

to say that a dozen glasses of gin per diem will probably sooner or later produce cirrhosis of the liver. What does this mean? Who said that it did afford an excuse? Dr. Wood further says that "if it be illegal to explode fire-crackers within the city limits, surely the illegality begins with the explosion of the first cracker, not after the firing of the third." Certainly the illegality commences with the first act contrary to law. But is Dr. Wood credulous enough to believe that a law could be enacted to prohibit the use of "one drop" of alcohol, or that such a law could be enforced? I shall next expect him to urge that lucifer matches should not be used, because by improper use of them they might set fire to a house.

Dr. Wood charges me with admitting that a goodly number of moderate drinkers must of necessity be kept on the tenter-hooks of eternal watchfulness. I acknowledge the correctness of the charge, believing that in spite of all coercive and prohibitory laws that can, or ever will be enacted or enforced, there must and will be a "goodly number of moderate drinkers." I accept the inevitable rather than follow the shadow, and would have every individual kept on the "tenter-hooks of eternal watchfulness." As they would pray for forgiveness of sin, so let them guard themselves, and exercise all the self-control they can command against the fascination of over-indulgence in the use of alcoholic liquors. And to aid in this precept I would teach all who *will* make use of them how to do so with comparative safety, and how to avoid the danger. And I would have my professional brethren aid in this work. Dr. Wood acknowledges that education is one of the effective combatants against vice, and so it is. The drinking habit is a vice, therefore let us educate upon it; let us instil into the minds of the "masses" the injurious consequences following the use of stimulants at *improper times, in improper quantities, and without food.*

In conclusion, let me say to Dr. Wood that, while all praise is due to him and his co-workers in a good cause, still, if he exercised the ability he evidently possesses towards educating the "masses" upon this point, and towards urging upon philanthropists the value and necessity for comfortable and cheerful homes for the destitute, he would accomplish more good for his cause than by denouncing those who differ from him as encouraging drunkenness.

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