

TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE,

DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE & NEWS.

PLEDGE.—We, the undersigned, do agree, that we will not use Intoxicating Liquors as a Beverage, nor Traffic in them; that we will not provide them as an article of Entertainment, nor for persons in our Employment; and that in all suitable ways we will discountenance their use throughout the community.

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License or No License.

AN ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF OHIO, by S F CARY, PM'WP.

LICENSE OR NO LICENSE, THAT IS THE QUESTION.

People of Ohio.—Your Constitutional Convention were impuported by more than *twenty thousand* citizens to insert a clause in the organ c law of Ohio, forever prohibiting the granting of licenses to sell intoxicating drinks. That body did not think proper to grant directly, the request of the petitioners, but provided that such a section might be incorporated in the Constitution, if a majority of the legal voters desired it.

Section 18 of *Schedule* reads as follows: "At the time when the votes of the electors shall be taken for the adoption or rejection of this Constitution, the additional section in the words following, viz:—*No License to traffic in intoxicating liquors shall hereafter be granted in this State; but the General Assembly may by law provide against evils resulting therefrom*—shall be separately submitted to the electors for adoption or rejection, in form following, viz: A separate ballot may be given by every elector, and deposited in a separate box. Upon the ballots given for said amendments, shall be written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, the words '*License to sell intoxicating liquors, Yes,*' and upon the ballots given against said amendment, in like manner, the words '*License to sell intoxicating liquors, No.*' If at said election a majority of all the votes given for and against said amendment, shall contain the words '*License to sell intoxicating liquors, No,*' then the said amendment shall be a separate section of article 15 of the Constitution."

Whether the liquor traffic shall continue to be the subject of license and protection from Government in the great State of Ohio is thus submitted to you, fellow-citizens, for solemn decision on the 17th day of June next. Compared with this, all other questions involved in the new Constitution, such as banks, apportionments, judiciary, etc., are of small moment. Before you go to the polls, and vote "*License to sell intoxicating liquors, Yes,*" will you calmly and dispassionately weigh the following considerations:

THE NATURE OF THE TRAFFIC.

On this point there cannot be at this day a great difference of opinion. It will not be questioned that the sale of intoxicating drinks has ever, in all places, and under all circumstances, been attended with the most disastrous consequences to individuals, families, neighborhoods and States. Reliable statistics demonstrate, beyond the possibility of a doubt, without appealing to our own experience, that this traffic has resulted in *evil, only evil, and that continually*, in Christian and in heathen lands. It may be fearlessly asserted that there never was a grogshop on the face of the earth that did not produce irreparable mischief no

* There is great ambiguity in the language which prescribes how persons are to vote on this question. It will be observed that it says, those voting for the amendment shall have inscribed on their ballots "*License to sell intoxicating liquors, Yes.*" Those voting against the amendment, "*License to sell intoxicating liquors, No.*" Yet there is a subsequent provision—that if a majority of ballots shall have inscribed "*License to sell intoxicating liquors, No,*" the clause shall be a part of the Constitution. Let every voter see to it, that his ballot reads "*License to sell intoxicating liquors, No.*"

matter how honest the intentions of the occupant, or how well guarded by law.

ITS INFLUENCE UPON THOSE ENGAGED IN THE TRAFFIC.

We ask our fellow-citizens to call to their recollection the names, and trace the individual and family history of those distilleries and dealers in these poisons with whom they have been acquainted, and ascertain whether a large majority have not been seriously injured, if not utterly ruined in property and character, or greatly cursed in their family relations. When you have honestly examined the facts you will come to the conclusion that Jehovah did not utter an unmeaning threat when he said, "Who unto him that giveth his neighbor drink." The personal history of *eleven hundred and sixteen* venders in Ohio has been ascertained. Of this number *five hundred and eighty-eight* have become drunkards; and this, too, after proving, in the first instance, fair reputations for sobriety and integrity. These statistics were gathered from the country, where we would expect to find the least injurious results. Within the last five years there have not been less than *twenty thousand liquor sellers* in Ohio, of which, taking the above as a basis of calculation, *ten thousand five hundred and thirty* have fallen, or will fall victims to the destroyer. If our limits permitted, we would give extensive details. We can only refer to two or three instances, as fragments of a universal history:

Of *thirty-four* engaged in the traffic in Marietta, Washington county, *twenty-five* become intemperate, and many of their families were utterly ruined. Of *thirty-one* in Preble county, *twenty-three* become sons—eleven of them died, and eight died drunk. Out of one hundred and twelve in Akron, Summit county, *seventy-eight* become insolvent, *fifty-six* intemperate, *ten* had the delirium tremens, *fifteen* ran away, *three* were sent to the penitentiary, *nine* were in jail for counterfeiting, and *one* tried for murder. If the statistics were obtained in our cities, the ratio ruined would be much larger.

INFLUENCE OF THE TRAFFIC UPON COMMUNITY.

Terrible as has been the havoc made in the army of liquor venders in Ohio, this is the least of the consequences to be regretted, from the continuance of the licensed traffic. We request our countrymen, individually, to survey their own firesides, and ask themselves what this business has done for them that it should have the protection of a license! Does not the blood of a father, brother, husband or son, stain almost every hearthstone in Ohio? Does not every breeze that is wafted over your hills, and valleys, and plains, go laden with the sighs of living wretchedness, and the groans of unutterable despair, extorted by this trade of death.

Four-fifths of the pauperism, and seven-tenths of the crime you pity, pay for, or punish, is directly traceable to the same prolific source of evil. The public records of the country, as well as your family records are full of evidence that the liquor traffic is the fountain, whence flows the desolating stream of moral death, that burns, blights, blasts, damns society in all its relations.

LICENSE A VIOLATION OF THE "BILL OF RIGHTS."

The very first article of the "bill of rights," preceding the Constitution, presented for your rejection or adoption, declares that "*all men have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and seeking and obtaining*

John S. G. W.