

which you are to adjudicate, your Honors and Gentlemen of the Jury, it is due to myself and family, yea to justice and the public, to say that I had for months kept under my great enemy, till a new acquaintance, from no good motive brought into my field, from our town groggery, a bottle of brandy. That produced the madness which fired a destructive conflagration, which led to the death of our worthy pastor, and which struck my own dear son dead through a father's hand!" Here again his tears fell, and his utterance was slightly obstructed; but he soon gained his wonted composure. "On my return, I felt that I was pursued by dreadful creatures, which led me to arm myself with a lever; and, as I approached my door, I thought I saw a cluster of poisonous serpents intertwined, writhing, hissing, and darting at me, when I dealt at them a blow. A huge monster then seemed to be coming at me, of the crocodile genus, covered with great scales, with fiery eyes and open mouth, to swallow me up. A dreadful terror came over me, and, to protect myself, I struck my lever at it with all my might. I was then seized by giants, (I give my own impressions) and verily believed the hour of my doom had come. My fears and feelings overpowered me, and I recollected no more until next morning. When I came to myself I was weak, bruised and felt more dead than alive. Soon my dear wife came, and like a ministering angel, began in a quite way to soothe my feelings and alleviate my sufferings. I said to her, 'My dear, why is your head bound up?' 'Never mind,' she said, 'you are sick, and we must take care of you.' 'Call the boys to help me up,' I said. My wife stepped out, and soon returned with my elder son

George, when I asked, 'Where is Samuel?' She waived an answer, and I had not the remotest idea of our dear Samuel's death, till the Sheriff came to apprehend me.— Then I saw that the love of those to whom I had made myself most unlovely had drawn a veil over the sad event, to save me from the torments I have since endured, and which a hundred deaths on the gallows cannot equal." The court and jury were much moved by this recital, and the numerous audience were bathed in tears.

"Think not that I detail these facts to screen myself. No your Honors and Gentlemen of the Jury, it is too late for me to hope for anything this side of death. But, in justice to the State and its Legislators, in justice to the executors of the law, in justice to the mass of the people, the source of law and power, in justice to others whose misfortune it is to lose command of themselves through the drinking customs of society, yea, as a sacrifice on the altar of truth, the last I shall ever make in this public manner, I do affirm that the state of mind which produced what your laws call murder did not result, in my case, from the act of drinking, but from the previous steps taken under the authority of the State, to insure that act. It resulted from the licensed hand that held the cup to my lips. As a dying man, I leave this my true, my faithful testimony, hoping and praying that it may lead to more just views on this subject, and to a final withdrawal of the means of drinking from that unhappy class to whom it is an unfailling incentive to crime. I do it to save the State from the inhumanity of first instigating the crime, and then punishing the criminal."

FEAR only to do evil.