



Temperance Catechism.

LESSON I.

1. Q. What is one of the best foods?
A. Milk is the most complete food.
2. Q. What is the best drink?
A. Water is the natural drink.
3. Q. What unnatural drinks do men take?
A. Drinks containing alcohol.
4. Q. What is alcohol?
A. Alcohol is an intoxicating fluid, lighter than water, colorless, and with a sharp, stinging taste.
5. Q. How does alcohol act when taken into the stomach?
A. It acts as a powerful poison.
6. Q. When was alcohol first discovered, and by whom?
A. About seven hundred years ago, by a chemist who was experimenting in search of an 'elixir of life.'
7. Q. Was alcohol this 'elixir of life'?
A. No. The chemist, after a wild career of drunkenness, died in a drunken stupor.
8. Q. Is alcohol a natural drink?
A. No; it is the result of fermentation and rot.
9. Q. What drinks contain alcohol?
A. Wine, beer, cider, gin, and all other 'spirituous liquors.'
10. Q. What peculiar effect has alcohol on the appetite of those who drink it?
A. Alcohol produces a craving for itself in those who drink it, so that the more they drink, the more they want of this terrible poison.
11. Q. Does this poison cause death?
A. Yes; in many cases children, and sometimes grown people, have been suddenly killed by drinking liquors containing much alcohol. Its use always shortens life.
12. Q. What does the Bible say about wine and strong drink?
A. 'Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.'

A Bad Fire.

'Jones, have you heard of the fire that burned up the man's house and lot?'
'No, Smith; where was it?'
'Here in the city.'
'What a misfortune to him. Was it a good house?'
'Yes; a nice house and lot—a good home for any family.'
'What a pity. How did the fire take?'
'The man played with fire and thoughtlessly set it himself.'
'How silly! Did you say the lot was burned, too?'
'Yes, lot and all; all gone, slick and clean.'
'That is singular. It must have been a terribly hot fire—and then I don't see how it could have burned the lot.'
'No; it was not a very hot fire. Indeed, it was so small that it attracted but little attention, and did not alarm anybody.'
'But how could such a little fire burn up a house and lot? You have not told me.'
'It burned a long time—more than twenty years. And though it seemed to consume

very slowly, yet it wore away about one hundred and fifty dollars' worth every year, till it was all gone.'

'I can't understand you yet. Tell me where the fire was kindled, and all about it.'

'Well, then, it was kindled in the end of a cigar. The cigar cost him, he himself told me, twelve and a half dollars per month, or one hundred and fifty dollars a year, and that in twenty-one years would amount to three thousand one hundred and fifty dollars, besides all the interest. Now, if well invested, the money would double once in about seven years. So that the whole sum would be more than twenty thousand dollars. That would buy a fine house and lot in any city. It would pay for a large farm in the country. Don't you pity the family of the man who has slowly burned up their home?'

'Whew! I guess you mean me, for I have smoked more than twenty years. But it didn't cost so much as that, and I haven't

world amongst other judges, and judges of much larger experience than myself, it is certainly the case that if we could make England sober, we might shut up nine-tenths of the jails.—Durham, 1877.

I suppose it is because the fact is so plain that nobody pays the slightest attention to it, viz., that drunkenness is a vice which fills the jails of England, and that if we could make England sober we could do away with nine-tenths of the prisons.—Bristol, 1878.

All the cases that have come before me, with one exception, have had their beginning or ending in drink.—Manchester, 1881.

Drunkenness is mainly the cause of the commoner sorts of crime, and if England could be made sober, three-fourths of the jails might be closed.—Birmingham, 1891.

At a moderate estimate something like nineteen-twentieths of the crime that has to be tried in courts is due to drink.—Liverpool, 1892.—'Alliance Almanac.'



THE LATE HON LORD COLERIDGE—1821-94.
(Lord Chief Justice of England.)

any house of my own. Have always rented—thought I was too poor to own a house. And all because I have been burning it up. What a fool I have been!
The boys would better never set a fire which costs so much, and which, though so easily put out, is yet so likely, if once kindled, to keep burning all their lives.—'Forward.'

A Terrible Indictment.

The late Lord Chief Justice Coleridge many times spoke plainly on the subject of strong drink. Among his utterances are the following:—

The crimes of violence, which in a large proportion fill the calendar, without a single exception, have begun in public-houses, and are due to drunkenness. . . I think it is in the course of my duty to say that, within my experience as a judge, and having lived some considerable time in the

Be Careful What You Sow, Boys.

Be careful what you sow, boys!
For seed will surely grow, boys;
The dew will fall, the rain will splash,
The clouds grow dark, the sunshine flash;
And he who sows good seed to-day
Shall reap the crop to-morrow.

Be careful what you sow, boys!
The weeds you plant will grow, boys;
The scattered seed from thoughtless hand
Must gathered be by God's command;
And he who sows wild oats to-day,
Must reap wild oats to-morrow.
Then let us sow good seed, boys!
And not the briars and weeds, boys.
The harvest time its joys shall bring,
And when we reap our hearts shall sing;
For he who sows good seed to-day,
Shall reap the crop to-morrow.
—C. C. Case, in 'Temperance Record.'