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"I WILL GIVE YOU REST."

Our engraving this issue represents a poor woman, who, wandering homeless through the streets, is attracted by the glorious promise, seen in a window by the dim light of the street lamp. "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." There are many other pictures in the window, but this "motto" is worth all to her. The beating storm has no power to drive her away, and she stands immovable, contemplating the promise of "rest." In her arms, and nestling close to her for warmth, is her child; he too will need rest before this life is over. This yearning for rest is not confined to such as she, for the most prosperous business men have all their hours of burdened weariness; the idler knows not what to do with himself for *ennui*; and it is perhaps not out of the way to say those with least to do most desire rest. There appears to be a yearning in the hearts of all, a yearning for something not belonging to this life, a rest and content outside of earth's troubles.

— The medical profession is vying with the clerical in the earnestness with which it is considering the great national curse of drunkenness. The *Lancet* in its latest number calls attention to the fact that the working men of Birmingham contribute £3,000 a year towards the hospitals of that town, and £900,000 a year to the public houses. That is to say, they give thirty times as much to the institutions which are the chief cause of their diseases as they give to the institutions where those diseases are cured. It is a very discreditable state of things, and we fear that Birmingham is in this respect only a sample of most of the larger towns of this country. The *Lancet* urges that as the State gives so many facilities to the publicans to enrich themselves by ruining the health of the public, it should compel the publicans to pay a special tax towards the restoration of the public health. A hospital rate levied on drink sellers would be



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peculiarly appropriate and just. If they did not like it they might impose it upon their customers in the shape of an extra farthing per pot. In parts of Germany and Switzerland every one has to pay a hospital rate, and that gives the payer the right to be treated in the hospital should he desire to be so. In England the middle classes do not so commonly resort to hospitals as they do on the continent; but the English working classes alone use them. Yet they do almost nothing towards supporting them. It would be difficult to impose a rate upon lodgers who are here to-day and gone to-morrow; but a tax upon their beer would reach them in a way that they could not escape. They would feel, moreover, that just in proportion as they drank more, and thereby rendered themselves more likely to need the services of a hospital staff, would they be contributing towards its support.

— *Western Morning News.*

— Dr. Hitchcock suggests a new raid on the liquor dealers, for causes which will add a novel argument to those already urged by total abstinence advocates. The vital statistics of the United States, he says, show a mortality from 7 to 16 per cent. traceable to the use of alcoholic drinks. In New York, \$56 a year for each inhabitant is spent for such beverages, by which life is shortened 28 per cent. Each State should ascertain, by commission, how much loss it suffers from the traffic in liquor, and should assess that loss on the dealers equitably according to their sales.

— *Scientific American.*

THE SMOKE NUISANCE. — A writer in a recent number of the *London Freeman* says: — "A great number of smokers seem to have lost sight of politeness! Their smoking makes them rude. Why should a smoker blow his smoke in my face? Why should he think it not indecent frequently to expectorate in my presence? I have as much right to scatter fine strong pepper and half-blind the passers-by or my companions in a railway carriage. I might answer it pleased me, and they must put up with it. Men have no more right to smoke in public than I have to scatter the pepper. Our pleasures ought not to be at the expense of another: all public smokers, however, break this law, and give great offence to the part of the public who hate the most distant fumes of tobacco."

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