

Selected Articles.

DECLARATION OF WAR.

War is now declared between the Prohibition party and the Liquor parties; for the greatest issue before the people now is the Liquor question.

It means death, to the defeated there can be no compromise. If the saloons remain, the home must go. Where the liquor traffic most dominates, the prisons, poor houses, houses of correction, houses of refuge and charitable asylums are an imperative necessity, a burden and tax upon the provident and industries of the community.

Where prohibition reigns, prisons and poor houses are nearly empty, and homes are abodes of happiness.

In other words where the liquor traffic rules, ruin and hell abound.

Where prohibition reigns this fair earth fulfills its mission of a blessed home for man.

Can the many surrender their peace and happiness that the few may live upon their miseries? That is incompatible with self preservation, therefore, this war is to the bitter end, knife to knife and shoulder to shoulder.

The saloon is the doorway to destruction, and is backed by all the powers of darkness, ignorance, superstition, prejudice, ancient customs popular and social delusions, greed of gain, appetite, money, power, political corruption, and all the evil influences that the "crime of crimes" can muster into its service.

On the other hand the Prohibition party rallies around the "STANDARD OF LIBERTY," on which is inscribed, "For God, Our Home and Our Land." Every word means life or death to all that is dearest to the soul. We are inspired with a sense THAT WE ARE RIGHT, that we will admit of no denial, that gives courage to our convictions, that impresses upon our conscience that it is God's work. We are inspired by a sense of the dangers to our homes that gives a terrible earnestness to a determination to preserve the inheritance we have in this beautiful land. The oppressive sense of danger threatening our boys demand that the saloon must go. The death cry of our country is wringing over our ears night and day, "Down with the saloons, or we are a nation of drunkards," inspires our patriotism and nerves our purpose to know no rest until we are victorious.

All true ministers of God are with us. All of Christ's people are with us. All good and noble men and women of the land are with us, and God leads; WE ARE RIGHT, how can we fail?

KEEP THE BALL ROLLING.

—Baltimore Weekly.

THE NEW CRAZE

The Canadian Royal Templar has been exposing the pretensions of the so-called Liberal Temperance Union. Mr. J. G. Mowat, one of the prominent orators of the N. L. T. U., was reported as stating "that the leading medical testimony went to show that beer was good for the health," and our contemporary responds as follows:—

"One of the very foundations upon which the whole fabric of temperance reform has been raised is the scientific fact that alcohol is a poison, baneful and injurious in its effect upon the human system. When this poison is diluted ten or twenty times with water, as in beer or light wines, its action is not so prompt, its harmful effects not so quickly apparent, as when used in the form of strong spirits, only half or less than half water, but it is the same poison, producing the same results, always acting true to its nature, to the extent of its potency, none the less sure because it is slow.

The man who has the hardihood to dispute that alcohol is a poison, in small doses as well as in large, simply defies science. This clever young advocate of the 'new movement' bravely declared that the leading medical testimony went to show that beer was good for the health, but he failed to produce the leading medical testimony. We are very anxious to see Mr. Mowat's authority. We have been looking for just such testimony for years, but have failed to find it. Perhaps on examination Mr. M. will find his 'highest authority' turn out like Ben. Butler's. The celebrated Ben., defending a prisoner charged with manslaughter, argued that his client committed the unfortunate act in self-defence, and eloquently declared, 'We have it on the highest authority—all that a man hath will he give for his life.' The prosecuting counsel brought down the court when he remarked, 'I am glad to discover who is the highest authority with my learned opponent,' and turning to the good book, he read: 'And Satan answered, Yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life.'

"The simple fact is: the statement that the leading medical testimony is favorable to the use of alcohol in any form or quantity to main health is an impudent untruth. On the contrary the testimony goes to show that the use of alcohol in the smallest doses, whether in beer or light wines, is

invariably injurious to persons in health, and calculated to derange the natural functions. To make our position clear and strong, we shall summon leading specialists of science and place their testimony before our readers:

"The Encyclopædia Britannica (Dr. Balfour) says, 'Alcohol is a poison.'

"Dr. W. B. Carpenter says: 'Any one who is familiar with the action of poison upon the living animal body, and has made that subject a special study, has not the smallest hesitation in saying that alcohol is a poison. Alcoholic wine is an irritant poison. I do not regard its action as any less sure because it is slow.'

"Dr. Norman Kerr, F.L.S., one of the highest living authorities, says: 'It has been demonstrated that fermented and distilled intoxicating liquors are, as their name implies, poisons, destroying more lives than all other poisons put together.'

"Dr. Andrew Clark says: 'Alcohol is a poison; so is arsenic.'

"Dr. Willard Parker says: 'It has been established that alcohol is a poison. It is not a food, nor should it be used as a beverage. It diminishes the temperature, lessens the strength, and by about 40 per cent. shortens life.'

"Dr. Benj. Richardson says: 'To sum it all up, I find that alcoholic drinks give no strength, reduce the tone of the blood vessels, build up no muscle, destroy its powers, make it less active for work; that these drinks, in the most moderate quantities, are of no use as a substance for food.'

"Dr. Kerr says: 'So far from aiding digestion, intoxicating liquors actually hinder this vital process. The presence of an intoxicant in the stomach markedly interferes with the digestive act.'

"Dr. Carpenter says: 'The habitual use of alcoholic liquors in moderate, or even in small quantities, is not merely unnecessary for the maintenance of bodily and mental vigor, but is unfavorable to the permanent enjoyment of health.'

"Dr. Edward Jarvis says: 'The proportion of deaths of total abstainers as compared with non-abstainers between the ages of 20 and 60 is as 10 to 41.'

"Sir Wm. Gull, M.D., F.R.S., says: 'It is one of the commonest things in English society, that people are injured by drink without being drunkards. It goes on so quietly that it is even very difficult to observe. There is a great deal of injury done to the health by the habitual use of wines in their various kinds, and alcohol in its various shapes, even in so-called moderate quantities. It leads to the degeneration of tissues; it spoils the intellect. I think, as a rule, you might strip the supply of alcohol at once without injury.'

"Dr. Thompson, F.R.S., Surgeon Extraordinary to the King of the Belgians, says: 'I have long had the conviction that there is no greater cause of evil, moral and physical, in this country than the use of alcoholic beverages. I do not mean by this, that extreme indulgence which produces drunkenness. The habitual use of fermented liquors to an extent far short of what is necessary to produce that condition, and such is quite common in all ranks of society, injures the body and diminishes the mental power to an extent which I think few people are aware of. Such, at all events, is the result of observation during more than twenty years of professional life devoted to hospital practice, and to private practice in every rank above it. Thus, I have no hesitation in attributing a very large proportion of some of the most painful and dangerous maladies which come under my notice, as well as those which every medical man has to treat, to the ordinary and daily use of fermented drink taken in the quantity which is conventionally deemed moderate.'

"TWO THOUSAND ENGLISH PHYSICIANS SIGNED THIS STATEMENT: 'We are of opinion that a very large proportion of human misery including poverty, disease and crime, is induced by the use of alcoholic or fermented liquors as beverages; that total and universal abstinence from alcoholic liquors, and intoxicating beverages of all sorts, would greatly contribute to the health, the prosperity, the morality and the happiness of the human race.'

"UPWARDS OF ONE HUNDRED NEW YORK DOCTORS SIGNED THIS: 'We, the undersigned members of the medical profession of New York and vicinity, unite in the declaration that we believe alcohol should be classed with other powerful drugs; that when prescribed medicinally, it should be with conscientious caution, and a sense of grave responsibility. We are of opinion that the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage is productive of a large amount of physical disease; that it entails diseased appetites upon offspring; and that it is the cause of a large percentage of the crime and pauperism of our cities and country.'

"NINETY-TWO OF MONTREAL'S MEDICAL MEN SIGNED THIS: 'We, the undersigned members of the medical profession in Montreal are of opinion:

"1. That a large portion of human misery, poverty, disease and crime, is produced by the use of alcoholic liquors, as a beverage.

"2. That total abstinence from intoxicating liquors, whether fermented or distilled, is consistent with, and conducive to the highest degree of physical and mental vigor.

"3. That abstinence from intoxicating liquors would greatly promote the health, morality, and happiness of the people."