

amend the Municipal Act so that the traffic in intoxicating liquors shall be submitted to the popular vote at municipal elections."

He did not think that all responsibility in regard to this matter should be thrown upon the Council. He believed the people ought to decide directly upon the question, and this resolution pointed to a means whereby this could be accomplished.

Mr. J. THOMSON seconded the motion. He was in favour of an annual vote on the question of "License" or "No License." Representatives of the different temperance societies were now discussing desirable amendments to existing license laws, and this was one of those for which they intended to ask.

The motion was carried, and after a hearty vote of thanks for the chairman, and three hearty cheers for the Queen, the enthusiastic meeting broke up at 10.45.

### Selected Articles.

#### ALCOHOLISM AS RELATED TO CRIME.

At the Central Church of Christ, at the corner of Indiana avenue and Twenty-fifth street, last evening, George C. Christian gave a lecture on "Alcoholism as Related to Crime," of which the following is a summary: By the word alcoholism we denote the whole system of drinking, buying, selling, and all that is connected with and all that grows out of alcohol in its various shapes. And now for opinions and experiences given in this matter by well-known men. Cardinal McCabe says that drink is the cause of nearly all the crimes committed. The Archbishop of Canterbury adds his testimony, and says that rum is the chief source of nearly all the crimes committed in England. Lord Chief-Justice Coleridge lately said: "If we could make England sober we might shut up nine-tenths of our jails." Mr. Justice Denman, in charging a Grand Jury, said: "I don't know how a Judge can better discharge his duty than by calling the attention of all classes to the fact that nearly all crime is caused by drink." Another English Judge lately said: "Nearly every case of violence and outrage that comes before me originates in the public-house."

Alcoholism, besides affecting the drinker himself, affects indirectly men, women and children who never drink at all. There is much blamable sentimentalism among Temperance people. They say to the drunkard: "Poor fellow! I'm very sorry for you. But it seems you can't help it." Truth is—He wants to drink. He will let wife and children suffer to gratify his own selfish appetite. Instead of a poor fellow, he is a selfish, mean, contemptible wretch.

Alcoholism includes the saloon, the company there assembled, and the evil attendants. No high-toned man enters a saloon without injuring his self-respect. He listens to the burly, double-fisted, snake-eyed scoundrel who presides there, telling some scheme whereby a light-toned office seeker often a Judge, may secure his election. Listening to such schemes, in such a place, from such a scoundrel, puts poison into any man's moral nature, and from such association originates the course of life that brings many of our prominent men to disgrace. Mr. Rutledge, Chaplain of Joliet Penitentiary, writes me: "I don't know which is the worst in its effects in causing crime—the drinking itself or the saloon associations." Mr. Fred L. Thompson, Superintendent of the Southern Penitentiary at Chester, Ill., writes: "The saloons are the springs from which flow the streams which fill our penitentiaries. Of five hundred prisoners here, four hundred and six frequented the saloons." Crimes originate in the saloons, and it is to the saloons that detectives go to find the men that are wanted by the jails. The committee appointed by the Dominion of Canada in 1875 to investigate the matter reported that more than seventy-five per cent. of the arrests made in the two Provinces of Canada were for drunkenness itself or for crimes committed under the influence of drink. Judge Noah Davis says: "Of all causes of crime, intemperance stands first." Judge Tuley, of this city, in a letter of August, 1883, says: "Of the criminals appearing before me, the evidence shows that a majority of them were under the influence of drink at the time of the commission of the crimes. I have come to the conclusion that the stimulant thus imbibed was for the purpose of nerving them for the crime." Judge Thomas A. Moran, of this county, in a letter of July 27, 1883, says: "Of adult criminals 75 per cent. are made so directly by drink; 90 per cent. of crimes committed by children come indirectly from the same source, from the low tone of morality and general degradation resulting in the homes of the drunkard." Mr. Rutledge,

Chaplain at Joliet, writes: "During the past two years I find in the case of prisoners here, nearly all crimes against persons to have come directly from drink; most of those against property, from saloon associations." Statistics show that of the 9,000 criminals in Illinois last year, 8,000 came up from the saloons, the manufactories of criminals. Neal Dow says the people of the United States spend \$1,500,000,000 a year for drink. To prove this here are the facts: There are in the United States 250,000 saloon-keepers. Each on an average sells not less than \$6,000 worth of liquor each year. The amount thus spent, \$1,500,000,000, would pay for all the household furniture now in use in the United States and leave \$300,000,000 over.—*Chicago Times*.

#### REFORMED INEBRIATES AT THE COMMUNION TABLE.

Dr. Norman Kerr, in his pamphlet "Passover Wines," relates several instances of "relapses" through sacramental wine, and quotes the following from Mr. John B. Gough's book, "Orations," published in England. Mr. Gough said:

"I know a man, a colonel in our army, in the regular army, a graduate of West Point. He had been an awful drunkard, but he became a Christian, and was united with the Church. On the morning of the Communion day, the first Sunday in May, a gentleman said, 'Colonel, So-and-so communes with you to-day.' 'Yes, this is the first time in his life.' 'Well, I am very glad to hear it—very glad indeed.' 'It is a great change, a wonderful change; and we all rejoice.' 'What kind of wine do you use at your Communion?' 'Well we buy it at the stores.' 'What! you don't mean to tell me that you use the common wine of commerce at the communion?' 'Well, we get it at the stores.' 'Then I am afraid for the Colonel.' Oh! nonsense."

"That man sat at the Communion-table as honest a Christian as ever sat down to show forth the Lord's death till He come—honest, true and sincere. The wine came to him; he swallowed a portion of it, and it was noticed that he kept the cup to his lips longer than usual. He went out, got drunk, and in ten days was dead; and in less than two weeks from his first communion they buried him. The one draught, or the one sip, roused the demon into fury; and that is a disease and he could not help it—could not help it. The drinking he could help, but the results he could not help. You cannot help it if you take the drink into your system.

"The grace of God did not take away the appetite. That was there; and I tell you, those church members ought to have been careful before, they offered him intoxicating drink, especially when you can get the pure, unadulterated juice of the grape. That is wine and not the wretched, trashy, so-called 'wines of commerce.'"

Mr. Kerr told of similar cases and said:

"Did I dare to allow any of my reformed inebriate patients to communicate in those intoxicating wines in which lurks his inveterate foe, I would be guilty of a breach of professional honor, a neglect of professional duty, and a violation of the oath which I took on admission into the profession to which I have the honor to belong."—*National Temperance Advocate*.

#### "LOCAL OPTION" IN THE SOUTH.

In a great many counties in the Southern States stringent prohibition prevails under "Local Option" laws.

Bullitt County, Kentucky, has had prohibition for many years. Last year the thirsty whisky lovers of the county managed to get an act passed by the legislature to bring the matter again before the people, but they re-enacted it by a heavy majority. Union County, Kentucky, has had prohibition since 1874. Last year the whisky men demanded a new trial, but they were beaten five to one. Similar reports come from Shelby, Trimble, Adair, Bracken, Montgomery, Owen and other counties of the State.

Hon. E. Polk Johnson, of Louisville, wrote to the *Courier Journal* of that city:

"I have passed through four or five counties since leaving Catlettsburg, Ky., and have not seen a bar-room, nor an intoxicated man. What other