

A VOICE FROM THE PRISON.

Among all the influences that have tended to hasten man's degradation, none has reaped so great a harvest as intemperance. From its towering pedestal of supremacy it has looked down upon wavering man and yielding woman. The realm of its influence extends from horizon to horizon. Ever and anon its sceptre is wielded with great power. From the great white city, where the stars and stripes are wafted in the breeze from the capitol dome, to the realm of the Queen, where floats the Union Jack, whether the nation raises aloft the tricolor or the dragon and the fly, King Alcohol wields a power greater than the sword. Civilization is the greatest ally of which it boasts, for wherever civilization goes to instil into the hearts of the heathen the teachings of the lowly Nazarene, and to lay the foundation rock upon which all must stand, King Alcohol follows like a specter in the night. Its poisonous fangs touch the thin, pale lips of old age and smile in the presence of the nursing babe. It goes to bring false merriment to the scions of the rich in the mansions, while it deadens the heart and warps the soul of those who abide in the hovels. With merciless grasp it robs the cheek of young manhood and young womanhood of the flush of health and kills the lustre of the eye, which is the window of the soul. There sleep tonight in the cities of the dead countless thousands of bright gems, who to-day might stand erect as defenders of the nation and of home, were it not for rum.

Legions upon legions of young men and women are marching on toward the premature sleep from which there is no awakening, and o'er the mound where mothers weep and sisters mourn and pray will be placed a slab, upon which might be written in scarlet: "A victim of drink." I speak no words of censure, nor do I condemn, for man is weak and woman will yield, but to the councils of the nation I ask: How long, O how long? Will it ever be thus, that our country join hands with the assassin of virtue and of honor, the destroyer of home, and of peace, and rob from humanity the hope of eternity and immortality? How long, O how long, will the treasure vaults of the nation be opened to receive the silver and gold upon which rests the stem of human blood, a soul destroyed, a heaven lost?

From the cities and the wilderness the cry goes up to night. Ten thousand times ten thousand eyes are peering out from the windows of humble homes toward the cold, grim walls of the nation's darkest spots in every State. Ten thousand times ten thousand voices are speaking prayer this very night for the deliverance of fathers, brothers and husbands from the bondage of body and soul. A thousand homes in Michigan are sad tonight; the firesides are not what they used to be; the loneliness of death has entered; the mantle of gloom has fallen down upon the waiting loved ones. In vain do they seek consolation from the motto on the wall, "God Bless Our Home," for while gazing upon the motto, babes are crying for food and raiment. The cold and snows of winter are upon them, but King Alcohol laughs at the scene. O spirits of dead poets, arise. Arise, O ye sweet songsters and ye painters of ages gone. Let singers sing the story of sadness. Let poets write of sorrow, and ye master painters of centuries dead, arise, and in the light of truth, stretch the canvas from earth to heaven, so that all people, both here and there, may read the words in brightest scarlet: "King Alcohol, the king and curse of earth."—J. M. Higgins, Jackson Prison.

JUST KEELER OVER.

In one of the breweries up town there is quite a system in dispensing drinks to the employees. Every man is graded according to his capacity, and tickets are issued to the men when they come to work in the morning. Each ticket is good for a glass of beer. Some men get 100, others 80, others 60, and so on down to the novices, who are only allowed 25, until their capacity is accurately judged through the system of graduation. The brewers claim that no drunkenness results from this, as the men perspire freely in the hot atmosphere and the liquor has little effect upon them. If by some mischance a man should become incapacitated for work, he is doomed to the next lower class, and that is looked upon as a keen disgrace, and very rarely

happens." "Of course, it ultimately leads to cirrhosis of the liver," said a prominent brewer yesterday, "but the men are bound to drink beer, and it is better to have a system. It saps their vitality to such an extent that they become easy victims to any disease. We lost two workmen last month from broken legs. To any ordinary man no importance would be attached to a fractured limb, but these fellows never rallied. They just keeled over and died."—Philadelphia Record.

THE MISUSE OF WHISKY.

W. R. Hearst, Esq., Editor the Journal: How much alcoholic liquor may a young man drink in a month without injury to his health? "Injury to health" to be understood as meaning any decline from the person's highest physical efficiency. J. C. F.

New Brighton, S. I., January 21. Anything in the way of food or drink that is not beneficial to the system is necessarily injurious to it. This is a paradox, but a true one. You might swallow a bottle of ink without material injury other than physical revulsion, but that would be sufficient to classify it as an injury.

No scientist, medical or otherwise, has ever yet demonstrated that whisky is of any earthly benefit to mankind except in the matter of snake bites.

In a case of this kind it is merely pitting one evil force against another.

A man is like a thermometer, his spirits are equable—neither joyous nor sad. He takes a drink. It fills him with joy. When he recovers from its effects the reaction carries him just as far in the other direction.

You cannot take a drink of whisky without an injury, either mental or physical. Let it alone. —New York Journal, Jan. 23rd, 1900.

A STRONG DELIVERANCE.

At its annual session last month, the Dominion Council R. T. of T. representing prohibition workers from every part of Canada, adopted the following forcible deliverance upon the question of prohibition.

It is apparent that our political leaders consider they have baffled us in our fight for this great measure of reform, and we feel assured that they will do nothing to restore the prestige of prohibition as a political agitation. It is theirs to play the role of politician for the present; ours to make parliaments; ours to so organize and so vote as to hurl from power any and every government that ignores the wishes of the people of Canada. We do not believe that a prohibitory liquor law will be passed until those in power are made to understand that governments have no strength without the temperance vote. Ours it is to make this prohibition cause the stumbling block of every anti-prohibition politician, and every anti-prohibition candidate for parliament; but a source of great strength to those in accord with our views.

The political parties are at present not divided by any great issue. It is a mere struggle between the ins and outs. Both sides are eagerly reaching out for support. No more opportune time could be pre-ented by prohibitionists to make their votes count for our cause. No better opportunity has been presented to us in recent years to strike a blow for God and Home and Canada. There never has been a time when there was less calling for fidelity to party and more calling for fidelity to country.

Your committee recognizes in the principle of the pledge an element of great value and efficacy in the work of moral and social reform. It has been the mainstay of the great temperance movement, an ever-present warning to the citizen in moments of temptation and a great safeguard to the home, which is the mainstay of our social and national life. We believe that it will serve with equal value in purging our political system, and in drawing the voters away from the ties and prejudices of party to the better consideration of necessary reforms. Therefore, your Committee recommends a full endorsement of the plan of the Dominion Alliance to secure 100,000 pledged voters to fight the battle of prohibition at the polls in the next Dominion election, and we would urge that every Royal Templar elector in Canada sign this pledge and aid in securing the same endorsement from as many others as possible.

A GREAT OFFER.

READ CAREFULLY.

You need this paper. You will need it more and more as the prohibition fight gets hotter and hotter, and the 100,000 voters begin to get in their work. Read carefully what is said about it in column headed "Important" on page 2.

Although the price of the CAMP FIRE—Twenty-five cents per year—is very low, we have decided to make a special offer of premiums for subscriptions received during the early part of the present year.

We have secured a line of interesting and attractive books which we propose to present to both old and new subscribers on the plan below set out. Those who are already on our list and send money to take advantage of this offer, may either have another paper sent them or have their present subscription extended one year.

Each of the books named is among the very best of its class, the matter being selected with much care. Each contains 64 large double-column pages, and is neatly bound in attractive paper covers. We will send a copy of any one of these books by itself on receipt of ten cents.

A list of these books is given below. For Twenty-five cents we will send THE CAMP FIRE for one year and any one book selected from the list.

NOTE CAREFULLY.—This offer stands good only a short time. Those who are wise will avail themselves of it at once. Address,

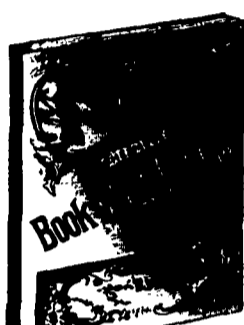
THE CAMP FIRE, 52 Confederation Life Building, Toronto

A CART-LOAD OF FUN.



This is a new book, just published, and contains one hundred and sixty-four funny stories, anecdotes and jokes by such famous humorists as Mark Twain, Max Adeler, Josh Billings, Bill Nye, R. C. Burdette, and many others. It is full of fun and nonsense from cover to cover, and a sure cure for "the blues." All the best jokes, anecdotes and stories of recent years have been carefully selected, and are now offered in this large and splendid collection, which will be richly enjoyed by all who love genuine humor and fun. Among the titles of the anecdotes and stories are: "A CART-LOAD OF FUN" are the following: "A Man with a Liver," "Punkin Pie," "Pots and the Lightning-Bell Man," "How to Go a-Courting," "Baumgartner's Dog," "Stowe's Elephant Story," "Marriage a la Mode," "Manufacture Happiness," "Mrs. Jones's Burial," "The Facts About Sam Snyder," "Dorcas and Tenderloin Discusses Dudes," "The Sad Case of Fillay du Bill," "The Dead Gull Christmas Tree," "A Primal Scrap," "Martyr Became Reconciled," "One Ephraim's Wisdom," "A One-Horse Hotel," "He Concluded not to Commit Suicide," "Querly Married," "Hannah was Arrested," "How the Tired Patient Man had his Feelings Upset," "Why the Tree Man Departed," "Jones's Hat," "Breaking up a Cat Concert," and 143 others. "A CART-LOAD OF FUN" is a book of 64 large, double column pages, neatly bound in attractive colored paper covers, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

THE MODEL Book of Dialogues.



A large and valuable collection of Dialogues, both dramatic and comic, for School Exhibitions and Public and Private Entertainments. Among the contents are: "The Beautiful Man," "The Ruling Passion," "The Jew's Lodgers," "Generally Useful," "Terry O'Toole and His Master," "There's None Like Pretty Sally," "The Fashionable Wife," "The Factory Girl," "The Rural Editor," "The Masonic Lodge," "The Wrong Box," "The Absent Man," etc. All young people who delight to participate in dialogues will find this book exactly what they need. Each dialogue is bright and lively, and the variety is so great as to provide something for every occasion. The book contains 16 large, double-column pages, bound in attractive paper covers, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

Fifteen Complete Novelettes BY FAMOUS AUTHORS.



This book contains fifteen Complete Novelettes by fifteen of the most famous authors of America and Europe, as follows: "The Mystery at Beppendale," by CHARLOTTE M. BRADY; "The Little Woman in Black," by MISS M. E. BRADY; "The Fatal Secret," by MRS. EMMA D. F. N. LUTHERBORTH; "The Week on the Cape-land," by H. RIDER HAGGARD; "The Ghost of Lemon Lane," by MRS. MAY AGNES FLEMING CARBON; "The Detective," by EMERSON BENNETT; "The Mystery of St. Martin's Alley," by A. CONAN DOYLE; "Edith's Sailor," by J. VAN DYKE; "The Miner's Wife," by J. VAN DYKE; "The Mystery of the Old House," by J. VAN DYKE; "The Uncle from India," by OLIVER OPTIC; "The Last Plunk," by NEB BENTLEY; "The Phantom Train," by PAUL EASTON; and "Sam Jack's Cow," by TOM P. MOIRAN. Each one of the above novelettes is extremely interesting, though they are diversified in style—some being of the domestic or home order, some are humorous, and some of the dramatic and exciting kind. Never before has so grand a collection of complete novelettes by so many famous authors published in a single volume. Each novelette is published complete and unabridged. The book contains 16 large, double-column pages, bound in attractive paper covers, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

FAMOUS DIALECT RECITATIONS.



This book contains a large and careful selection of the most popular recitations in the Yankee, Negro, German, Irish and other dialects, as recited by the leading elocutionists of the day. The contents embrace humorous, dramatic and pathetic selections, both in prose and verse, some of which are the following: "The Stolen Watermelon," "The Swelling Bee at Angel's," "Caleb's Courtship," "Denver Jim," "The Foreclosure of the Mortgage," "The Hunkin' Story," "The Hunkin' Bee," "Grandpa's Courtship," "The Cowboy's Christmas Ball," "Teaster Jim," "Mike's Confession," "The Surprise Party in Dutchman's Alley," "Old Daddy Turner," "Paddy's Courtship," "Sambro's Dilemma," "Davy and Golar," "The Darkey Boot-lick," "Little John's Christmas," "Joe's Wife," "Uncle Anderson on Prosperity," "The Irishman's Panorama," "Ruddy's Troubles," etc. etc. The contents of this book have been selected with great care, the aim being to include only the best, hence it contains the cream of fifty of the ordinary recitation books, and is without doubt the best collection of dialect recitations and readings ever published. A book of 64 large double column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers. It will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

Famous Comic Recitations.



This is an entirely new book, just published, and it contains one hundred and ten of the very best humorous recitations, as recited by the most famous elocutionists of the day. These embrace recitations in the Negro, Yankee, Irish and Dutch dialects, both in prose and verse, as well as humorous compositions of every kind and character. Among its contents are: "The Shovel of Faith," "The Dutchman's Mistake," "The Courtin'," "Mygel Snyder's Party," "De Cake Walk," "Cuele Ike's Roosters," "Watermill-ers," "The Fabled Faced Girl," "Paddy's Dream," "The Dutchman's Serenade," "How Maloney's Cow," "Parson Jinglew's Surprise," "Mick's Courtship," "Josiah," "Nora Murphy and the Sprites," "The Countryman at the Show," "Intensely Utter," "Taking Toll," "How Sockery Set a Hen," "Tim Murphy's Irish Stew," "Schneider's Tomatoes," "What Troubled the Nigger," and 86 others. The contents of this book have been selected with great care, the aim being to include only the best, hence it contains the cream of fifty of the ordinary recitation books, and is without doubt the best collection of comic recitations and readings ever published. A book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers. It will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

Modern Entertainments.



Modern Entertainments is a new book by Mrs. Elie W. Merriman, describing numerous forms of entertainment for evening companies which have been successfully given by a large number of ladies in all parts of the country. "How can we entertain without dancing or cards?" is the ever-recurring question of that large class who consider such amusements harmful, and this book has been written to meet this precise need. Its possession will enable any hostess to entertain her guests in a most agreeable and interesting manner, though she is thoroughly enjoyable, and so numerous and varied are the entertainments described that it will furnish all the material needed in this line for many successive seasons. The following are the titles of the entertainments described: "Entertainment as an Art," "Entertainment," "The Modern Seating Rec," "The Five Senses," "An Enjoyable Musical," "The Round Table," "A Valentine Party," "The Bohemians," "A Book Party," "A Geog Party," "A Charade Party," "A Kindergarten for Adults," "An Evening with the Occult," "The Artists at Play," "A Spinning Party," "A Drawing Attraction," "A Halloween Party," "A New Year Party," "Out Door Entertainments," "Breakfasts," "Luncheons," "Teas," "Dinners," "Wedding Anniversaries," "A Meeting of Celebrities," "ENTERTAINMENTS FOR CHILDREN: An Old Fashioned Party," "A Punch and Judy Party," "A Modern Battle," "A Mystic Circle," "A Shooting Match," "A Peanut Party," "A Christmas Entertainment," "A Hairy Bury," "Modern Entertainments" is a book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers. It will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.