"We were Germans; and when father died we were very poor. We came and to this city in the spring, but couldn't t be- get any place, there were so many of us, and we had so little money. We stopped one night in the 'bus that was left to tumble down on the Flats behind the great stables. The man who owned it laughed when my mother ask. ed if we might stay there, and said we might for a while; so we've been there ever since, and like it lots."

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While the boy spoke, I took a fancy that I'd like to see this queer home of his. The Flats were not far off, and I decided to go that way and perhaps help the poor woman, if she seemed honest As Katy handed back the basket, I said to the lad: It is

"Will you show me this funny house of yours, and tell me your name?" "O yes, ma'am; I am just going

home, and my name is Fritz." I saw him look wistfully at a tray of nice little cakes which Katy had put on the window-seat, and I gave him one, saying, as he put it in his pocket, very carefully,—

"How many of you are there?" "Six, besides mother."

I just emptied the tray into the basket, and we went away together. We soon came to the flats behind the stables, and there I saw a queer sight. A great shabby omnibus, of the oldfashioned sort, with a long body, high steps, and flat roof, with the grass growing about its wheels, and smoke coming out of a stove-pipe poked through the roof. A pig dozed underneath it; ducks waddled and swam in a pool near by; children of all sizes swarmed up and down the steps; and a woman was washing in the shadow of

the great omnibus. "That's mother," said Fritz, and then left me to introduce myself, while he passed his cake-basket to the little folks.

A stout, cheery, tidy body was Mrs. Hummel, and very ready to tell her story and show her house.

"Hans, the oldest, works in the stables, ma'am, and Gretchen and Fritz sells chips; little Kearl and Lottie beg the cold victuals, and baoy Franz minds the ducks while I wash; and so we get on well, thanks be to Gott," said the good woman, watching her flock with a contented smile.

She took me into the omnibus, where everything was as neat and closely stowed as on board of a ship. The stove stood at the end, and on it was cooking some savory smelling soup, made from the scraps the children had begged. They slept and sat on the long seats, and ate on a wide board laid. across. Clothes were hung to the roef in bundles, or stowed under the seat. The dishes were on a shelf or two over the stove; and the small stock of food they had was kept in a closet made in the driver's seat, which was boarded over outside, and a door cut from the inside. Some of the boys slept on the roof in fine weather, for they were hardy lads, and a big dog guarded the pig and ducks, as well as the children. " How will you manage when the cold

weather comes?" I asked. She shook her head, and looked sober for a minute as she stroked the white head of baby Franz, who clung to her gown; then a smile broke over her face. and she answered trustfully,-

"I do my best ma'am, and keep a brave heart in me; for I remember the dear Gott is a father to such as these; and he won't let them suffer."

"You may be sure of that," I said heartily, and resolved that her beautiful faith should be rewarded by finding friends close by her.

"We are saving to get clothes for Gretchen and Fritz to go to school in the winter ma'am. Karl and Lottie make toy furniture, as the father taught them: and when bad weather comes they can sit warm in the 'bus, and make their bits of chairs and tables as well as ever. They can earn but little yet ; still, they are so good I can leave Franz with them, and old Spitz, the dog, while I go out washing when it gets too cold to

work here." "Perhaps some kind person would take one of the children, and so lessen your care." I said ; for I rather coveted pretty Lottie.

"Ah, but no! I could not spare one, even to you, best ma'am. They are my treasures, and I keep them all, all, as long as I can find bread to give them," cried the mother, gathering her flock into her arms, and feeling herself rich in spite of her poverty. I said no more but slipped a bit of money into pretty Lottie's hand, and said good-bye.

A happier, healthier, busier set I never saw; each had work to do, and did it cheerfully. Often they had hunger and cold to bear, but bore it patiently. Very seldom did any of the pleasant things that children like come to them; d but they were contented, and enjoyed playing with oyster-shells, old shoes and broken crockery as much as many children enjoy their fine toys. Few mothers have more loving children, or oo more for them, than good Mrs. Hummel; and I think I never saw a happier family than those little redcheeked, yellow-haired Germans, as they gratefully smiled and nodded at me from the steps of their funny omnibus home. - Louisa M. Alcott.

TEMPERANCE.

JUDGE DAVIS ON DRUNK-ENNESS.

" AMONG ALL THE CAUSES OF CRIME IN-PROACHABLE CHIEF.

Judge Davis, of the Supreme Court, at a recent gathering of prominent gentlemen interested in the temperance cause, gave testimony to drunkenness as a cause of crime, in a long speech. Apologizing for being compelled to read his speech, time not permitting him to prepare it otherwise, Judge Davis said: The subject assigned to me is one of vast interest, but so often and fully discussed that I think it demands an extraordinary intellect to say any. thing new about it. That was a very pleasant story that went the rounds of the papers a few years ago, of the lady principal of a female seminary, who, at at the approach of Lent, called her pupils together, and said it was not required of them in their youth, and while engaged in their studies, to refrain from meat, but she really desired that, out of respect to Lental season, they would all agree to refrain from some luxury, and so she requested each one to send in on the following morning a note indicating the article from which she would abstain. You can judge her surprise the next morning, on opening JOYFUL NEWS the notes, to find that each one had written the single word "hash." [Laughter.]

I am invited to speak to night of the relations of intemperance to crime. The theme is a hackueyed one, as old as alcohol, and one cannot consider it without a sort of anger at the selfishness of past generations, who have said all our good things before we were born. Little is left us but to array Pleurisy, and was about despatching a their testimonies, and confirm them by our own experiences.

No one doubts the existence of sin. Throughout Christendom a million spires rise to heaven in proof and condemnation of it. Yet the ugly fact remains, and will until the devil is finally chained to make room for the millennium. But this is no argument against the reiteration of sodly preaching and Gospel truth. Said Chief-Justice Marshall to a lawyer who began his argument in the Garden of Eden: "It is safe to assume that the Court knows something." On that authority I shall assume that this audience knows, by hearsay, of the existence of crime and intemperance, and proceed to speak of their co-relations. It is not quite susceptible of proof that the relation of intemperance to crime is that of causa crusans. There are other causes, such as hate, avarice, jealousy, lust and revenge; but these are narrower in their circles of evil, more easily represented by individuals and society, more subject to moral influences and restraints, and are not sanctioned by law nor dealt out under statutory licenses.

But among all causes of crime intemperance stands out the "unapproachable chief." This fact may be established both affirmatively and negatively. It is proved by the existence of intemperance, and equally as well its non-existence; just as the tides of the ocean may be proved by the flood and by the ebb. First, let us briefly consider the proof by existence. The proposition is, that whenever and wherever intemperance is most prevalent, crime is most abundant. Crime is the mercury of a political thermometer, which intemperance and its opposite affect as heat and cold. This recognized fact has created an elementary principal in the criminal commonlaw—that drunkenness is no excuse for

No principal is better, or was earlier settled, and it was rested upon the manifest fact that, if allowed as an excuse, all crime would prepare and fortify itself by intoxication. Hence courts, even in capital cases, were compelled to treat drunkenness as an aggravation of crime, and to hold that a drunken intent was equally as felonious as a sober one. In common acceptance the drnnken man is temporarily insane. It is fortunate that in a country where making drunk was a business licensed by law as a source of governmental revenue the wisdom of judges discarded popular notions, and the natural interference from that kind of legislation, and gave us principles and rules by inheritance, which, I fear, we would not have had the virtue to originate. Intoxicating drinks enable men to commit crimes by firing the passions and quenching the conscience. Burke, the murderer, whose horrible mode of committing his crimes has taken his own name, in his confessions states that only once did he feel any restraint of conscience. That was when he was about to kill an infant child. The baby looked up and smiled in his face, but, said he, "I drank a large glass of brandy, and then I had no remorse." His case is one of thousands. Many times in my own experience have young men looked up to me, when asked what they had to say why the sentence of the law should not be pronounced, and faltering, said: "I was drunk; I would not and could not have done it

had I not been drunk." That habits of intemperance are the

chief cause of crimes is the testimony of all judges of large experiences. More than two hundred years ago, Matthew Hale, then Chief Justice of England, to whom as a writer and judge we are TEMPERANCE STANDS OUT THE UNAP. greatly indebted to our cwn criminal law, speaking on this subject, said : "The places of judicature I have long held in this kingdom, have given me an opportunity to observe the original cause of most of the enormities that have been committed for the space of nearly twenty years, and by due observation I have found that if the murders and manslaughter, the burglaries and robberies, the riots and tumults, the adulteries, fornications, rapes and other enormities that have happened in that time were divided into five parts, four of them have been the issue and product of excessive drinking-of tavern and ale-house drinking."—Moneton Des-



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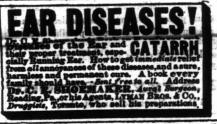
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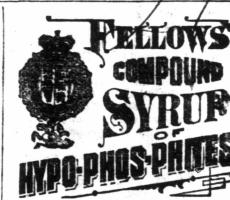
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