



The Old, Old Story.

He was one of the fellows
That could drink or leave it alone,
With a fine, high scorn for common men,
Who were born with no backbone.
'And why,' said he, 'should a man of
strength
Deny to himself the use,
Of the pleasant gift of the warm, red wine,
Because of its weak abuse?'

He could quote at a banquet,
With a manner half divine,
Full fifty things the poet says
About the rosy wine;
And he could sing a spirited song
About the lips of a lass,
And drink a toast to her fair young worth
In a sparkling, generous glass.

And since this lordly fellow
Could drink or leave it alone,
He chose to drink at his own wild will
Till his will was overthrown,
And the lips of the lass are cold with grief,
And her children shiver and shrink,
For the man who once could leave it alone
Is the pitiful slave to drink.

—'Alliance News.'

Liquor Advertising.

The persistent and widespread advertising of different brands of drink is something to be universally deplored. A generation that sees upon every bill-board and in almost every magazine striking advertisements of whiskey, beer, and champagne, is hardly likely to grow sensitive to the perils which lie in alcohol. It would be very desirable if legislation could be enacted which would enable a community to restrict or prohibit not only the sale, but the advertising of spirituous liquors. Such legislation might seem at first too much in the nature of blue laws, but it seems that the community which determines upon prohibition should be permitted to keep out from its limits the public and obtrusive advertisement of the sale of that which it has forbidden.—'Christendom.'

A Lesson on Beer Drinking.

A dark-haired, slender young girl, with large, brown eyes and a pleasant face, stood in the prisoners' dock of the Jefferson Market Police Court. She was neatly dressed, though her attire was well worn; and she stood with bowed form. Two other female prisoners stood in the dock with her. The one on her right was a bold-faced woman of the town, dressed in cheap but gaudy finery, bedecked with tawdry jewellery, and evidently familiar with her surroundings. The other was an old woman in dirty rags, which she scarcely held upon her shoulders with one thin and grimy hand. Her eyes were bleared, and her face bruised and bloated.

The judge looked at the strange-assorted trio. Then he said to the weeping girl.

'How is it that so young a girl as you have come to this?'

'I did not intend to get drunk, judge,' said the girl. 'I went to a woman's house, and we drank some beer together, and somehow, I don't remember what happened after that until I found myself in the cell.'

'How old are you?'

'I am going on sixteen, sir.'

'Sixteen! how do you like your neighbors? Look to your right; that is your next step. It won't take very long to reach that state if you continue as you have begun. Look to your left; that is nearly the end, but it is the sure end of the downward path.'

The young girl sobbed, but said nothing.

'You are very young,' resumed his honor. 'This is your first offence; I hope it will be your last. You can go.'

The girl left the court-room with hanging

head, but the woman on the right laughed, and the woman on the left leered, as they waited for their turn.

This girl had a bitter lesson; but how many there are who will never learn except in a bitter school. The world is full of wrecks which have gone down through drink. Others are following who little imagine where their course will end. O, that both old and young would be warned by the ruin into which others have plunged, and escape for their lives before escape shall be impossible!—'Exchange.'

Dangers in the Use of Tobacco.

Self-government is task enough without putting on one's self an additional expenditure of will in keeping all such useless habits as tobacco indulgence within severe limits. Besides, the attempt is almost certain to fail, until after a deplorable experience of the results of excess, resulting in permanent physical loss. In regard to smoking, there is, as in chewing, an overworking and drain of the salivary glands; a consequent weakening of digestion and loss of healthy appetite and nutrition; irritation, dryness and often inflammation of the tongue, tonsils and throat; a similar condition of the bronchi and lungs, aggravated by inbreathing of the soot, the carbonic acid gas, ammonia, nicotine and empyreumatic matter of the smoke; a loss of tone of the entire nervous system, often affecting particularly the pulse and strength of the heart, and producing alternate brief stimulus and reaction, dullness of the brain, gradually lowering its vigor, and impairment of the keenness of all the senses; and in the worst cases, not only general debility, but paralysis, delirium, death. Every one knows of the poisonous effects of the first indulgence in tobacco,—nausea, giddiness, vomiting, faintness—quite as significant as the fact that a drop of the nicotine in the tobacco put upon a dog's tongue is enough to kill him.

The best physicians, such as the late eminent Dr. Benjamin W. Richardson, of London, declared that children and youths cannot indulge in tobacco at all without impairment of growth, and the danger of premature maturity and physical degeneration. The noxious weed prevents the oxidation of the tissues on which nutrition and growth depend. But this metabolism, rapid and most essential in one's growing years, is also the very condition of vigor at all ages; and, while the half-starved may find some relief in narcotics because delaying the consumption of tissue, the well-fed for the same reason clog their systems and are subject to all the ills of repletion, to say nothing of the stupidity of the habitual smoker, except as in later life a press of work under the high pressure of stimulants leads to an unduly nervous activity and premature failure of the vital energy. Of course, frugal living and out-of-door work may mask or delay evil results in indulgence, but, with a good constitution, a manual laborer might survive the daily use of conine from poison hemlock or strychnine, which chemically are of the same class with nicotine.

From a social standpoint, tobacco is dirty and filthy, defiling the body as well as the clothing. Its use is sure to lead the young into bad company, dissipation, gambling, etc. A slave to tobacco rarely ever has that nice consideration of others of the cultured gentleman—he is more apt to be rude and insist on smoking in public places.—'Popular Science.'

Publican's Wife on Sunday Closing.

A vicar sends the following, which speaks for itself:

'The wife of a publican whom I visited in my parish shortly before her death said to me: "If I had a thousand pounds I would give it at once towards closing public-houses on Sunday."'

Richard Cobden on Total Abstinence.

The following temperance testimony from the renowned Cobden, was written in 1849 to Joseph Lisesey, the father of teetotalism. Such conclusions, drawn by so able a man, in the days when the free use of alcoholic beverages was almost universal in England, are weighty arguments, indeed:

'I need not say how much I reverence your efforts in the cause of teetotalism, and how gratified I was to find that my note should have afforded you any satisfaction. I am a living tribute to the soundness of your principles. With a delicate frame and nervous temperament, I have been enabled, by Temperance, to do the work of a strong man. But it has only been by more and more Temperance. In my early days I used sometimes to join with others in a glass of spirits and water, and beer was my everyday drink. I soon found that spirits would not do, and for twenty years I have not taken a glass unless as a medicine. Then port and sherry became almost as incompatible with my mental exertions, and for many years I have not touched those wines excepting for form's sake in after-dinner society. Latterly, when dining out, I find it necessary to mix water even with champagne.

'At my own table I never have anything but water when dining with my family, and we have not a beer barrel in the house. For some years we have stipulated with all our servants to drink water, and we allow them extra wages to show them that we do not wish to treat them worse than our neighbors. All my children will, I hope, be teetotalers.

'So, you see, that without beginning upon principle I have been brought to your beverage solely by a nice observation of what is necessary to enable me to surmount an average mental labor of at least twelve hours a day. I need not add that it would be no sacrifice to me to join your ranks by taking the pledge. On the contrary it would be a satisfaction to me to know that from this moment I should never taste fermented drink again. Shall I confess it? My only restraining feeling would be that it would compel a singularity of habits in social life. Not that this would, I trust, be an insurmountable obstacle if paramount motives of usefulness urged me to the step.—'Reliance News.'

Before a Justice Court.

A saloonist innocently reveals one of the principal difficulties in the way of enforcing laws against liquor-dealers, in a trial before a justice court, according to the 'Templar.' On being sworn one of the attorneys in the case asked:—

'Mr. —, where is your place of business?'

'What for you ask me such dings? You drink at my place more as a hundred times!'

'That has nothing to do with the case, Mr. —. State to the jury where your place of business is.'

'De shury, de shury! Oh, my shiminy! Every shentlemens on dis schury has a string on my cellar door schust like a rail fence.'

The court then interceded in behalf of the counsel, and in a calm, dignified manner requested the witness to state the place of his business.

'Oh, excuse me, your honor. You drink mit my places so many times, I dinks you know very well where I keeps mine place.

'For evil is wrought by want of thought,
As well as by want of heart.'

—Dr. Cuyler.

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