

SPIRITS IN HOT CLIMATES.

Extract from a letter by the late Robert Southey to his brother, Lieutenant Southey, who was proceeding with us ship to the West Indies. The letter is dated Dec 1803. Adapt y^r living to the climate you are going to, and abstain almost wholly from wine and spirits. General Peche, an East Indian officer, with whom he dined on Christmas day, told me that in India the officers who were looking out for preferment, as a majority, &c., and who kept lists of all above them, always marked those who drank any spirits in the morning with an X, and reckoned them for nothing. 'One day,' said he, 'when we were about to march at day-break, I and Captain—were in my tent, and we saw a German of our regiment; so I said we'd try him. We called to him, said it was a cold morning, and asked him if he would drink a glass to warm him. I got him a full beaker of brandy and water, and he drank it off. When he was gone, I said Well, what d'ye think, we may cross him, may we not? Oh yes, said he, cross him by all means. And the German did not live twelve months.' But the natives of all hot countries invariably abstain from spirits as deadly.—*Southey's Life*, Vol. 11. p. 245.

The hot weather is now coming on in Canada and it has a tendency to induce people to drink ardent spirits. We insert the above to show the folly of the custom. The wisest people in warm countries know the pernicious effects of alcohol on the health. There the blood is inflamed by the climate, and the use of this drug only adds fire to fire. It is a very common belief in Canada among farmers that they and their work hands cannot get through the harvest without large pouons of whiskey, &c. It gives fire to the feelings—talk to the tongue, and energy to the muscle, say they. Alas man is every day deceived, and seems in his ignorance to love to be deceived. This is all imagination. If any man will make the experiment, he will find himself during the three months of Summer capable of doing more work and enjoying better health and spirits, if he drink nothing but water, milk, or tea.—Men in the Summer often eat salt meat, and that, together with exercise, causes unusual thirst. Let them, in place of spirits, drink cold tea, coffee, or a mixture of milk and water. Such a beverage will add to them health and strength, much sooner allay their thirst, and keep their minds calm and rational. If they use alcohol in the fields, they must end in the evening by tipping at the tavern—they must commence in the morning with their butters, and end with dying drunken sots. In all parts of America, and Europe, crimes, especially assaults, are more common in warm weather than in winter. We know this is the case in Toronto, and in all of our Canadian towns and cities. Why is this? The cause will be found in the use of intoxicating beverages more largely by the people. The use not only inflames and irritates the passions, but causes a tendency to fever and diarrhoea, by adding too much heat to the blood and weakening the bowels. The wisest Asiatic legislators like Moses, Mahomet, Lycurgus, in old times, were fully aware of the evil of the use of wine, and by their laws restricted the people in its use. People in warm countries, as if by instinct avoid its general use as a beverage. It seems to be left to the intoxicated race of Saxons, and Europeans, to murder themselves by drunk excess. During the coming of harvest time let all farmers in Canada, banish from them the custom of grog drinking.

BEAMSVILLE SONS.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Knowing your readiness to give publicity to the movement of the Sons in the Temperance cause, perhaps a few words from this quarter may be acceptable and not without profit to your numerous readers. We keep the ball moving with the motto, "no compromise until Intemperance is eradicated from our land;" for which purpose we secured the valuable services of Mr. John C. Clure, the great advocate for the Maine Liquor Law, to lecture for three evenings, which he did in a very able and eloquent manner, to large and respectable audiences. It created quite a sensation amongst the inhabitants of this vicinity by exposing the degradation and moral slavery of those addicted to that soul destroying, body-consuming, poverty-making, crime stimulating, and accursed demon alcohol. How often have we seen persons with strong resolves, reclaimed from the gutter, decoyed back again to their old habits, and while all the temptations of the Bar-room, surround the poor inebriates, there is no hope for their perfect restoration, except through the efficacy of the Maine Liquor Law. It seems rather an arbitrary movement this prohibition of the use of spirits, but it is quite as necessary that the exciting cause of vice should come under the pale of the Law, as the vices themselves, larceny, theft, &c. Laws were instituted to protect the rights of individuals, why not protect the poor unfortunate drunkard from the rapacity of the grog-seller. On the last evening of the lectures, THE CADETS AND SONS, in regalia, formed in procession, and marched from the Temperance House to the Town Hall, preceded by the *Clinton Amateur Brass Band*, discoursing eloquent music. At the close of the evening various motions in favor of the Maine Law, were put to the meeting and carried unanimously. Mr. Clure has been the means of awakening the Sons here to their duty. They have since appointed a committee to canvass the Township with petitions to the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of Canada, to pass a law similar to the Maine Liquor Law, as the only way effectually to eradicate the evils of intemperance. It is only a few days since the petitions were drawn up, and there are now upwards of two hundred persons who have signed them here, amongst the number is our Town Reeve and two of our Councillors, and in fact nearly all the leading persons in this neighborhood.

Yours in L. P. and F.,
JAMES DOUGLAS, R. S.
Beamsville, May 15th, 1852.

INDIAN MAINE LAW.

The Hon. Waddy Thompson, says the *Christian Observer*, has recently visited the Cherokees, and in an account of his visit, he says—"I was three weeks in the nation and did not see a ragged, a dirty, or a drunken Indian. The temperance laws are extremely stringent. It being a penal offence to keep ardent spirits, aided by a general public opinion, these laws have entirely extirpated that vice so pernicious elsewhere, but especially to the Indians." The leading features of the Cherokee law are essentially the same as those of the Maine Law, it being lawful for any Indian to seize and destroy any liquors kept for sale.

A little incident transpired some weeks ago at one of our Frankford hotels, which under the present temperance excitement is not unworthy of notice. The names of the parties we shall withhold from the public for shame sake.

A little girl entered the tavern, and in pitiful tones told the keeper that her mother had sent her there to get eight cents.

"Eight cents," said the tavern keeper.

"What does your mother want with eight cents? I don't owe her any thing."

"Well," said the child "father spends all his money here for rum, and we have nothing to eat to day. Mother wants to buy a loaf of bread."

A loafer remarked in the tavern, to "kick out that girl."

"No," said the keeper, "I will give her the money, and if the father comes here again, I'll kick him out."



Agriculture.

THE WILD OLD WOODS.

The wild old woods, where the shadows cling
To the greasy and fresh with dew,
Where the woodland bird with its darky wing
Builds her nest on oaks that upward cling
Their arms to the sky so blue,
Where the peary streams run sparkling on
With a pleasant melody,
And bathe with spray the mossy rocks
Aye, the wild old woods for me!

The wild old woods: I love them well;
For, in boyhood's idle hours,
My heart in the groves with a magic spell
Was bound by a wreath of thoughts that tell
The language sweet of flowers.
Where the peary streams run sparkling on
With a pleasant melody,
And bathe with spray the mossy rocks;
Aye, the wild old woods for me.

LOOKING-GLASSES FOR BIRDS.—A correspondent of the *Gardener's Chronicle* says.—
"The following plan is perfectly efficacious for catching birds from fruit and other produce. One of the vases having by chance broken a looking-glass, I tried to me that the broken pieces, suspended by a string, so as to turn freely in every direction, would present the appearance of something moving about, which would alarm the birds. I accordingly tried the plan, and found that no bird, not even the most foolhardy of them, could come near. They had attacked my peas; and, among a few bins of glass amongst them, the mischief was done. The tomatoes attacked my seekle, which they seem very partial. A bit of looking-glass suspended in front of the tree put a stop to the mischief. My grapes were then much damaged, before they were ripe, by thrushes and sparrows, a piece of looking-glass drove these away and not a grape was touched afterwards. I had before tried many plans, but never any so effectual as the above."

As we love trees and fruit, let us, good readers, make an exterminating war against caterpillars. As the visit from the pests is anticipated. Their destructive march should be stayed. Is it good economy to idle and fear a little labor, while our orchards are being spoiled? Let every man guard his orchard trees—use brimstone tar—anything that will keep worms from the leaves. It is stated that a piece of paper around the trunk of the tree, will prevent their invasion. Whatever plan is best, we hope will be more vigorous operation.

Insects require constant watching. Caterpillars on apple trees; the *carculio* on the plums, and the *nectanans*; the *ephis* on the foliage of various trees; the peach worm, or borer, and the various insects that prey upon trees and plants, cause their appointed time, and to repel them promptly, be as much the business of the cultivator now, as it was his seed or plant his trees.—*Genesee Farmer*.

"THE MAN OF THE WOODS."—The newspaper notices a curious addition to the menagerie of *Saint Louis des Plantes*—that of an ape of the species of the man of the woods. It is between three and four English feet in height, and its proportions are as like a human being as to create the uncomfortable suspicion in the mind of the spectator, that, when he himself (intelligence apart, as only a separate sort of key. This is, it appears, the first time an animal of this kind has been seen at Paris. And *Genesee Farmer* mentions that *Saint Louis des Plantes* it may be mentioned that *M. de Saint Hilaire* has just brought out the first part of a methodical catalogue of the mammiferous animals the birds in the Museum of Natural History.