

PRICES. F. POTTS, Commission...

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Includes items like 'to .31', 'to .08', etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Includes items like 'to .11', 'to .41', etc.

THE COUNTRY. HOW PLANTS—good...

MACDONALD, site Railway Depot...

LOW'S COMPOUND WRUP OF PHITES

RECOVERY of Scientific Ex...

of Scientific Ex... the theory that...

of Scientific Ex... the theory that...

of Scientific Ex... the theory that...

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# The Wesleyan,

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TEMPERANCE. BRITAIN'S BOTTLE AND HER BIBLE.

BY REV. DR. COOPER, OF LONDON, ONT. By the returns made to the British Parliament in 1877, we learn that the sum spent by the British people on intoxicating liquors for the previous year, 1876, amounted to £147,288,759—one hundred and forty-seven millions, two hundred and eighty-eight thousand, seven hundred and fifty-nine pounds sterling.

This sum is absolutely enormous, and the statement would be incredible, but from the source whence the intelligence comes. Many persons have a very inadequate idea of a million. Let it simply be announced in the papers that Britain pays so many millions every year for intoxicating drinks, and because the amount, to the human mind, is bordering on the infinite, the enormity of the evil is never realized. Let us now try to distribute this money so as to get, if we can, a somewhat tangible idea of it. The following illustration is not original, but we give it because we like it. We get our most vivid impression by contrast. Here we have Britain's greatest glory in contrast with her greatest blot: Britain, the honored for her open Bible; Britain, the disgraced for her intoxicating bottle. We like this mode of distribution also, because all can understand it, and the experiment of making it is within the reach of all.

I take an Oxford Bible, printed for the noble British and Foreign Bible Society, &c.—and I find it contains 990 pages. By selecting 10 pages, some more closely, some more widely printed, owing to the length or shortness of the verses, I find the average number of words on one page to be 781. Multiply this number by the number of pages and we have 773,190 as the number of words in the Old and New Testaments. Let us now lay 190 sovereigns on each of these words as we pass along from the first of Genesis till the last of Revelations. This being finished, we find we have still on hand of those gold pieces 382,659. Let us now again commence at Genesis and lay on additional on the pile which we have laid on each word, and before we have laid them all out we shall have gone as far as the 40th Psalm, very nearly half through the book, or about half a sovereign on each word to the end of Revelations. This gives us the final result: £190 10s. for every word of the English Bible is laid annually by the British people as a free-will offering on the altar of the liquor traffic.

Now, whatsoever our peculiar views of total abstinence may be, it will surely be a need by all respectable men that this monster evil ought to be dealt with vigorously. Whatever honor may be due to our beloved land for her attachment to an open Bible and the profusion of liberty with which she has given that Bible to the breathen in their own vernacular, it cannot but be a matter of sorrowful regret that liberality forms such a puny thing in contrast with the immense sum she pays annually for this dear indulgence. It is true that there are thousands who use these drinks in moderation, and who, though from their temperament, may be per-

become drunkards, as the word is grossly understood; but it is just as true that there are thousands of others of a much finer mental texture who die drunkards every year. Thousands of families who enjoy their wine and their ale are yet moral and benevolent; let that be freely granted. But it is just as true that there are thousands of families in crime and pauperism who are the victims all the year through of poverty, filth and suffering, living under the very eye of those who so much enjoy their indulgence. Forbid that we should speak lightly of any virtue, not even of that one which enables a man to keep on his feet, while another who had even been less free with the bottle, could not stand without a support. Living for one's self is surely not the most enviable type of character, and if the habitual use of intoxicating drinks, even indirectly, conduces to this shrivelling selfishness, it must be a social blight in any community.

The practical lesson to be drawn from this state of things in Great Britain, and which we Canadians ought diligently now to study, is very obvious. If we are ever to act effectively on our Legislature with a view to prevent this hydra-headed monster from gaining such proportions amongst us, now is our time for action. The difficulty of acting on the English Parliament, either by petitions or election, is so huge that it is regarded by many as nearly hopeless. Prejudice and precedents are so deeply rooted and so potent in their influence, that arguments fall like dew-drops, and the wail of sorrow from the widow and the fatherless have become as familiar as the ocean's moan. Who has not heard the murmur; but who can alleviate the distress or apply the remedy? In Canada the state of things is entirely different. Temperance men and principles are here a power, and we ought to be thankful for it, and strain every nerve to make our power felt. Both our Houses of Parliament have opened their doors to our deputations, and their ears to our arguments. They have said to us in the most emphatic manner: "Tell us what you want, and with an enlightened and virtuous people at your back we are prepared to meet your every reasonable demand. Educate your constituencies to temperance principles, and we will give you temperance laws. Ripen your people for prohibition, so as to sustain our enactments, and you shall have them. Rouse the prejudices of the parents in our land against the drinking customs, and we will decree that every common school teacher shall be a temperate man. You have proved to us, what it was not difficult to do, that late drinking and late gambling are a social curse, and we close up every saloon at as early an hour as you may name. Support us—only support us in our acts, and we will encumber the liquor traffic by every weight we can attach to it. Educate the people and prepare them to provide us an adequate revenue against any loss we may sustain from a prohibition bill, and we will sweep the whole nuisance from the land."

This, our Government is prepared to do, and no reasonable man can ask it to do more. All sound legislation is the expressed conviction of an enlightened and virtuous people. Educate! educate! scatter truthful and telling statistics; labor to get tipplers to make a trial of abstinence. Let temperance principles form a part of the education of our youth; and we shall have every distillery closed up as a losing concern; and every brewery changed into a beehive manufactory, where our raw material shall be constructed into the good and the useful; but where not a soul shall be seen either destroying himself or the precious grain with which a bountiful providence rewards the labor

## TRY EXAMPLE.

Dr. Reid, of Edinburgh, says: Permit me to give a single instance, showing what an advantage abstinence gives to a minister in dealing with intemperance. The Rev. John Griffith, M. A., rector of Neath, tells us that a Quaker friend did much to enlighten and to instruct him. Meeting with this young philanthropist shortly after entering on his present charge, he was congratulated by him on his zeal in attacking the sin of drunkenness which so generally prevailed in the parish, and then asked: "Wilt thou tell me how many converts thou hast had from drunkenness?" "I fear none," the reply.

"Well," said he, "thou hast tried what preaching will do, and thou hast tried what lecturing will do; suppose thou dost try what example will do!"

The appeal was irresistible. It may now be asked what have been the results of his professing teetotalism. Eight hundred persons in the course of eighteen months signed the pledge; seven hundred young people became members of the "Band of hope." The whole moral aspect of the town became changed; sobriety was soon in the ascendancy, as frequenting public-houses ceased to be considered respectable. The stumbling-block having been removed, the work of philanthropy and religion progressed. "I might fill columns," says Mr. Griffith, "with the mention of the fruits of those labours. I shall only mark out one for especial notice—viz., the increased influence the profession of total abstinence conferred on me, not as an individual citizen, but as a minister of the Gospel. By avowing myself on the side of total abstinence, my influence increased tenfold."

## DECREASED CONSUMPTION OF LIQUORS.

T. W. CASEY, NAPANEE, ONT. If there is any branch of business at which the falling off in which the whole country has reason to rejoice it is the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors. The decrease in these indicates increased temperance and morality among the people. We are glad to notice by the last Inland Revenue returns for the Dominion of Canada that during the last fiscal year there was a gratifying decrease both in the quantity of manufactured, distilled and malt liquors.

According to the Commissioners' report there was a decrease last year in the revenue for excise on spirits of \$149,041, and on tobacco of \$145,060. The report further states:

"The quantity of spirits (proof) taken for consumption during the past fiscal year, is less by 498,788 gallons, or 14 1/2 per cent, than the quantity taken in 1875-76, which, again, was less than the quantity taken in either of the four previous years, with the exception of 1873-74. The quantity taken in 1876-77 is less than the average of the four preceding years by 817,930 gallons, equal to nearly 21 per cent."

The quantity of proof spirits taken for home consumption was: In 1873-74.....4,566,508 gallons. In 1876-77.....2,942,337 "

Showing decrease ... 1,624,161 "

If the increase of population during that time be taken into consideration, the decrease becomes still more apparent.

The committee attributes the falling-off to the three following causes: 1. The uncertainty of dealers and publishers as to the direction which legislation might take in relation to prohibition and a consequent determination to hold as small quantities in stock as is consistent with immediate wants. 2. Illicit distillation. 3. An actual decrease in consumption, consequent on the decreased ability of many classes of the people to purchase.

years tens of thousands of persons, many of whom were formerly hard drinkers, have become pledged abstainers, and thousands of others, because of the strong growth of public opinion, drink far less now than in former days?

This fact accounts more for "uncertainty of dealers" than any other. With many of the dealers there has been such a reformation among their customers that the actual daily demand has fallen off to "a most alarming extent," and these causes are still at work with the same excellent results.

As to the illicit distillation, large as the figures are, they only account for a small item of the falling off. The report says:

"It is impossible to furnish any reliable estimate of the quantity of spirits illicitly made, but considering the reported magnitude of some of the stills which have been seized, I am of opinion that the loss to revenue from frauds of this nature will be equal to the duty of not less than 200,000 proof gallons."

Deduct this computed amount from the total falling off and it does not make the gross sum much smaller than before. And it must be remembered that for years past illicit distillation has gone on to a considerable extent, so that the total amount here given does not represent the relative loss of one year.

In reference to the quantity of malt liquors manufactured, there has also been a large falling off. The quantity of malt taken for consumption in the Dominion was:

In 1875-76.....40,603,447 lbs. In 1876-77.....28,878,561 lbs.

Decrease.....11,814,551 lbs. We believe that 30 lbs. of malt represent one bushel of barley. The falling off therefore, would equal 393,830 bushels of barley. The commissioner remarks:—"These figures show that there has been a steady decline in the quantity of malt used during the past five years."

In Ontario and Quebec this year ten large counties are without liquor license for the first time, and the number of licenses issued in Ontario have decreased by many hundreds. The probabilities are, therefore, that during the year to come there will be another grand decrease to repeat in the manufacture and sale of malt liquors.

## NEW YORK LIFE.

If there were space, and the patience of your readers would permit it, I would say something of Communism as it is developed in this section. But I can only say that just now this seems to be the peril which is most immediate and imminent in our land. On the evening of the 24th ult., they had a council in the city of New York and a red flag was prominently displayed, upon which was emblazoned the motto of the men of France in 1848: "Du pain ou du plomb"—bread or lead. Speeches of the most violent character were delivered, and anathemas hurled against the Government of the United States, which were applauded vociferously. We fear very much that this spirit will prevail among the foreign population of our country. At the same time it is evident that it only had a small hold upon our American people. What the outcome of all this will be remains to be seen. Certain it is that if an outbreak is provoked by this dangerous class of our large cities and towns, it must be put down at any cost, and by all the power of Government.—Extract from letter to Pittsburgh Advocate.

Mr. Bergh cannot be too warmly sustained by all the Christian-humane in his brave and chivalric crusade against the customary oppression of animals. Good people who never live for their own pleasure regardless of the humblest rights that lie at their mercy, can scarcely imagine the bitterness or the extent of the obloquy which Mr. Bergh indomitably breathes from year to year in his fresh advances against the habitations of cruelty. Every fresh form of persecutive or traditional abuse which he assails is defended in turn by the same angry protest of "fanaticism" from

This week Mr. Bergh has commenced before the courts the discussion of the question whether horses have any right to the tails which the Creator, with evident kindness to their acute sensitiveness, has given for their defense against a host of intolerable tormentors. With the grossly bad taste which stimulated living always develops among its other evils, our horse-swells are now reviving the cruel fashion of docking the beauty and efficiency of from the horses tail, to square him to their notion of a smart, English-brutal-looking "mount" Mr. Bergh was, of course, badly worsted yesterday in his first attack upon the perpetrator of one of these outrages, while the city editor was proportionately delighted. Only four jurors out of twelve were feebly and temporarily inclined to condemn so well established and hitherto uncondemned an abuse. But Mr. Bergh, rest assured, will persist until he spoils this sport like many others that were as indignantly defended. So it goes: inch by inch, the horse shall have his tail again.—From letter to Central Advocate.

## SELF-DENIAL.

When Agassiz visited Oken, the great German naturalist, the latter showed to the young student his laboratory, his cabinet, his magnificent library, and all his varied and costly apparatus. At length the dinner hour approached. Oken said to Agassiz: "Sir, to gather and maintain what you have seen uses up my income. To accomplish this I have to economize in my style of living. Three times in the week we have meat on the table. On the other days we dine on potatoes and salt. I regret that your visit has fallen on a potato day." And so the naturalist, with the student Oken, dined on potatoes and salt.

We have in this world a few infallible people; and from the pope downward, they are the most difficult to get on with. With rather more shortcomings than other folks, they esteem themselves unusually wise, and are quite prone to become dogmatic and emphatic. Cherishing full faith in their own ideas and plans, they are not quite able to see how other people are not sacredly bound to submit to their godly and unerring judgment. The situation of these infallibles is unfortunate, for such is the obtuseness and piecemealness of men in general, that they will not accept the dicta of these born popes, and then ensues a conflict. To dispute the decisions of popes is the most mortal of sins. Do they not give utterance to the will of God? and how can society have rest while the orders of these peculiar people are not obeyed? The entrance of these infallible people into a community, a church, or a household, is a most unfortunate affair; broils are sure to follow. Banish the popes, if you want peace!—Zion's Herald.

Be sure, before starting for the vacation by the sea side, or among the mountains, to secure a good, even if small, selection of books to carry with you. There will be days when the house will find no grateful than out of doors. There will be rainy days and hours when physical recreation will be indispensable. At these times, a good book will be a delightful recreation, and give profitable employment without weariness.—Zion's Herald.

One of the most serious evils arising from the summer vacation system, is the letting down of family discipline that almost surely attends the periodical breaking up of the household. Some places are far more objectionable than others, in this respect; a fact well worth taking into the account in deciding

Carlton Mrs C O