

unless the Hindus were an exception, they were the victims of dissolute drunken habits, and excepting the Hindus and Persians, are the victims of alcohol to this day. The ancient Persian religion was similar to that of the Hindus. They had the Soma mania and the sacrament. Our information, however, is direct that they were drunken and dissolute. As will be seen later, it was whipped out of them by Mahomet, and they have been sober for 1200 years.

We find this hero, Gautama Buddha, whom I affirm most deliberately to have been the greatest benefactor of mankind who ever set foot on earth becoming the leader of the Hindoo Reformation. Would that I could do him justice, even after the lapse of twenty-five centuries. He was the first and greatest *prohibitionist*.

I must only pity the awful ignorance of the masses in Christendom on this subject. We had a temperance "orator" here a few months ago, lauded to the skies from Christian pulpits, who spoke of prohibition commencing in Maine, and referred to Kansas and Iowa.

I refer to Miss Willard. And we had another recently, Mr. Leland, who had "been in the temperance field for 40 years," and he spoke of prohibition commencing in Maine, and alluded also to Kansas, etc.

I invited him to my house, and out of sheer charity enlightened him.

These events in themselves are small matters, but when we realize that this is about all that is known by the masses throughout Christendom on the subject of prohibition, and when you learn what I now announce to you, that the illustrious Gautama Buddha, by a commandment, has preserved nearly half mankind from the horrors of intemperance for nearly 2000 years, what can we feel but commiseration for the hundreds of millions within the boundaries of Christendom?

Nearly a year ago I was invited by the President of the B. R. Club to speak at one of their meetings. I said that if I did I would hurt somebody's feelings. He said the platform was free. I spoke accordingly. But I soon found that I had mashed a whole lot of Meth-

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