



Moral Backbone.

There's a man down the street who has eyes good and strong,
And shoulders fair and broad, and legs stout and long,
And fists that could fight, and voice that can groan,
But alas! this poor man has not a backbone.

There are bones in the fishes that swim the seas,
There are bones in the squirrels that climb the trees,
There's a spine in a goose or a common brown hen,
But where are the backbones of Temperance men?

I think he's a merchant and sits over there,
He knows things are wrong, but he seems not to care;
He might lose a dollar by fighting, you know,
But his backbone is gone, so he kneels to the foe.

Oh, no! He's an officer, pledged to enforce
The laws of the land, as a matter of course;
But he passes saloons with a tightly shut eye;
He has no backbone, and his oath is a lie.

A 'Sunday school man?' Oh, he couldn't be that!
He teaches God's word, and must know 'where he's at,'
And he can't be a preacher. You never could think
That Jesus would vote for a license of drink.

It is just that old fellow a-sitting right there,
In a plain common way, in a plain common chair,
He votes for the licence that makes widows moan,
Because he is lacking in moral backbone.
—Kansas Leader.

Danger! Keep Out!

These were the words painted on the rear end of a mammoth automobile used as a brewery delivery waggon. As it sped down one of Chicago's principal West Side streets any sane person who had the least idea of the destructive power of the stuff it delivered from place to place would not have to be told there was danger to him. Danger—keep off the brewery waggon. All ye drunkards, heed it! All ye young men, take warning! There is danger on that waggon; there are barrels of danger there. All along the line this waggon delivers some of its dangers. If men only knew what dangerous stuff this is, would they not let it alone? Yet they have no excuse for not knowing, for every slum, with its beggars, every hospital with its patients, every asylum with its inmates, every cemetery with its graves, testifies to its danger. Some day we shall read upon every saloon door, 'Danger; keep out!' We hope that every Christian reads it now.—National Advocate.

Rhyme and Reason.

If you would take a job that's risky,
By all means keep away from whiskey,
If you from danger points would steer,
Be sure to keep away from beer.
Wherever you take a drink of gin,
You swallow down a dose of sin.
When tempted to a glass of rum,
Remember that it rhymes with bum.
Wherever there's a glass of brandy,
Be sure you'll find the devil handy.
He also hands you out his card,
Whenever your cider waxes hard.
—Rural New Yorker.

Danish Temperance Posters.

Here is a copy of a poster drawn up by a number of Danish physicians and which had been put up in all railway stations throughout the country.

To the Danish People:

Alcohol is a stupefying poison.
Alcohol is the cause of many mental diseases and of most of the crimes.

Every seventh man in Denmark dies of drink.

In the struggle for temperance, abstinence is the safest weapon.
Abstinence never injures a man. Sure is the hand and clear is the thought of him who never drinks spirits.

If you wish to make your people happy, increase their prosperity, build up their homes, advance the interests of your country, and make the race sound in body and in mind, become a total abstainer.

A Grave-Digger's Testimony.

'What tools are oftenest used in digging graves?' inquired a gentleman of an aged grave-digger. 'Sir,' replied the old sexton, 'there are different ways, and I've seen people who dug graves, most if not all, of those ways; but, sir, if you look through even this quiet village, you will find that the commonest way of doing it is for people to dig their own graves, and that with gin, rum, brandy and whiskey!'

Alcohol Distinctly a Poison.

The point with regard to alcohol is simple enough. It is, of course, distinctly a poison, and it as a poison, like other poisons, has certain uses; but the limitations of the use of alcohol should be as strict as the limitations of the use of any other kind of poison. Moreover, it is a curiously insidious poison, in that it produces effects which seem to have only one antidote—alcohol again. This applies to another drug equally as insidious, and that is morphia or opium. Unfortunately, the term poison is by no means an exaggerated one, when it is realized that with alcohol as drunk by the majority of the poorer classes is mixed a virulent poison in the form of fusil oil.—Sir F. Treves.

A Court Room Scene.

Did you ever hear of a scene in a court room like the following?

A young man is brought into the court and charged with stealing a horse.

'Do you plead guilty or not guilty?'

He replies, 'If I had not stolen the horse some other man would.'

The court replies: 'That has nothing to do with the question. It is a simple question of fact; are you guilty or not guilty?'

The prisoner replies, 'People have always stolen horses, and always will, and it is not fair to pitch on me.'

The court indignantly puts the question the third time, 'Are you guilty or not guilty?'

The prisoner answers: 'Suppose I am, what are you going to do about it? All prohibitory laws have failed. Persons steal everywhere. You cannot stop it. Prohibition is a failure. Let me tell you what I will do. If you let me go, and give me permission to steal, I will give you half the money I received for the horse.—The American Issue.'

Religious Notes.

It is proposed to raise \$100,000 to build, in honor of the centenary of Robert Morrison's going to China, a Y. M. C. A. and mission building in Canton.

The London board of trade gives elaborate statistical tables showing a considerable decrease in the amount of liquor drunk in Great Britain during the past eight or ten years.

The sad events of eleven years ago cast upon the American missionaries at Harpott the care of some fourteen hundred pitiable orphans. Of the four hundred who still remain a fourth are engaged in the industries that have been started, and the rest attend school. Forty of the latter are in Euphrates College.

Our first orphan boy graduated from the college last June, and is now at the head of the High School in a large village. Another young man is preparing to be a preacher. Twenty-five boys and girls are helping themselves by teaching in the villages.

The Evangelical Church organs in Austria report large accessions of members and congregations during 1906, mostly accruing from the 'Los Van Rome,' movement which is now in its tenth year. Evangelical services were held for the first time in sixteen places in Bohemia, Styria, Lower Austria and Karinthia, and as many centres of religious instructions were established. The number of German parishes organized since 1898 rose to thirty. The number of places named where churches have been built, acquired, restored, or begun and where parsonages, schools and health institutions have been erected betokens great activity in that direction. A more active and vigorous church life is also depicted as going on in several communities affected by the movement and further the entrance of the Salvation Army upon Austrian soil is mentioned.

The Medical Missionary Work in India has become large. Statistics are published by the Indian Medical Missionary Association showing that last year more than two million patients were attended and 54,398 operations were performed by medical missionaries; while the number of missionaries trained in the western medical schools has increased from 140 ten years ago to more than 300, of whom 120 are men and the rest women.

The Yale Mission in China adopted the name Ya Li as the nearest approach to the name of its 'alma mater' and its translation means 'elegant proprieties,' giving a hint in its very inception of the tact which shows itself in conformity to Chinese customs and needs as far as possible. A fine property on a business street makes the basis for the preparatory school which shall be a feeder to the coming college. The grade is that of an American high school, with a four years' course. The entrance examinations covered Chinese. The College purposes to keep Sunday and hold religious exercises thereon; nevertheless its students have full liberty to follow their own religion. 'Their Majesties' birthdays are observed as holidays, also Christmas and the birthday of Confucius. The students are told not to affect European dress but wear their native costume, and they are required to keep their heads well shaved and their queues properly brushed, so that the college may be creditably represented by their appearance.

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