"Here," said he, "take this. You are a good man, and deserve it. You can buy iron with this money. enlarge your shop, provide better for your family, and put by something for your old age."

The blacksmith thanked the Signor

warmly, but said:

"This money I must ask you to excuse me from taking. As long as I am able to work, it is not right for me to take money which I have not earned. If I want to lay in a stock of iron my credit will enable me to do so, for an honest workman who is punctual in his payments can always find some one to give him credit. I would beg you to give this silver to my mate Lazzaro. He would thus get out of his difficulties. and resume his work, while I should have a few hours more sleep."

Signor Girolamo acted on Martin's advice, but at the same time he related to every one in Milan the tale of the blacksmith's generosity. What was the result? All who needed a blacksmith went to Martin, so that soon he had a flourishing business. Thus with no other help than his own skill. and honesty, he secured for himself a his competence.

THE DUKE'S STRATAGEM. There was once a German Duke who disguised himself, and during the night placed a large stone in the middle of the road near his palace.

Next morning a sturdy peasant named Hans, came that way with his

lumbering ox-cart.

"O, these lazy people," said he. "there is this big stone in the middle of the road, and no one will take the trouble to put it out of the way." And so Hans went on his way, scolding about the laziness of the people.

Next came a gay soldier along. His head was held so far back that he didn't see the stone, so he stumbled over it. He began to storm at the country people, and call them "boors and blockheads for leaving a huge rock in the road for a gentleman to fall over." Then he went on.

Next came a company of merchants with pack-horses and goods, on their way to the fair, to be held at the village near the Duke's palace. When they came to the stone the road was so narrow that they had to go off on a single file on either side. One of them cried out, "Did any one ever see the like of that big stone lying here all the morning, and no one stopping to take it away?

It lay there for three weeks, then the Duke sent word to all the people on his lands to meet near where this stone lay as he had something to tell them.

The day came, and a great crowd gathered at the Dornthou. Each side of the cut was thronged with people overlooking the road. Old Hans, the farmer, was there, and so was Berthold the merchant.

And now a winding horn was heard, and the people all strained their necks and eyes toward the castle, as a splendid calvacade came galloping up to the Dornthou.

The Duke rode into the cut, got down from his horse, and with a pleasant smile began to speak to the people

"My friends, it was I who put this stone here three weeks ago, Every passer by has left it where it was, and has scolded his neighbor for not taking it out of the way."

When he had spoken these words he stooped down and lifted up the stone. Directly underneath it lay a small leaher bag. The Duke held it up that all the people might see. On a piece of paper, fastened to the bag, were these words, "For him who lifts up the stone. He untied the bag, and out dell a gold ring and twenty large

Then everybody wished that he had moved the stone, instead of going ound it and only blaming his neighpors. They all lost the prize because hey had not formed the habit of help-

MR. WESLEY AND THE BULL. In the winter of 1763, during a very ard frost, Mr. Wesley visited Sheerness. His carriage could not cross the erry, it being frozen over, and several riends went to meet him. When about half-way between the "balf-way house" and sheerness, they saw a bull coming eward them, foaming at the mouth, nd a number of men running after it, and calling to the party to get out of he way; but this was impossible, there being a large moat on both sides of the road. As the bull approached Mr. Wesley saw their danger immediately ook off his hat, kuelt down and said, Let us pray." The bull came up, nade a dead stand, looking at Mr. Wesley for two or three minutes, it seemed to be awed and restrained by 8 upernatural power. Mr. Wesley was it the head of the party, and nearest to the bull, my grandfather and his on Thomas next. The men then came ip, and the bull made a rush, passing y them without injuring any one. Mr. Wesley then gave out a hymn, in which ill heartily joined .- Methodist Recorder. TEMPERANCE.

DONE AT THE COUNTER

BY THEODORE L. CUYLER, D. D. I have lately seen, in an English newspaper, the announcement that a

public-house is for sale; and the advertizment contains the following sentence: " These premises are surrounded by numerous manufactories, employing thousands of well paid-hands, who inhabit the numberless dwellings in this dense neighbourhood. The trade is large, full-priced, and mostly done at the counter, approaching £400 per

month." This cold-blooded announcement smells of the pit. Beelzebub himself could not frame a more infernal sentence than this one, in which the dramdealer tells us how cunningly he has planted his death-trap between those laborers' wages and all their needy wives and children. He has reared his toll-gate right in the very track of these "well-paid hands," so that he may levy on them at the rate of \$2,000 per month! For this sum he retails to these operatives disease, poverty, disgrace, and endless distruction. We feel our fingers instinctively twiching to get such a scoundrel by the jugular, and gripping it until he is as purple in the countenance as any of his victims.

But why expend our righteous indignation upon a foreign liquor-seller, when this same conspiracy against the wages and honor and lives of workingmen is being carried on in our own land? Precisely the crime which that Englishman so shamefully advertises is being perpetrated here in all our factory towns, in all our cities, and in a large majority of our villages. At this time the labor question is one of the foremost questions of the hour. Discussions about labor, about wages, and about the needs of the working-classes are engaging the pens and tongue of the | by the upper classes. The drinking us-Hitchcocks, the Hewitts, the Joseph | uages of warkingmen will continue just Cooks, and numberless others Both as long as their employers practice the patriotism and philanthropy are studying the problem, " How shall the laborer be elevated?" and "How shall the ciety the decanter is slaying its thousinequalities in society be to any degree ands too. Alcohol is no respecter of remedied?

After all, the chief problem, to my mind, is to teach the laborer how to save and to use aright the money which | English rumseller's advertizment, will he earns. High wages are not always themselves offer wine at their own taa blessing. They are often a curse. ble! They set out liquors at weddings Master mechanics tell me that in the on New Year's Day. Practically, they "inflation times," when they paid their put their own tables on a par with the workmen high wages, the increased pay was a terrible temptation. With such wages a much larger traffic in tobacco and rum was "done at the counter" A Before they warm into indignation at heavier toll was paid at the dram-shop. And, now that wages are scarcer and borer, let their cheeks crimson with fewer, it is no easy thing to break up the | shame at the example they themselves spendthrift habits. When the laborer | are setting .- N. Y. Independent. is flush, he is tempted to spend freely at "the counter;" when wages are low and work scarce, he is tempted to drink, in order to drown worry and sorrow. All wings seem to blow toward the dramshop. This traffic in intoxicants is something tremendous. How else could high rents be paid on so many corners. and so many glittering bars be kept up in the fashionable saloous and hotels?

Halting for a street-car, a few evenings since, in front of a corner dramshop, I observed two well-dressed young | sight." men playing some game with dice. Their wages were being "done at the counter," and some poor mother's heart was probably being wrenched asunder. A decently-clad women stepped in with a pitcher under her apron, and got it filled from a cask. Her wages for washing or other work went to the same "counter;" and that pitcher of grog went to her house to instruct her children in the accursed habit. Bight in the midst of that community the bottlespider weaves his seductive web and feeds on the foolish flies that are enticed therein. As long as labor pays this tremendous toll, all hope of a general betterment of it scondition is futile. But if this greedy outlet for wages were effectually stopped, more than half of the "labor problem" would be as effectu-

atly settled. What can be done toward it? Several things ought to be done and can be. A legal restriction of the liquor-traffic in the State of Maine has almost swept that State of dram-shops. But that was because a vast majority of the people in Maine are two well instructed to tolerate the dram-shop. As the mass of citizens are abstainers, there is really but a small demand or desire for liquors. With a powerful public sentiment to drive it, a prohibitory law is a McCormick's reaper, cutting clean. Without such a sentiment, it a rusty reaper, at which every grog-seller laughs. To produce such a corrective and restrictive sentiment requires labor of tongue, pen, pulpit, and personal influence. Every man who helps to throttle the drinking. house helps to elevate the working-

classes. "Do you have any drinking-houses in your township?" I enquired lately of a friend from my native county in this State, " No," he replied : " not one. We annually choose magistrates who refuse licences, If any tavern-keeper refuse licences. If any tavern-keeper or grocer sells without a licence, we prosecute and punish him." That is practical prohibition. In that township there is no manufacture of poverty | Daily Post.

MCON ROOM TRIGORIA

and crime "done at the counter." What is accomplished in that township may be accomplished in any other, provided that the same thorough education of the people on temperance is carried out. The pulpit has always been outspoken for temperance in that community.

Multitudes of the humbler classes may be rescued from the clutch of the dram-shop by personal effort. This is the line of effort in which the Sawyers, Moodys, Murphys Reynolds, Goughs, and Willards do their best service. Father Matthew saved thousands of his countrymen from the whiskey-shop by his own personal effort. My Irish gardener refused to touch whiskey even as a medicine, when he was sick. He belonged to a "Father Matthew Abstinence Society." The dead hand of the Irish Apostle held him back. There is an immense field for this Christian temperance propagandism among the work-ing-classes; and the educated Christian class ought to go into it. Horace Greelev told me that none of his work ever paid better" than this. To open temperance coffee houses, "Holly-tree-inns" and reading-rooms is a vast boon to the poorer classes, who have been "done at the counter," of the dram dens.

Many of even the better grade of laboring people are pitiably ignorant as to the very nature and effect of alcoholic stimulants. "Patrick" or "Sandy' really believes that a glass of whiskey gives him warmth and strength. This error should be corrected in the public school, by teaching every child a few first principles out of a small, cheap text book of temperence. If the commonwealth suffers by the poverty, crime, and demoralization caused by the bottle, then the commonwealth is as much bound to save its children from the bot-

tle as to teach them to read and write. All attempts to break down the counters" of grog-shops are baulked as long as costly "bars" are sustained same. Social influences work downward. And in the highest tier of sopersons.

Perhaps some of my readers, who will redden with indignation at that dram-shop "counter"! Fashion tempts them to do what avarice tempts the liquor-seller to do. Are they less guilty? the temptations set before the poor la-

Two children were crossing the Strait of Dover. The girl's face was turned to the land they had just left forever; but the boy looked forward to the white cliffs they were approaching. Lulu's eyes were filled with tears. She was leaving the land of her childhood for a home among strangers.

" O, Fred," she cried, " how fast the land recedes! I can just see a delicate purple line-soon it will be out of

"Yes, but never mind France, Lulu. Look ahead, and see the new home we are nearing," replied Fred, as he gazed over the tessing sea to the land.

How, like Luiu, we are apt to weep for the joys gone, and to mourn for the world we must leave. But how, like Fred, we should be looking ahead, beyoud the angry waves to our new home in the distance.

WHEN we consider that Fellow's Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites supplies the deficiency to unhealthy blood, restores the nervous element and produces healthy action to the various organs and forces of the body necessary to sound mind, we wonder at the imbecility everywhere ap-

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