



"FROM PHILIP DRUNK TO PHILIP SOBER."

The London *Times* has just given five columns of its space to some one who uses that amount of large type in a clever attempt to prove that drink is not such a bad thing after all, and that it is not right to prevent people from enjoying themselves. The absurdity of the article's worn out arguments is apparent to all who have thoughtfully considered the matter in the light of their own experience. But as a good, common-sense, sledge-hammer, calculated most effectually to break up the five-column apology for drink, we reproduce a paragraph from the *Edinburgh Review*, one of the soberest and most unsentimental periodicals in Britain. Here, then is its deliberate judgment of the traffic which we license to perpetrate all its thousand villainies upon us:

"The liquor traffic is a public nuisance in all three respects—physically, economically, and morally. By its physical consequences it causes death to thousands, reduces thousands more to madness or idiocy, and afflicts myriads with diseases involving the most wretched forms of bodily and mental torture. Considered in its economical results it impairs the national resources by destroying a large quantity of corn which is annually distilled into spirits, and it indirectly causes three-fourths of the taxation required by pauperism and by criminal prosecutions and prison expenses; and, further, it diminishes the effective industry of the working classes, thereby lessening the amount of national production. Thirdly, viewed in its moral operation, it is the cause of two-thirds of the crime committed; it lowers the intelligence and hinders the civilization of the people, and it leads the men to ill-treat and starve their families and sacrifice domestic comfort to riotous debauchery."

True,—every word true! And we cannot wind up better than by appealing "from Philip drunk to Philip sober." We quote from another article in the *Times* itself, where we find these words:

"It would be impossible to name anything which stands for so much loss of soul, body, and estate, for so much discomfort and everything that is disagreeable, as the public-house. There is not a vice, or a disease, or a disorder, or a calamity of any kind that has not its frequent rise in the public house. It degrades, ruins and brutalises a large fraction of the British people. No estimate of the public-house and no allowance for it can get over the fact that it is generally a great nuisance. We have to pay extra police in proportion to the public-houses which are open. The night broils, the robberies, and worse incidents are the fruit of late hours. It is the public house, as anyone can see in the course of a night's ramble in the rue ropolis and any large town, that disables the working man from beginning his morning's work in health and strength. WHAT IS MORALLY WRONG CANNOT BE POLITICALLY RIGHT."

"AN ORANGEMAN," writing to the *Orange Sentinel*, enters his strongest protest against the conduct of one District Master in calling upon other Orangemen to vote against the Scott Act. The writer, declaring that Orangemen were born free and can form their own opinions, asks: "Does he think the members of the Orange Association are ready to do his bidding? If so, he will find himself mistaken, as we will resent such treatment."

ACCORDING TO SOME of the zealous individuals for whom the most beautiful landscape is incomplete without a whiskey-shop, the love of alcohol is such a heaven-planted part of human nature that to abstain from the drink is to fly in the face of Providence. Providence, according to their distorted idea, being pleased to launch a flood of alcohol upon the world for anyone to swill to his heart's content; Providence, meanwhile, looking on complacently, admiring those whose constitution is strong enough to resist the powerful drug, but damning all those unfortunates who sink and are overwhelmed by the tide let loose upon them. By exactly the same process of reasoning, the opium dens of China, with all the frightful demoralization created by them, are no less than divine temples, where "God's good creature" is used to turn men into sensual beasts. And, by following the same process to its legitimate conclusion, any manufactured article, however devilish in its results to many of those whom it touches, is "given by God." There is the poppy, planted by the God of nature; therefore "the curse of China," prepared from the poppy, is to be reverentially consumed, and the consumers' brains and blood are to be offered up as a sacrifice to God! Verily, it looks as if we were returning to the worship of Baal, or of Juggernaut. The fact is, some

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JOHN WESLEY.

people use the word "nature" in so most reckless and ignorant way. We have heard the most immoral practices actually defended as natural. Such people may well be reminded that everyone has two distinct natures; when a hungry man is within reach of food or money belonging to some one else, it is "natural" for him to steal; but he has a higher nature that teaches him to do right, no matter what the unpleasant consequences may be to himself. It is "natural" for many people to like a stimulating and exciting drink; but it is also "natural," in the highest sense of the word, for a man to be better without that stimulant, not only for his own sake but for the sake of others.

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BRAMPTON has got another constable, at a salary of \$200. Mr. J. C. Snell, writing to the *Banner*, says: "Why was it necessary to appoint an additional constable? Is it not to take care of the results of licensed whiskey selling? Does not whiskey sold in respectable hotels, and by respectable men licensed to do so, raise the devil on your streets, just as it would if sold in a saloon or a shebeen? I think I hazard nothing in saying that one constable would have a soft time in your town if the sensible course were taken and the drink locked up, instead of undertaking to lock up its fruits. Stick a pin there, and let us think about it."

ARRESTS FOR DRUNKENNESS.—One of the great arguments of Mr. King Dodds, and the other gentlemen hired by the liquor-dealers to defend their trade, is that there were more arrests for drunkenness in the city of Portland, Maine, last year, than in 1851, before prohibition was the law. A moment's thought shows what an utter bubble of an argument this is. Exactly the same thing was said in Scotland in order to prove that the closing of saloons even on Sundays had somehow resulted in increased Sunday drinking. It was said that there were more arrests for drunkenness; which was very true; the very simple reason being that only a small proportion of the drunken people were arrested so long as the saloons were licensed to produce drunkards all the time. But since partial prohibition has been in force the police have been more active, having this encouragement for their activity, that the saloon-keepers are not now authorized to provide—on Sundays, at least—work for the policemen and gaolers and executioners. Replying to a statement at an anti-Scott Act meeting in Brockville, the Rev. Mr. Bailey said: "It was claimed that prohibition had been a failure in Massachusetts, but the fact was, crime had decreased there 75 per cent in six months under prohibition. True there were more arrests for drunkenness, but that was natural. In the speaker's own town—Aultsville—drunken men were reeling along the streets every day and were never arrested, but if the Scott Act was passed there would be vigilance committees formed and every one of these men would go to Cornwall gaol. These men prated of personal liberty. True, liberty permitted men to do what was right and restrained them from doing what was wrong."

LICENSE CAUSES PERJURY!—The New Brunswick correspondent of the *Montreal Gazette* says the Scott Act causes perjury. We can appeal to the records of the local courts that witnesses will equivocate and lie as unblushingly in behalf of the demoralizing traffic under a license law as they possibly could under prohibition, and we believe this is the experience in every other place. Ask the officers for enforcing the license laws why they do not prosecute dealers known to sell contrary to the provisions of their license, and the answer in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred will be that it is useless, as the drinkers will swear them out of it. The traffic, not prohibition, is demoralizing.—*Orillia Packet*.

THE WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNIONS of California are engaging in a campaign to have a prohibitory amendment placed on the constitution of the State; they will first endeavor to get a legislature adopted which will support this movement.

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