

kindled a fire in an old wooden building. She was in the habit of drinking, and when the fire commenced, it spread so rapidly it could not be stopped. This information was communicated to me by the owner of the premises."

ARABIAN SODIETY.—"The Arabian" says Malte Brun, "is sober in perfection." What the learned geographer wishes to be understood by the term *sober*, cannot well be comprehended, since the above declaration is followed by the intelligence that "spirituous liquors, though forbidden by law, are not unknown in Arabia; a plant resembling hemp is often smoked, and is productive of intoxication." The law operating to prevent the erection of distilleries, with which our land was so recently encumbered, and of which many yet remain, may have saved the Arabian from the pest of more civilized countries; but there lurks in his pipe, the same demon which stalks over the whole earth, urging the human race to eat, or drink, or smoke some reason-destroying drug, wherein it be alcohol, or tobacco, or opium, or any of the thousand other deleterious substances which different nations have sought out to produce misery, degradation and ruin.

UNIVERSALITY OF STIMULATING DRUGS.—It is believed that a portion of the people of every nation has adopted the habitual use of some poisonous drug. Those of Europe are the most numerous and destructive, and too well known to need to be specified. When the Spaniards arrived in Mexico, they found that people in the possession of their *pulque*, an intoxicating beverage which they produced from the *agave Americana*, or century plant. The English found the Indians of North America in the use of tobacco; and the natives of the Islands of the Pacific were described by the navigators as the victims of an artificial drink, which reduced those who used it to the lowest stage of misery and emaciation. The Asiatics are more or less addicted to opium and coffee; in short every quarter of the world is replete with self-inflicted misery, and woes voluntarily imposed by disobedience to the laws of nature.

TEMPERANCE IN SWEDEN.—A Frankfort (Germany) paper states that in all the domains of Sweden, there no longer exists any distillers of ardent spirits; and that a law has been made which orders that the name of any one who is intoxicated shall be posted in great letters upon the door of the church—and that the minister shall pray for him, and recommend him to the prayers of the faithful.

OUR NAVY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.—An interesting letter from the American Consul (C. Edwards Lester) to a friend in New York and published in the *Tribune*, gives a gratifying account of the condition, conduct and reputation of the American Squadron at that place last summer. He says:

"Commodore Smith you may possibly know; he is from Boston, and is a true New-Englander. Every ship in his Squadron is in perfect order, and as neat as a Shaker kitchen. Every Officer and every man knows his place. Count Admiral de Vely told me, after examining the vessels, that he had never seen a squadron in such perfect order, nor such beautiful vessels. Our Naval vessels always excite universal admiration, but this squadron is what the Italians call *ceramente in incanto*, and the Columbia is without doubt one of the most beautiful frigates in the world. You may judge of the perfect discipline of the fleet when I tell you that 1200 men came on shore, and not one broke his liberty, and only one got drunk. But the Temperance Reformation must take its share of the credit for this, for the flagship is a teetotal ship, and very little is drank in the other vessels.

"The impression created in the Mediterranean by Com. Smith's squadron, will be infinitely more to our credit than any other that has recently entered it; for generally the Italians at least have supposed our seamen were a fighting and *drunk* set of fellows. The squadron remained twelve days, and it was a season of festivity.—*Journ. Am. T. U.*

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RICH.—In a speech delivered in Boston, Deacon Moses Grant said, "It is an appalling fact that with all our Sabbath and day schools, crime among the young is on the increase, as the records of our courts and prisons will satisfy the most credulous; and why is it so? The truth must be spoken; humanity and religion demand it. I answer, then, because so many men of wealth withhold, by their example and influence, proper sympathy in the temperance reform; may more, even make money in a way injurious to society, and not only continue in a traffic known to be wrong, but rent buildings used for gambling and dissipation. O the rich then rests the fearful responsibility of such a state of things, and to them I appeal for a remedy! They may give liberally (and certainly no city does more in the way of

charity than ours,) yet that will avail but little to stem the current of vice setting in upon us at the present time. We want some thing better than money—their example and influence, openly, on the side of suffering humanity, and then we may hope that our city will continue to be what it has been, remarkable for a proper observance of the Sabbath, and respect to the institutions of our fathers, on which so much depends.—*Jour. Am. T. U.*

HORRID RESULTS OF INTERPERANCE.—The last month seems to us to have teemed with more horrid results of intemperance, in various parts of our country, than any within our recollection. To record them all, murders, suicides, fires, shipwrecks, steamboat and railroad disasters, is impossible; and when recorded, they are read with about as much indifference as police reports. It is amazing that the people sit so quietly under the ruin traffic, and still more so that any beings claiming to be human, can be found to carry it on. Blood must be shed much more copiously, and all the foundations of domestic bliss and public tranquility broken up before the people will rise and drive this traffic from the land. One of the most shocking events connected with the trade has occurred at Hanover, Plymouth Co., Mass., the murder of three men by a rum-seller, not indeed by his rum, but by his rifle. On St. Patrick's day, 17th of March, a company of Irishmen went to the house of one Seth Perry to procure spirits, the only place within ten or fifteen miles, where it could be obtained. From some cause a scuffle took place between a drunken man, Bates, who was in the house, and one of the Irishmen, when Perry took a double barreled gun and shot the Irishman, and afterward, with the other barrel, shot a brother of the murdered man, both through or near the heart. He then procured another loaded musket, and deliberately shot another man, who was running off, through the jaw. On searching the house after the event there were found seven muskets, all of which were loaded except the two discharged at the men.—There was also a most plentiful supply of spirits, casks, &c., barrels and bottles and runlets of rum, brandy, wine, &c. The multitude gathered to witness the spectacle, could hardly be repressed from burning the house, and were only restrained by having the barrels and bottles put out, which they broke to pieces as fast as they came in reach. An indignation meeting was called at Faneuil Hall, Boston, where the voice of Messrs. Grant, Kellogg, Hunt, Russell and Father Taylor were nobly raised against this traffic in sorrow, blood and death, and a series of spirited resolutions were adopted, denouncing it as it should be denounced by all good men.—*Id.*

AN ADMISSION.—Many persons give it as a reason why they will not sign the pledge, "I can leave off drinking just as well without signing the pledge as with;" thus unwittingly acknowledging that they do drink, else, how could they leave off? also, that they do not intend to leave off drinking at present, for they talk of their ability to leave off when they have a mind to. The truth is, they can neither leave off drinking nor sign the pledge, until they become very different persons from what they now are. Their ability is as good as that of the runner who says, "I can repent when I have a mind to," and no better.—*Id.*

NEW SECRET SOCIETIES.—The rum-sellers in Massachusetts are forming themselves into secret societies, called lodges, for the better enjoyment of the privileges which God has given them. One has been established at Plymouth with a sign which shall be revealed to each member, but shall be kept a secret and no member shall reveal it.—*Id.*

TEMPERANCE TRIUMPH.—The citizens of Augusta, Main, by a vote of three to one, have decided that the selectmen of the town shall appoint two men to sell alcoholic liquors for mechanical and medical purposes only, and that these persons shall keep a record of all they sell, the individuals to whom sold, the quantities delivered, and the purposes used for. The profits shall go to the town—a reasonable compensation being allowed to the sellers for their trouble.—*Id.*

LICENSES IN MASSACHUSETTS.—The County Commissioners for the county of Franklin at a recent session, decided, unanimously, that in their opinion, the public good did not require the granting of any licenses for the sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage. It is said to be understood that no licenses will be granted except for Temperance Houses—as long as the present board remain in office. This is excellent, and "little Franklin" can no longer be pointed at as the Rum County. In reference to this movement in Franklin, the *Hampshire Gazette* says:

"The same is true of the Board of Commissioners of our own good Temperance County of Hampshire. The rum-trade finds no favour here. We not only refuse the rummies license, but