

as high as that which the Prohibitionists hold about "intemperance." It has, like Prohibition, a certain amount of right upon its side. The excessive use of animal food is unquestionably a source of much disease, of much ill-temper, and probably of many of the criminal or vicious actions to which physical derangement, extending its effects to the moral character, gives birth. The error in both cases consists in the advocacy of total abstinence in place of temperance, while in the case of Prohibitionism the mistake is combined with the false belief that legislation has power to change the habits of mankind in a day. Excess, whether of meat or drink, is the only evil. Mrs. Youmans, on the Scott Act platform, creates, we are told, a thrilling sensation by the exhibition of physiological diagrams, showing the effects produced by alcohol and tobacco on the human stomach. Tobacco is evidently marked out as the object of attack in the next crusade. Mrs. Youmans couples it, as a destroyer of the stomach, with alcohol, and Mr. Charlton told us the other day that whiskey and tobacco were two things in which a Christian gentleman would never indulge, a judgment which bears rather hard on Mr. Spurgeon. Mrs. Youmans, it is to be hoped, tells her audience whether the stomach taken as a specimen of the ravages of alcohol and tobacco was that of a man who had been drinking a single glass of wine or beer and smoking a single cigar a-day, or that of a drunkard and one never without a cigar in his mouth. She might complete her series of physiological illustrations, and throw some light upon the practical question before us, if she would exhibit a diagram showing what effects are produced upon the stomach by the green tea, or the decoction bearing that name, which is daily swallowed in unlimited measure by male and female supporters of the Scott Act.

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IN spite of all the industrial depression and distress in England, it turns out that there has been a remarkable diminution in crime. The judges dwell upon the fact as well as the statisticians. This improvement has taken place not only without Prohibition, but in the midst of a general indulgence in drink to which happily we have nothing parallel here. The certain inference is that crime may be reduced by agencies other than prohibitory laws. The probable inference is that though drink is very often the parent of crimes of the more violent kind, the connection between drink and crime generally is less close than Prohibitionists assert. That illiteracy was the source of all crime was once asserted just as