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## Temperance Talk.

### Environment.

A lily grew in a garden far  
From the dust of the city street;  
It had no dream that the universe  
Held aught less pure and sweet  
Than its virgin self; so chaste was it,  
So perfect its retreat.

When night came down the lily looked  
In the face of the stars and smiled;  
Then went to sleep—to the sleep of  
death—

As the soul of a little child  
Goes back to the clasp of the  
Father-soul  
Untouched and undefiled.

A lily bloomed on the highway close  
To the tread of the sweeping  
throng;

It bore the gaze of a hundred eyes  
Where burned the flame of wrong;  
And one came by who tore its heart  
With a ruthless hand and strong.

It caught no glimpse of a garden fair  
For a world that used and bruised  
it so

Than a world of sin and shame;  
And hopeless, crushed its spirit  
passed

As the evening shadows came.

And who can say but the sheltered  
one

A sullied flower had been  
Had its home been out on the  
highway close

To the path of shame and sin?  
And the other forever angel-white  
Had it blossomed safe within?

Elizabeth Gallup Perkins.

### Cigarettes.

The London "Lancet," one of the most reliable medical journals published in the English language, has recently stated that the most deleterious product in the combustion of tobacco is carbon monoxide, which is the deadly constituent of water gas, and is present in comparatively large quantities in tobacco smoke. This is the poison that is responsible for the utter demoralization of that unhappy individual who has come to be known as the cigarette fiend, whose pale face, shattered nerves and hopeless position in the community is recognized as applying to many of our American youth, whose opportunity for usefulness and happiness has passed away.

Experiments have demonstrated that this poisonous gas is taken up by the blood when tobacco is inhaled.

A few years ago it was the privilege of the writer of this article to render some service in connection with the administration of the public school system of this city. During the period covered by that service several of the principals complained of a condition that it was difficult for them to understand. Boys of ten, twelve and fourteen years of age, naturally bright, were observed to be losing the power of concentration and application of the mind. Nervousness, listlessness and a tendency to truancy were associated with the names of nearly every one of them. It was found that nearly all the incorrigible truants were cigarette fiends; that is to say, they were almost hopelessly addicted to the inhaling habit. Their nerves were shattered, and the value of public school instruction was greatly lessened in their cases. Further investigation disclosed the fact that very many of these boys stole money from their parents or sold all sorts of articles that they could lay their hands on, in order that they could gratify an appetite that bred on its own indulgence.

Parents should inform their boys the danger attending the indulgence in this habit before they are likely to contract it, forbid it, and should, in my opinion, visit condign punishment

on those who offend against this parental law.

The city of Chicago, I have been informed, has an organization of business men numbering several thousands, pledged not to give employment to any boy or man who smokes cigarettes, or who has the inhaling habit. There should be such an organization in every city and town in the United States in order that our boys may have the chance at success that God Almighty intended they should have.

### They Should Wake Up.

The saloon men should not be living in the land of yesterday. The good old times are gone: they are living now under a cold sky and with many citizens who are at no pains to conceal their aversion to the traffic. Time was when they laughed at temperance "cranks," but we venture to say that surprise, and betimes indignation, stifles any of their attempts at merriment. Their indignation, by the way, may dupe the feeble-minded, but to the normal a saloon-keeper, angry because efforts are made to destroy one of the greatest menaces to happiness, is a pitiable and thought-confusing spectacle. He should thank any man from trying to save him from the awful fate of spending his days behind a bar. As, however, he is disposed to think that the saloon is not execrated, save in certain quarters, some of our principle societies close the door of membership against him. Upon him they frown in sorrow and anger, and give him no place in their halls. This fact should cause him to decide that liquor-selling, even when productive of fine houses and bank-stocks, is too costly a business when it entails ostracism from Catholic gatherings, and the contempt of their brethren. Close the bar and do something to be proud of. Make anything that is not wet with tears. Use brawn and brains other than to fashion human derelicts.

### The Ideal Saloon Keeper.

The ideal saloon-keeper, an upright, honorable, conscientious man, will never sell liquor to an habitual drunkard or to a person who has already been drinking and whom another draught will intoxicate; he will never permit minors, boys or girls, to cross his threshold; he will not suffer around his counter indecent or profane language; he will not violate law and the precious traditions of the country by selling on Sunday; he will never drug his liquor, and will never take from his patrons more than the legitimate market value of the fluid. Upon these conditions being observed, I will not say that liquor-selling is a moral wrong. The ideal saloon-keeper is possible; perhaps you have met him during your life-time; maybe Diogenes, lamp in hand, searching through our American cities would discover him, before wearying marches should have compelled him to abandon the search. I have at present before my mind the saloon as it usually now-a-days exhibits itself, down in an underground cellar, away from the light of the sun, or, if it does open its doors to the sidewalk, seeking with painted windows and rows of lattice-work to hide its traffic from public gaze as if ashamed of itself of the nefariousness of its practices. The keeper has one set purpose—to roll in dimes and dollars, heedless whether lives are wrecked and souls damned. The hopeless inebriate and the yet innocent boy receives the glass from his hand. He resorts to tricks and devices to draw customers to stimulate their appetite for drink. Sunday as on Monday, during night as during day, he is at work to fill his victims with alcohol, and his till with silver and gold. This is his ambition; and I am willing to pay him the compliment that he executes well his double task.—Archbishop Ireland.

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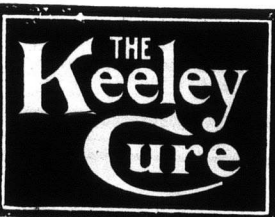
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