteenth world, freighted with alcoholic beverages, her rulers did not consider that spirits was the one product which might be taxed to the extreme limit.

And so in this country. When New England found it expedient and profitable to manufacture rum, and to make it the very staple of her foreign commerce, nobody ever heard of prohibition in that section of the Union, nor yet of taxing the product all it would bear. Indeed it is a matter of history that the Christian missionaries sent out by the early Puritans found their barrel of rum a better open avenue for their evil wares than any other they could carry. Spirits were all right then and not taxable beyond other legitimate products.

If we cared to go back into ancient history, we would find the Jewish history, as recorded in the Bible, that when

the Almighty sought to favor the Jews He promised them residence in countries flowing with wine and honey, as the greatest temporal blessing He could bestow upon them.

His law giver Moses, for any of the patriarchs or prophets considered that wine or strong drink were such injurious and dangerous commodities as to justify the effort to tax them out of existence, but we seem to be getting much wiser in this day and generation. Mr Gladstone plainly intimates that we must not relax a iota on the tax of spirits, but rather continue to increase the burden, until it will be no longer bearable.—*New York Wine and Spirit Gazette.*

## PASSING OF THE BRIDE.

At a recent conference of hotel proprietors the bride as a guest came up for discussion, according to the *New York Star*. All those present agreed that she has changed her habits and habits, as a shy bird, and, though as easily recognized as of old, is seldom disturbed by the big hostilities. A well known Niagara Boniface was full of regrets and indignation on the subject. He declared that the frequent and excessive newspaper paragraphs directed against her had cost him hundreds of couples annually. If a newly married pair are determined to see the Falls, they simply stop off between trains, and never as of old, philander their love making on the wide verandas. Half of the charm of Niagara vanished, so he said, when the shy, self-conscious bride was chafed out of going there, and never hopes to see the green's like again.

The manager of a famous New York hotel remarked that among the wealthy people publicly after marriage is studiously avoided. The honeymoon which was formerly passed on trains, ocean steamers or at fashionable inns, is now spent in the seclusion of a house loaned by a friend for the occasion, or else the wife goes directly to her new home. The idea, he observed, was imported from England, where brides are as choice as cut flowers, and think it bad form to show themselves for two weeks at least. Southern and Western couples, whose wedding journey is possibly the great event of their lives. But the bridal suites that used to be the pride of a hotel proprietor's heart are occupied half the time nowadays by old bachelors or married folks well on in their anniversaries.

Among the assembled company there chanced to be one or more owners of high-priced and exceedingly smart lake and mountain houses, who smiled complacently over the grumbling of the bachelors. One of them was defended the charge of affectation and papery. She very naturally objected to the smiles and inquisitive glances that followed her every appearance, resented those ostentatious, and even hung about apartments, and simply asked to be let alone, with opportunity to bill and coo in quiet nooks and glades. All four seasons the lake and country hotels of Canada, which is a growth of the last few years, offers the bride just the opportunity she craves, and, in consequence, Niagara and New York are left to mourn her loss.

## THE WINE INDUSTRY.

The Pacific coast wine crop of 1893 is nearly all in the hands of producers, and at five or six cents per gallon, according to the statements of a correspondent, who furnishes the following information: There were shipped out of California in

1893 no less than 12,500,000 gallons of wine, 500,000 of which was exported to foreign countries, leaving only 12,000,000 gallons for all the 48,000,000 people, say one gallon for every family unit of the Rocky Mountains. It is generally conceded by the best authorities that 8,000,000 gallons of wine are consumed in the Pacific Coast States and Territories. I have already accounted for over 20,000,000 gallons, shipped and consumed. The

bears of the market will claim that the bulk of the Eastern shipments was shipped to their branch houses in New York, as it was already accounted for every family unit of New York in 1893, according to statistics, 3,154,969 gallons. How much of this has been already consumed I have no means of knowing, but according to a fixed law of nature about 75,000 gallons have evaporated. Now, take into consideration 793,587 gallons of brandy shipped out of California during the year 1893, and as each gallon of proof brandy represents five gallons of wine, we find that the shipments of wine, or its equal in brandy, together with home consumption, are over 24,000,000 gallons.

The years 1892 and 1891 only fall a little more than a million short of the above. I have yet to hear any one claim that California produced over 20,000,000 gallons last season, which was by far the largest vintage of California ever produced. Now, according to the above showing, which I can prove by published statistics, there is no over-production of wine in California. There is not less than \$50,000,000 invested in California in the wine industry, a large percentage of which belongs to the growers and producer. Now the interest on this at five per cent. per annum is \$25,000,000. The dealers who control the industry do not own five per cent. of the capital invested. They propose to lay 1893 wines at five cents per gallon, or two and a half per cent. of the \$50,000,000 invested, being nothing for cost of production. Twenty million gallons of wine at five cents per gallon is \$1,250,000, and nothing left for labor or expenses.—*N. Y. Shipping and Commercial List.*

## HE GOT TIME.

*Monstrade (to prisoner)*—"So you've drunk and disorderly. What have you to say?"

*Prisoner*—"I've a good deal to say, your honor, if you give me time to do it."

*Monstrade*—"Certainly; with plain words. Second days will be enough, and if 'Our object is to please."

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