

we should see our gaols and workhouses empty; we should see more lives saved in twelve months than are consumed in a century of bitter savage war. We should transfigure and transform the face of the whole country."

Mr. Gladstone says, 'It has been said that greater calamities are inflicted on mankind by intemperance than by the three great historical scourges—war, pestilence, and famine. This is true for us, and it is the measure of our discredit and disgrace.'

The *Times* says that "strong drink produces more idleness, crime, disease, want, and misery than all other causes put together;" while the *Daily Telegraph* says, "The entire trade is a covenant with sin and death."

I might add to these a host of other witnesses all supporting their testimony, but I refrain. I have shown you that our year's Drink Bill is an immense one, and that instead of producing health, intelligence, virtue, and happiness, it has produced ignorance, madness, misery, crime, and death. That, as the result of our year's expenditure, we have had trade crippled, our workhouses crowded, and the morals, intelligence, and health of the people seriously injured. That during the past year drink has plunged thousands of families into misery, turned thousands of people on the parish for others to support; converted thousands of our people into criminals; and hurried at least 80,000 of our fellow-countrymen into a drunkard's grave and a drunkard's eternity! And, alas! this destruction is not stayed. As I speak, hope is dying out of the hearts of thousands of the fathers, mothers, wives, and sisters of Great Britain, and a wail is heard, "How long, O God, how long?" To this sad cry the Christian Church could give an encouraging answer. She has but to catch the spirit and imitate the example of her Divine Master, who gave up even the glory of heaven to save her from sorrow and death, and a new era would begin.

U. Slater
Civil War
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Keller in London
replied to me
in 1884