

commercial view of humanity is un-Christian and anti-Christian. Its a heresy born of hell. Some day the great Christian principle will come into play, namely, that the rights of people are superior to and must have precedence over the rights of property. It was this Christian principle that gave back to the slave his God-given birthright of liberty. It was this Christian principle the sacredness of man, the superiority of people over property, that burned and blazed like a fire of the Holy Ghost in Whittier's Songs of Freedom:

Tell us not of banks and tariffs,
Cease your paltry pedler cries,—
Shall the good State sink her honor
That your gambling stocks may rise?
Would ye barter MAN for cotton?
That your gains may sum up higher.
Must we kiss the feet of Moloch,
Pass our children through the fire?
Is the dollar only real?
God and truth and right a dream?
Weighed against your lying ledgers,
Must our MANHOOD kick the beam?"

This principle that persons are more sacred than property lies underneath the modern crusade against the liquor traffic. Men argue that the traffic brings revenue to the nation. They remind us that many distillers and brewers have much property invested in the traffic, and that property should be sacredly guarded. I answer where vested property conflicts with the welfare of the people, property must go. That was the point of contention between Christ and the people of Gadara. They were more anxious to save the swine than save the devil-possessed man. Jesus said we will save the man, and let the swine and the devils go to the sea or where they will. Commerce talks much about the vested interests of property! Christianity talks much about the sacred interests of people. "Perish banks and perish traffic" where banks and traffic clash with the "bodies and souls of men." As said the eloquent preacher of England's great abbey, "I would trample