

the Scandinaviar, the Christian, and the Mohammedan.

The field is seemingly very large, but with these religions I have but little to do, only in so far as they have influenced the use of intoxicating liquors.

To properly understand the matter I must very briefly refer to a scrap of history which has recently been unveiled. It is exceedingly interesting in that it has revealed to us some relatives hitherto unknown.

The acquaintance has been made through philology, or the science of language.

#### THE ARYANS AND HINDUS.

I refer to the Aryans. These Aryans are supposed to have lived in Central Asia, possibly, it is thought, in Armenia. Another theory and quite plausible is that they lived in Atlantis, the lost continent, described by an Egyptian Priest to Solon, as related by Plato, and existing beyond the Pillars of Hercules, or Straits of Gibraltar, up to 11,500 years ago. However that there were Aryans, that they migrated from their ancient home, some to India, some to Persia, the balance to Europe, is a fact. In short, that they were the ancestors of the Hindus, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Teutons, Slavs and Celts. It is said also that before their separation, they were in a highly civilized state. Amongst other things, they had intoxicating liquor.

We know the Hindus had it at least 1500 B. C.

We know the plant first used in making intoxicating liquor by our Aryan race, it is the Soma plant. The Hindus worshipped this plant as a god and drank and offered its juice to the spirits of their ancestors. The Hindus claimed that it conferred immortality. It has been identified with the nectar of the ancient Greeks, and the Greek god Bacchus with the Hindu god, *Deva Nahusha (Dionysus)* To strike alcohol for the first time would be like striking "ile," only the enthusiasm would be unbounded.

The Hindus called on the spirits of their ancestors to join them daily in drinking the fermented juice of the Soma plant.