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DISSEMINATION IN FRANCE.
New Frenchmen and Frenchwomen look upon wine with a different eye. The King and Queen of Sweden have as good as joined the Blue Ribbon army. At least so Mr. Axel Gustafson informs me. I see so much of the evils of Asaomir in Paris that I hardly venture to term the prohibitionist zeal of the temperance societies intemperate or wanting in discretion. The King of Sweden has been brought into Mr. Gustafson's views by a careful examination of the petitions he has received; since he came to the throne, for reprieves, commutations and pardons of convicts guilty of heavy offenses. The queen, who has long tried to render the world a little better than she found it, has busied herself, as far as her bad health will allow her, in trying to reduce "the army of vice." She, too, finds that intemperance is a great recruiting agent. Daughters of the Frenchman are almost sure to join the ranks of Blue Ribbons, because they are weak of will, afflicted with bad nerves and ill-reared. Mr. Grey told me some time ago that he once saw a Frenchman drunkness down as an excruciating punishment in the case of a felon whom he was asked to pardon. Mr. Bartholmey St. Hillary, a few weeks back, said to me, "A Frenchman in half a dozen words might be passed by the chambers which would have passed the republic and France. It would be easy to suppose a Frenchman drinking shop which alcohol is retained by the glass, in no matter what form." Drunkenness is the destruction of the vines by phyloxera, the manufacture of brandy out of beet-root and potato, the use of adulterated and drugged wine, the race is going to the dogs in the town. That ability which makes the Frenchman a great artist renders him unable to resist the noxious effects of alcohol on the nervous system. When the artist ceases to give grace to his work, he begins with a sip of vermouth or absinthe, which is as noxious as a irritant and a stimulant. Then he drinks half a litre of "manufactured" wine, in which there is not a drop of grape-juice. After his office he takes a glass of brandy, and then a glass of brandy, and finally a glass of brandy. The result is that he remains in the charnel house of the sugar refinery, at the bottom of which a dozen different kinds of wines are served; and there is not a single drop of grape-juice in the lot. Formerly, there used to be a small genuine wine to drink with water, and then Bordeaux and Burgundy, which had had time to grow mild in the cellar. "None avens change tout cela." This ordinary is a rough, strong beverage from Lorraine. It is followed by a very fine vintage of the sherry or Madeira type, which is twice offered. This became the Orleans wine that had been tried in the past. The result is a mixture of the above, which is served with the glass, and afterwards filled with Bordeaux, Burgundy, hock, champagne and Lorraine. The quantity of wine consumed is of twenty, in heavy feasts. California champagne—also very heavy—is making the way at Parisian banquets. Gambetta used to leave no drink on his table when he was in the habit of spending his leisure hours with his family. He broke down when he consumed himself to old Bordeaux, and took very little of it. I have often seen opposite young ministers and observed that they, too, ran the gamut of all the

seven or eight wine glasses that flanked their plates. They were not apparently anything the worse for it in looking, and nobody would have thought of charging them with intemperance because they drank of all the vintages offered them. But it must have told on mind and health in the long run, and perhaps would account for their laziness in keeping electoral promises. French women are not often guilty of the sin of intemperance. I never saw one drunk or tipsy or in any way the worse for wine, although at grand dinners they do as ample justice to the vintages set before them as any rising statesman. The old French statesman is generally sober. Champaigne is a water drinker, which perhaps is why he has never yet broken faith with his electors. I heard it said that the French sea do not promote temperance. Liquors are served at them and at 6 o'clock there is a mild liqueur up by ladies, who attend them at fashionable entertainments, and notably at the cake shop in the Rue d'Elvillat along the Bodegas. The fair dealers are of ripe. I should in justice add, are more often foreign than native. One of the British duchesses, who often follows the swallows, patronizes this cake shop.

DRESSED BEEF AND LIVE CATTLE.
The trunk line roads have now handled the dressed beef and live cattle traffic between Chicago and the seaboard for over a year upon the rates named by Judge Cooley. They find that the three great dressed beef monopolies produced more profit than the live cattle interest is yielding out, and that under Judge Cooley's decision it is only a question of time when the huge dressed beef concern will not only control the railroads, but the produce and commodity markets as well. It is true that many a live cattle shipper from the vast territory west of Chicago doing business here at the yards has already felt the grip of the dressed beef monopoly. As an evidence that the seaboard railroads have been discriminating in favor of the dressed beef trade as against the live cattle shippers, it is only necessary to point to Mr. G. F. Swift as one who has been lifted into wealth and power through the generosity of these same roads. He now slaughters nearly one-third of the entire receipts of cattle in Chicago. It is not to be wondered at, then, that the live cattle shippers are unable to receive from the trunk line live roads an equitable rate on live cattle as compared with dressed beef, this vast live cattle trade in which the commodity and producers of beef are alike interested, will fall entirely to the hands of the dressed beef monopoly. If you kill the live cattle trade at the Chicago yards, live will be the country producer of cattle fare at the hands of the monopoly when he desires to sell his cattle. Of course, others may go into the dressed beef business here in Chicago, but no man could compete with the present rulers of the trade unless he was backed by millions. They would understand him at any point he might select as a market.

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