Drunkenness Is Curable.

Same months ago we devoted a considerable amount of space to a series of articles on "The Truth about Drink Cures," presenting to our readers the views of the public, both medical and lay, without fear or favor, and with as much particularity and detail as was possible in a journal for the people.

The subject is one of enormous and, indeed, national importance. Like the poor, the drunkard is always with us, and schemes and plans for his reclamation and restoration to society as a useful unit are constantly being discussed by the leading men of the day. The discussion usually ends with a lamentable confession of impotence to do more than check the drink evil by means that are, of course, familiar to all. But the sad case of the habitual drunkard seems as hopeless as that of the habitual criminal. Men and women of brilliant powers and conspicuous ability, who have lapsed into drinking habits and who have to all seeming lost the power to pull themselves out of the slough, are left to their fate, amidst the tears of their families and the regrets of their friends. Once the disease of alcoholism is well established in the tissues of the victim to drink, the common belief is that there is no hope and no remedy. Medicine as practised by the faculty is admittedly powerless in the vast majority of cases; and, to use the current phase, nothing short of a miracle can save what would otherwise be a valuable and useful life.

The writer of this present article was induced by some observations which appeared in Tit-Bits, May 5th, 1900, on the merits of the Keeley Cure, to investigate the system for himself. He went to the Keeley Institute at 6, Grenville Place, Cromwell Road, London, S. W., and received from the medical director the most satisfactory information on every point. Nothing was concealed. The method of treatment was fully explained and the testimony of patients and friends freely submitted. It so happened that two of the cases treated were within the writer's personal ken, and that the cures were permanent he well knew. Both patients were men of high social and professional position, who for years had been hopeless inebriates, to the sorrow of their families and the disgrace and degradation of themselves. Three years ago they were in the lowest depths of drunkenness. Today they are in the enjoyment of full health and happiness, rendering excellent service to the community.

Continuing in touch with the Institute and its work for a period of twelve months, the writer was struck with the efficacy of the Keeley Cure, obstinate cases, not only of chronic inebrity but of addiction to opiates of various kinds, yielding as if by a miracle to the treatment. In some cases the patients had had the benefit of the highest medical skill and observation, but everything had failed to work more than temporary and passing relief. The victim to the drink habit would perhaps keep straight for a few weeks and then relapse into a condition worse than bestial. Consulting the foremost authority of the day in matters relating to drink and diet, a well-known London physician of the highest rank, and who has been a specialist in the treatment of alcoholism for some fifty years, the writer asked if there was really any cure for the drink habit known in the practice of medicine. The question was prompted by the failures already mentioned. The answer came ready and emphatic: "No! Unless the patient leave off drinking—almost a physical impossibility where the disease of drunkenness is once well established—the only cure is the Keeley Cure!" He added that he himself had sent very many cases to the institute for treatment, the cure being practically unfailing. Higher testimony than this could not be obtained.

This eminent medical man went on to say that confinement in homes for inebriates was of little avail. The patient is kept under restraint for perhaps six or twelve months, and when released mostly relapses at once into the old habits. The truth of the matter is that the drink habit, at first a vice, becomes ultimately a disease and requires treatment as such. Medical science can prescribe no absolute remedy for the disease.

Leslie E. Keeley, M.D., LL.D., a well-known army and railroad surgeon in the United States, set himself some thirty years ago to the discovery of such a remedy, and after long and patient study and investigation he succeeded. In due course some sixty institutes for the administration of the Keeley Cure had been established in America, considerably more than half a million cases being treated and permanently cured.

A word about the treatment. The patient enters one of the institutes, too often a physical and moral wreck. Will power gone and also the capacity for enjoyment; for getting drunk is no pleasure beyond a certain stage—any hard drinker will admit and confess this. The miserable man, dejected and despondent, goes then to the institute. He at once finds himself under no irksome restraint, but, on the contrary, surrounded by friends whose endeavor is to make him feel quite at home. He can have his "nip," the medical director supplying this freely from the stores, the liquor being of the finest quality procurable. The treatment proper at once begins. Four times a day—punctually at nine o'clock a. m., one, five and nine o'clock p. m.—certain solutions are administered hypodermically, while in addition a tonic and restorative medicine is given every two waking hours. This is literally all. In three or four days the desire for alcohol departs, and with it all the old misery, mental and physical. The patient no longer craves for the dram of whiskey, and finds himself brighter and better than perhaps he ever was before.

He can now enjoy to the full all the resources of the institute and the companionship of others who, like himself, are rejoicing in new-found health and vigor. Beyond the simple necessary rules of treatment there are no restrictions, and the patient is free to do as he likes for the rest of the prescribed month. He then leaves, literally, another man, confident in himself and happy in the restoration of all that makes life worth living.

A large proportion of the patients at the Keeley Institute are women. Many have sought in stimulants or opiates relief from distressing nerve troubles, the outcome of overstrain and the worries common to woman's lot. The occasional dose becomes more frequent, the quantity is increased, until at last the drink or drug habit is formed, the craving becoming so insatiable that frequently the patient will take anything that comes in her way—chloral, scents, cocaine, spirits of wine, laudanum, and even kerosene. The tortures that these poor victims endure are almost beyond belief by those unfamiliar with this class of case, and, as a rule, premature death closes the scene. But it matters not if the addiction has been both long and obstinate, or whether alcohol or drugs, or both, have been the cause of the trouble—the Keeley methods never fail, unless there exist also some actual brain lesion, and even then considerable relief is afforded.

In a recent article in the Strand Magazine (May, 1901) some interesting information is given of the origin and progress of the cure, a portrait of Dr. Kelley illustrating the contribution. After sketching the history of the Keeley Cure and its strenuous advocacy by General Neal Dow, P. D. Armour, T. de Witt Talmage, Dr. George Lorimer, of Tremont Temple, Boston, and other eminent men whose personality is almost as well known in England as in America, the writer concludes thus:—

"In England the introduction of the cure only dates back some nine years, when an institute was opened in London under the medical directorship of Mr. Oscar de Wolf, M.D., M.A., Professor of State Medicine and Public Hygiene in the Medical Department of but the profession cannot in Great Britain officially recognize the cure because the exact composition o. the injections and medicine have not been made known. Dr. Keeley himself stated that it was not lor the good of the public that these formulae should be disclosed; as his treatment was in reality a system, and could not be successfully conducted by the simple administration of a sovereign remedy. In this view all medical men who have tested the treatment and watched his methods entirely concur; some, indeed adding that the exigencies of their practice would not permit of their punctually administering the remedies at the necessary intervals. Upon this regularity of treatment success depends. 'If I believed my remedy would be made in all its purity, handled only by the educated members of the medical profession, and administered in the proper way, I would most cheerfully throw it open to the world.' So declared Dr. Keeley a few years before his death.

"But whether the cure remains in the North-Western University, Chicago, and commissioner of public health for the city of Chicago from 1877 till 1890. Soon after the opening of this institute a public meeting was held in London, and a standing committee was appointed, consisting of gentlemen of high standing, the chairman being the Rev. Canon Fleming, B.D., one of the chaplains to Her late Majesty Queen Victoria. For more than eight years the work of the institute has been carried on at No. 6, Grenville Place, Cromwell Road, S. W.

"The meetings of the committee have been both frequent and thorough, and the eight annual reports afford instructive reading to those who desire to get at the truth of the whole matter of the Keeley Cure. Acting not as partisans, but simply as men deeply interested in all the phases of temperance reform, they have closely watched the operations of the institute and faithfully recorded the results. In these they say 'success has been the rule and failure the exception.'

"Numbers of medical men send patients to the institute for treatment, knowing by observation and experience the efficacy of the Keeley Cure; the category of secret remedies or is published to the world, there is no gainsaying the fact that it has succeeded where all other methods have failed. In a word, until Keeley discovered his cure, nothing short of a miraculous self-control could rescue man or woman from the degrading depths of alcoholism or drug addiction once the disease had been established in the nervous system of the victim."—Tit-Bits.

HON. JUDGE ELLIOT

America's Greatest Whist Expert Dies at Milwaukee.

Milwaukee, Jan. 12.—Judge Eugene S. Elliott, of the circuit court of Milwaukee, founder of the American Whist League, and its president for the first three years of its existence, died while at the table in the rooms of the Milwaukee Whist Club. He was 60 years old.

Judge Elliott, who was well known as an eminent jurist throughout the United States, was famous as the originator and founder of the American Whist League. He was born in Vermilion county, Ill., August 13, 1842. He entered Dartmouth college in September, 1861, and was to have graduated with the class of '65, but caught the war fever, and, with eighty other students, mostly from Dartmouth and the Norwich military academy, he enlisted in Company B, Seventh squadron, Rhode Island cavalry.

He knew nothing about whist until after the organization of the club now known as the Milwaukee Whist Club, but had long been fond of chess. He proposed the organization of the club, which was originally a chess club, in which cardplaying was also allowed as an inducement. Elliott was chairman of the first meeting. Ex-Attorney General Winfield Smith was elected president; James G. Jenkins, United States circuit judge, second presiding officer, and Elliott the third officer.

In 1878 he removed to St. Louis, but returned to Milwaukee after eighteen months, to remain permanently. During his absence the game of chess had been neglected, and the members changed the name of the club to the Milwaukee Whist Club. Then he became a whist player. He was the author of the resolution in his club which resulted in the first whist congress. He was appointed chairman of the committee and was chosen first president of the American Whist League, which was organized at the whist congress held at Milwaukee in 1890. He was induced by succeeding congresses to remain at the helm, until, at the fourth congress, he positively declined further re-election.

In speaking of Judge Elliott's death, P. J. Tormey, now president of the club, said a strange fatality seems to have befallen the noted whist players of the world. Within the last year six of the most noted players have died. About one year ago Henry Jones, known in the world of whist as Cavendish, died at his home in Hyde Park, London, England. A short time later Sir William Pole died in his London home. About two months ago Maj. Gen. A. W Dreyson died in his home, Ashburton roads, London. E. Leroy Smith, of the American Whist League, was accidentally shot last May while standing in front of his store at Albany, N.Y. J. E. Shwab, one of the greatest whist players of the country, died lately at Nashville, Tenn., and Judge Elliott is the sixth of the great whist players who have died within a year.

CONTEST FOR NEW TRADE

Proposed Sale of Army Transport Steamers.

Washington, Jan. 12.—If the report is true that J. J. Hill is negotiating, or about to negotiate, for the purchase of army transports for use in connection with his Northern railway interests, he is certain to encounter competition from other would-be buyers, in case congress follows the advice of Secretary of War Root by selling the transports. Information was obtained that the Pacific Mail Company was looking toward negotiations of the same kind. Mr. Hill's reported intention is accepted, of course, as possessing the greatest significance for Seattle and the whole Puget Sound region, and in case he enters the field with the other prospective bidders for transports, the contest will incidentally be one between the commercial interests of San Francisco and Seattle.

All the companies are eager to secure the government contracts for carrying troops and supplies for the war department between the United States and the Philippines, and, on account of the scarcity of vessels on the Pacific, the company that buys the government's vessels will almost certainly get a large share, at least, of war department business. Mr. Hill, perhaps, is less interested than others in securing the war department's contracts, for he has long desired to increase his freight carrying facilities between Seattle and various points in the Orient outside of the Philippines, but in case he secures government vessels the possibility is recognized that a part of the war department's freight between the United States and Manila might go throdgh Seattle instead of San Francisco. The chances that congress will authorize the sale of government transports are believed to be very good. Secretary Root has made strong representations to the house military affairs committee on the subject, and Gen. Corbin is a persistent advocate of private contracts for carrying soldiers and supplies instead of the present transport service.

San Francisco, Jan. 12.—If Secretary of War Root secures the sanction of congress for the abolition of the government transport service between here and the Philippines the public will witness an interesting contest for the big transportation which the war department will have at its disposal. According to all indications the prize is worth competing for, since the company which succeeds to the transport business will have a practical monopoly of the carrying trade between this coast and the country's dependencies in the Orient, and there is evidence that at this early day two rival steamship lines are already planning to make a grab for the plum when congress gives the signal. The rival steamship lines are those controlled by the Hill and Harriman interests, the one being the Great Northern's line from Puget Sound and the other the Pacific Mail. Secretary Root's reason for commending the abolition of the army transport service is that the service can be conducted by a private corporation under contract for two-thirds the present annual cost to the government, which amounts to $9,000, with the further reason that the maintenance of the transport service is preventing the establishment of commercial lines between the coast and the Philippines. Whether or not the maintenance of the transport service is keeping commercial lines from furnishing direct transportation facilities between the two points it goes without saying that a strong commercial line will be established the moment the army transport service ceases for a contract for the handling of all the army's business is involved in the contingency.

As this business includes the transportation of many thousands of tons of freight every month, together with all the recruits, invalid and discharged soldiers who pass back and forth across the ocean, the company that secures the government contract will find, as Secretary Root has suggested that it has enough guaranteed business to place a new steamship line between the Pacific coast and Manila on a self-supporting basis. Naturally James J. Hill's Northern steamship line is anxious to capture the prize, and it is understood that he will endeavor to secure the contract.

Mr. Hill is planning a gigantic piece of strategy that is calculated to remove a large volume of commerce from this port to Puget Sound. The Pacific Mail, too, it is known, is in the fight to secure the business, and it looks as if the company has been quietly preparing to take over the transport business for some time. The accommodations for 1,500 steerage passengers in each of its new 10,000-ton steamers can hardly be explained on any other hypothesis. It is evident that Mr. Hill must make a hard fight, but he is a veteran at that business.

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6. The proper carrying out of the health ordinance.

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8. A complete and thorough system of fire inspection.

9. The appointment of all city officials and the awarding of all contracts in the best interests of Dawson, regardless of political or other influences; and that all contracts be let by tender to the lowest responsible bidder and a bond taken for the due performance of same.

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11. That we will request the Government at Ottawa that the saloon-keepers of Dawson have the same commercial privileges as are accorded other lines of business.