

# The Advocate.

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HEAD OFFICES

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## A BOY'S VIEW OF ALCOHOL.

One of the greatest crimes that grown people can be capable of as regards the young is to willfully instruct them in error. It is the very greatest crime to openly condemn them in that error and to add to it by teaching them to have a contempt for their fellow creatures. And yet the Women's Christian Temperance Union—"Christian," that is Christlike as it is noted—of Ottawa awarded one Master A. Roger, for the following the first prize in a temperance essay competition:

"Alcohol is an Arabic word meaning 'evil one.' It was discovered by the Arabians in the early part of the eleventh century.

The Indians call it Fire Water and its effect upon them is terrible in the extreme.

Two reasons why we should not use alcohol in any way are because three-quarters of all the crimes are committed while under the influence of liquor. Sixty thousand people are killed every year by drink in this country alone, meaning 164 a day or one in every ten minutes. A certain Queen, who when liquor was abolished in her kingdom was asked by the liquor manufacturers for compensation replied: "Go and compensate those who have been ruined by your business, and then it will be time to demand compensation."

Some people think there is no alcohol in cider. It cannot keep twenty-four hours before it develops alcohol as it is made from the juice of the apple which is very sweet. It ferments quickly.

Wine is made from the juice of the grape. Beer is made from grain and hops and yeast is put in to make it ferment and thus form alcohol.

Gin is made by heating beer until the alcohol goes off in vapor like the steam from hot water and then this is cooled and makes the liquid called Gin.

Brandy is made from wine and cider the same way as gin.

Whisky is made from potatoes and corn and other kinds of grain. And run from sugar cane. There is no alcohol in the fruits and grain. We might eat a quart of grapes without getting tipsy, while if a child drank the amount of alcohol that can be made from the same quantity of grapes it would kill it in a very short time.

It is known that if the white of an egg is put in alcohol it becomes cooked in less than a minute and as brain is similar in substance to the white of an egg it is cooked in the same way. In Sir John Franklin's expedition to the north pole when nobody died they put the bodies in alcohol to preserve it and bring it home for burial.

Abstinence would save ten hundred

millions of dollars in the U.S. alone every year.

If whisky was abolished we would not need so many policemen and the most of our courts, jails, and prisons, would be closed.

It is stated that 1,539 liquor shops are owned by 172 members of the House of Lords. How can temperance legislation be expected from such men as these?

A. ROGER.

Only the very simple could read and believe such absurdities as are here thought worthy not only of commendation, but of a prize. They are too palpable to need refutation. In fact to enter upon a contradiction would be to avow disbelief in the general sanity of our readers. We, therefore, commend the poor little "essay" to their tender solicitude as a curiosity and commend for their prayers the people who think the encouraging and confirmation of such nonsense in the young is promoting what they are pained to consider a righteous cause.

## POWER OF THE PRESS.

We earnestly commend to the notice of our readers some remarks from the *Wine and Spirit Gazette* of New York dealing with the general activity of Prohibitionists. "What efforts," it asks, "are members of the trade making to avert the impending storm? They are meeting in their places of business and talking the matter over—pooch-pooching it usually, and like the self-wise men in Noah's time, deluding themselves with the opinion that they will not be much of a storm after all. Or, if at all alarmed, they run off to their political bosses and turn their pockets inside out to them, piteously crying, 'save us!' They never think of fighting the devil with fire. They do not stop to consider that all the argument is on their side. It never enters their heads that they can expose the falsehoods and misrepresentations so industriously put afloat against them. Even if asked to subscribe for a newspaper published in their interests, they plead poverty, all sorts of excuses and refuse. When driven to the wall, they tell you, 'Oh, it's all a waste of money. After all, we must rely on the politicians!'" They do not comprehend that the politicians are guided by public sentiment. They have yet to learn that the people are the source of all power in this country, and upon the people must every interest ultimately rely for its support. Thus, then, a sentiment hostile to the liquor trade can only be met and overcome through the agency of a Press employed in exposing the misrepresentation and lies upon which it is founded. Nor will it be overcome, even through the agency of the Press, if that Press is devoted to assaults upon sound morality and the religious convictions of the people, or filled merely with coarse jokes and vulgar ribaldry. Appeals to reason are what are needed in this crisis, and it is the duty of every man interested in the Trade to see that such appeals are not merely made and printed, but that they reach the eyes of the people throughout the length and the breadth

of the land." This exactly hits our views—views which we have urged upon readers from the beginning. The strongest weapon we have is education. All the brightest and best spirits in the universe are on our side, on the side of moderation. Extremists only are arrayed against us, because ours is a position that is unassailable by men of broad enlightenment. Education will expose the fallacy of Prohibition, and education therefore, is our best friend and only reliable ally. And education is only possible through the power of the Press.

## A POWERFUL PETITION.

In Great Britain there are no more powerful upholders of the rights of the people at large than the workmen. In view, therefore, of the announced intention of the Imperial Government to proceed with the Liquor Traffic (Local Control) Bill it is not strange to hear that "a working man's protest" has been drawn up and sent to every Cabinet Minister and member of Parliament. In Canada, unfortunately, some trades are too apt to forget that others have rights, precious rights, besides themselves. The signatures to the protest in question number 131, and include those of Mr. John Anderson, General Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers (one of the most powerful and numerous trades unions in the United Kingdom); Mr. John Batchelor, General Secretary of the Bricklayers' Society; Mr. Kenneth McCrae, general secretary of the boot and shoe makers; Mr. Alderman Taylor, L.C.C., operative bricklayers' delegate to the London Trades Council; Mr. Ben Ellis, general secretary of the brushmakers, and Mr. G. B. Courtenay, chairman of the London Trades Council, and others connected with various trade bodies and friendly societies in London. The principal objections urged against the bill are that "it seeks to bring about an unjustifiable invasion of liberty and curtailment of natural right. We all admit," they say, "that majorities must rule in their legitimate spheres, where the general interest is directly and intimately involved. But where this interest is only slightly or remotely affected, or not touched at all—as in questions concerning what a man shall eat or drink—control by majority becomes arbitrary and tyrannical. . . . All attempts to impose such a prohibition are subversive of individual liberty. Apart from this fundamental objection, the electorate provided by the bill excludes lodgers and many thousands of other adult males whose comfort and convenience would be placed in jeopardy; and it includes women, who do not use public-houses as a rule, and the whole body of teetotallers, who do not use them at all. . . . The bill is directed against the convenience of the poor man only, it leaves untouched the cellar of the rich man and specially provides him with refreshment rooms when he travels by rail, and with hotels when he gets to his journey's end; but it allows no accommodation for a work-

ingman, who, in a veto district, desires to refresh himself with a simple glass of beer. All experience proves that prohibition of the open sale of intoxicants is invariably followed by the creation of illicit and secret sources of supply. . . . All the improvement which has marked the last quarter of a century has been brought about without any infringement of liberty as is now proposed." The protest goes on to say that "if the principle of veto be established there is no logical reason why it should not be extended to the prohibition of forms of religious faith or political opinion which happen to be unpopular at any moment."

## A PART OF MAN'S DUTY.

PROMITTANCE in the settlement of claims is one of the things that that admirable home institution, the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company, prides itself upon. An instance of this is found in the fact that two days after the death of her husband a lady was in receipt of a cheque from the Company for \$10,000. While there is nothing that can compensate man or woman for the loss of a near or dear relative, there is a certain glimmer of comfort to be derived at all times from the receipt of a nice cheque. Moreover there is some gratification in the thought that no one would be more pleased were he in the flesh that no costly litigation in pursuit of a just claim had followed his death than the dear departed. These, perhaps, are not pleasant thoughts, but they are necessary. It is the duty of every man to provide for his own, and he can hardly commence too early in life to think that way. He need not wait to get married before recognizing his responsibilities. Insurance now will save him expense then, and expense is what every married man desires to avoid.

Having become possessed of the importance of doing something, the next thing in order is to do that something well. It is notorious that no insurance companies in the world are safer, more reliable and more generous than the Canadian. Hence they are able to advance and flourish in spite of the keenest competition from British and American corporations. Their secret is that they are conducted not on speculative but on healthy, economical, business principles. And one of the very best institutions of this kind, one of the soundest, promptest and most liberal, is The Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company, with its capital of two and a half million dollars, of which the late Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald was the first president, and over the destinies of which that most eminent of financiers, Mr. George Gooderham, now presides. By their company shall ye know them is undoubtedly true of an insurance concern, and a run through the list of directors will convince everybody that a stronger and more desirable board it would be almost impossible to select. Here without further designation are the names: Messrs. Wm. Bell (Guelph