

one of the managers of the impeachment of Warren Hastings, Governor-General of the India Company. He was one of the trusted leaders of his political party. Yet intellect availed him nothing. The frantic passion for alcohol lead this gifted and kindly man into a comparatively unknown grave. This was the end of the author of "The School for Scandal," and the friend of Fox and Burke.

Gilbert Stuart, I.L. D., was the son of the Professor of Humanity (*i.e.* Latin) in the University of Edinburgh. His learning was immense. He was a somewhat arrogant man, but undoubtedly a great scholar, and his reading was very extensive. His "View of the Progress of Society in Europe" attests this. This work was written at the age of twenty-five only, and any master of a good library or reader at the Museum will be astonished at its manifold and multifarious learning. But he, coming to London, simply drank himself to death. Dropsy supervened, and at the early age of thirty-five this brilliant man, utterly broken down, expired at his father's house, Musselburg, near Edinburgh.

Concerning Lord Byron, Macaulay well observes:—"Copious draughts of Rhenish and of gin had worked the ruin of that fine intellect." It was even so. Lord Byron died at the age of thirty-seven, as also did Burns, the Scottish peasant poet and genius; both done to earth from the same cause.

Easy would it be to accumulate instances; but the few selected may serve as beacon lights to warn off the rocks of perilous temptation—leading, with the most fatal certainty, to the shades below. Sad, indeed, to think that some of the noblest and most generous natures—perhaps by the frankness known as "wearing their heart on their sleeve"—have been the most ready victims of intemperance.

And there is another lesson to be learned. If gifted men, if scholars, artists, poets, found in drink the grave of their ruined hopes and their noblest aspirations, who can say that he is safe? Attractions which slew genius and conducted it to a lonely and common tomb, dishonored and debased, cannot safely be met by any ordinary man. These instances, a few out of ten thousand, serve to urge the old text,

"Touch not, taste not, handle not,"

and leave that deceitful friend, and perhaps fatal enemy, strong drink.

—*Temperance Record.*

#### DR. B. W. RICHARDSON, F. R. S.

The name of Dr. Richardson is a household word in temperance circles on both sides of the Atlantic, and his Temperance Lesson Book is as widely circulated and as largely used in the United States as in the United Kingdom.

A distinguished member of the medical profession, and an enthusiast in all phases of sanitary reform, it was as a student of the laws of health that Dr. Richardson first commenced to investigate the properties and effects of alcohol. For three years he carried on a long series of experiments, and the results of which, he says, "were as surprising to me as to anyone else. They were surprising from their definiteness and their uniformity and most of all from the complete contradictions they gave to the popular idea that alcohol is a supporter and sustainer of the animal temperature." The conclusions drawn from these experiments, and many others of a similar nature, are now accepted by the scientific world and the medical profession as established and incontrovertible facts; and the harmfulness and danger of alcohol even in what is called moderation, is emphatically taught by many of the very first physicians of the day; but to Dr. Richardson belongs the credit of having, with characteristic energy and zeal, thrown himself into that great movement which has for its object the doing away by all means of this universally acknowledged evil.

It would be difficult to overestimate the value of Dr. Richardson's services to the temperance cause. There was a terrible earnestness and a moving pathos about many of the early pioneers of teetotalism that was well nigh irresistible. They were men, many of them, who had themselves been rescued from the very brink of destruction, and their successes were as remarkable as their zeal. But it must not be overlooked that there were large classes altogether beyond the reach of their influence, and who regarded the temperance movement with open aversion. Another class of men eminent in the Church, in science and in literature, who have of late years come forward as advocates and defenders of total abstinence; but few, if any, have done worthier or more efficient service than the subject of our sketch.

Dr. Richardson was born at Somerly, in Leicestershire, in 1828. After a few years spent at a private school, he went to St. Andrew's University, where he graduated in 1853. Some three years later he won the Fothergillian gold medal, and the Astley Cooper prize of £300, for essays on technical subjects.

The Doctor's career as a physician has been a very brilliant and successful one, and tokens of esteem and regard have been showered upon him from many quarters. Perhaps the most unique and flattering in its character was a testimonial presented to him in 1868 by six hundred members of the medical profession, consisting of a valuable microscope and a purse containing a thousand guineas.

With the general public Dr. Richardson's name is probably more intimately connected with bold, and, as many would say, utopian schemes of sanitary reform, than with temperance. Be this as it may, the doctor's utopia, with its purity, sweetness, and temperance, is a consummation devoutly to be desired by every patriot; and in the meantime no one can dwell in a modern scientifically-constructed house—and there are a few such, though scarce enough—without enjoying the benefits of his labors; and the most timid teetotaler can do without his glass of ale or wine with a confident assurance that he is doing himself good and not harm, which was lacking to the pioneers of the movement.—*M. T. Magazine.*

### General News.

#### CANADIAN.

The Supreme Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen is in session at Toronto.

The Most Worthy Grand Orange Lodge of B. N. A. has begun its 45th annual session at London, Ont.

Prof. Brown has arrived at Quebec with 105 head of cattle and sheep for the Model Farm.

The Women's Christian Association of Toronto has held its annual meeting. It is performing a noble work and deserves liberal support.

E. W. Chambers, of East Oxford, has been appointed superintendent of the cattle department at the Provincial Exhibition to be held this year at Ottawa.

Last week's frost did considerable damage to early crops in Canada and the United States.

The Massey Manufacturing Company discharged 150 hands on the 23rd ult., and a number have received notice to quit work on the 10th inst.

The Manitoba Legislature prorogued the afternoon of June 3rd. The only point of importance in the Speech was the paragraph regretting the necessity for rejecting the terms offered by the Dominion Government.

Billy Reid, *alias* Buckskin Shorty, cowboy, and a hard case generally, was killed near Calgary, Man., in a drunken row on the 2nd inst. The murderer, another cowboy named McManus, was arrested by the Mounted Police. He claims self-defence.

Robert Lyle's brick block and other buildings at Morrisburg, Ont., were burned on Saturday last; loss, \$20,000.

Toronto master plasterers have decided to reduce the wages of laborers from \$1.80 to \$1.70 per day. It is thought probable that the reduction will lead to a strike.

A fire broke out in a sawmill at Pinkerton Station on last Friday morning. The mill and a quantity of lumber were destroyed; cause unknown.

Rails have been laid from Bedford to Zanesville, on the Kingston and Pembroke Railway, and the first engine has run to the mines with a party of gentlemen.

A fire destroyed Laird's hotel, barn and four horses, at Crane's Corners, near Cape Vincent, on the 29th ult.

W. Heaman's cradle and rake factory, half a mile south of the village of Exeter, was burned down on the 30th ult. Loss about \$2,000; no insurance. It is supposed to have been set on fire.

A horrible murder was committed near Orillia on Friday last. A man named Story kicked a neighbor named Higgins so badly that he died shortly after. Jealousy was the cause.

An old man named Kerr from Stratford, was found dead in his room at the Royal hotel, Guelph, on the morning of the 2nd inst. The gas was found turned on, and the room was filled with it. He had been dead for some hours when discovered. Two hundred dollars in cash were found in his pockets.

On the 3rd inst., Philip Maher was found lying in his wagon insensible, about a mile from Carp, having been struck by lightning during the night. Both horses were dead, but Maher is still living and the doctor has some hope of his recovery.

A fatal accident happened about four miles from Smithville on the 30th ult. Two boys, sons of Harvey Fisher, were driving a wagon loaded with manure from the barnyard. They fell off, and one fell under the wagon-wheel and was killed instantly.

At Paisley, on the 2nd inst, Stark's grist mill was burned to the ground. About 10,000 bushels of wheat was destroyed. The loss is at least \$20,000. The building and machinery were insured in the Waterloo Mutual for \$7,000. It is not known what insurance was on the grain. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.