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Dr. Buckley on the 'Gothenburg System.

Friends of temperance should not be seduced by accounts of the favorable impressions made upon persons who do not investigate for themselves, by the working of the so-called "Gothenburg System." In 1884, the editor of this paper carefully investigated on the ground the operation of this system. The object of this system was "not to prevent the abuse of strong drink," but on the axiom that the brandy traffic is the legitimate trade of the community, and that its practice is, by one or other circumstances, rendered unavoidable. Furthermore, it is based on the fact, that owing to the disreputable character of this calling, it is mostly in the hands of persons who are neither induced by external or internal conditions to take such a view of the duties connected with their calling, as should furnish the public at large with security for their due performance; and, finally, that the publican, in his capacity of tradesman, cannot help striving to derive profit from it, the higher the better; his own interest prompts him to sell the greatest possible quantity of his commodity. And, yet further to increase his net profits, he will spend as little as possible on keeping his premises in decent order and repair; he will evade to the utmost the obligation of providing food for his customers. Moreover, to increase his sales, he will, when his own interests are not at stake, allow his customers to take their drams on credit or pawn tickets. It was this state of things that the new system proposed to remedy. While it diminishes the temptation offered by the seller to the customer, puts a stop to the running in debt for liquor, and diminishes the number of cases of extreme drunkenness, it does not stop the abuse of liquor. We saw drunkenness in Gothenburg, saw ten men not far from mid-day on Sunday staggering about. In other places in Sweden its fundamental principle of "no profit to anyone," has been departed from. The towns have urged the company to press the business in view of the revenue. Our conclusion at that time was that, on the whole, the Gothenburg system sheds little light on the problem of suppressing intemperance in other parts of the world. No system of license has ever yet been tried which does not afford the community every facility for both the moderate and immoderate use of liquor, and we doubt if any such system ever can be contrived.—*Christian Advocate.*

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Photographs.

A large number of Sister Rioch's photographs have already been sold. A supply is still kept on hand by Mrs. George Munro, 85 Wellington street north, Hamilton, Ont. They will be for sale also at the annual meeting.

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