



## Drink in India.

More than one speaker thoroughly familiar with life in India has recently called attention to the development of the drink traffic in that country; and at the recent meeting of the Ladies' Extension Committee of the Sunday-School Union, Miss Dunhill, a Eurasian lady, said:—

'Of recent years a new terror had come into Indian life, namely, strong drink. Fifty years ago one brewery disgraced India, now there were twenty-four. In one presidency the revenue from drink was found to be going down, and our Christian Government planted 407 fresh drink shops when they found the natives were not drinking enough. The little children of Bombay said, "Let us play at being Christians," so they staggered to and fro, fell down, and fought each other, and pretended they were drunkards.'

Unhappily the Indian Administration, with public auction of licences, finds, as the Government at home does, the drink traffic a prolific source of revenue, and develops it quite regardless of the well-being of the people.—'The Christian.'

## Children the Sufferers.

In Great Britain the effect of alcohol on our child-life is the saddest feature of our country. A child is always a pathetic figure, helpless and confiding, and at this very hour as I pass in and out of the main streets of the poorer parts of London, as I see the children white and wan playing in the dusty alleys because they have no home to which to go, nothing but a wretched room where reign squalor and dirt, as I hear the brutal oaths that greet them from the lips of mothers who return from the drink shops besotted and intoxicated, as I watch their sufferings in summer when they droop like flowers for want of fresh and wholesome air, as I see them perishing with cold in the winter, shivering on the snowy doorsteps, going to their school underfed, ill-clad, I realize hour by hour how it is the children who are smitten by the drink traffic.—'The Pioneer.'

## Good Trade When We Please.

We are all wanting more work in this country, and I can tell you how to get it. If a man spends £5 in shoes, £1 17s. goes in labor; if he spends £5 in linen, £2 goes in labor, in earthenware, £2 11s.; and in clothes, £4; but if he spends £5 in drink, only 2s. 6d. goes in labor. Why will not shrewd, intelligent business men probe and expose, or admit these and similar figures! The question is much too important, especially in these dull times, to be ignored or sneered at. We can have good trade as soon as we please.—Thos. Burt, M.P., in the 'League Journal.'

## The Safe Bridge.

That staunch old Scotchman, Dr. Arnot, gives a good illustration on the total abstinence question. You will find the world full of men who will tell you that they 'are not obliged to sign away their liberty in order to keep on the safe side.' 'They know when they have had enough; no danger of their becoming drunkards,' and the like.

Dr. Arnot says: 'True, you are not obliged; but here is a river we have to cross. It is broad and deep and rapid; whoever falls into it is sure to be drowned. Here is a narrow footbridge, a single timber extending across. He who is lithe of limb and steady of brain and nerve may skip over it in safety. Yonder is a broad, strong bridge. Its foundations are solid rock. Its passages are wide; its balustrade is high and firm. All may cross it in perfect safety—the aged and feeble, the young and gay, the tottering wee ones. There is no danger there. Now, my friends, you say, "I am not obliged to go yonder. Let them go there who cannot walk this timber."

True, true, you are not obliged, but as for us, we know that if we cross that timber, though we may go safely, many others who will attempt to follow us will surely perish. And we feel better to go by the bridge!'

Walking a foot-bridge over a raging torrent is risky business, but it is safety itself compared with tampering with strong drink. The surer the man is of his own safety, the less other people are assured of it. When a man is just about falling into the abyss he is sure he is the only sober man around. The total abstinence bridge is strong and safe, and there is room for the whole world to pass over in safety.—'Safeguard.'

'Buffalo Bill' is a strict total abstainer, and this is doubtless the secret of his untiring energy and splendid physique. 'I've got 600 men here,' said the colonel recently in London, 'and I abstain for the sake of example. They're not ashamed to keep off drink if I do; and I believe in the force of example, for I don't mind saying that very many years ago I remember finding a temperance lecture of mine falling rather flat in the morning because I had not set a good example the night before. Drink can be done without.'

## Money-Making Temperance

A temperance lecturer, the Rev. T. P. Hunt, was often saved from ill-usage by his quick wit. At one of his lectures, when the cause of temperance was new, Mr. Hunt heard a gentleman haranguing the crowd against temperance. As the lecturer passed the door, he heard this man say: 'It is nothing but a money-making scheme.' 'Sir,' Hunt replied, quickly, 'you do not believe that and, I can prove it.' The man defied him to do so. 'You are a stranger to me,' said Mr. Hunt, 'but I judge from your appearance that you pay close attention to your own affairs, and are always looking for good investments. Is it not so?' The man admitted that it was. 'Well, gentlemen,' resumed the lecturer, 'I have been two days endeavoring to get him to join the temperance ranks. If he believed it to be a money-making business, wouldn't he have taken stock?' 'Yes, yes!' came a shout from the crowd. Mr. Hunt's opponent escaped as quickly as he could, while the listeners hailed him with laughter and cries of 'Take stock! we won't believe you if you don't.'

The projectors of the railway running from Lake Charles to Alexandria, U.S.A., bought the towns sites along the line, and sold them in lots under a deed with a stringent prohibition clause. It provided for the forfeiture of any lot used for drink-selling purposes; the land to revert to the vendors without compensation. A case has already occurred. The court gave a verdict for the company, and the drink seller had no redress.—Exchange.

## The Economics of Drink--in a Nutshell.

Suppose four farmers came into town, each with \$30 in his pocket. One goes to a dry goods store, one to a hardware store, one to a boot and shoe store, one to a saloon, and each spends his money in the place he visits.

After two weeks I come to you and say: 'Let us go and see those producers; see what they have received for the money they gave those non-producers.' We drive to the home of the man who spent his money at the dry goods store. 'What did you get?' 'Do you see that dress which Nellie is wearing and the coat that Tom has on? Well, I gave the merchant \$30, and he gave me in exchange these things. He is better off; we are better off.' Exchange of value; both are benefited.

We go to the man who traded at the hardware store, and we say: 'What did you receive?' 'Do you see the stove, and the axe, and those kettles?' 'Yes.' 'Well, I gave him \$30, he gave me these. We are better off; he is better off.'

We go to the man who spent his money at ware store, and we say: 'What did you receive for the money you paid?' 'You see these boots which I am wearing, and the shoes Nellie has on, and the boots that Will, Dick and Harry and the rest are wearing? I gave that merchant \$30 for them. We needed the boots and the shoes, and he needed

the money, and we traded.' An exchange of value; both are benefited.

Now we go to the man who spent his \$30 in the saloon and say to him: 'Sir, you paid that non-producer \$30. What did you get back?' 'Come here and I will show you.' Will he say that? No, he will hang his head and say: 'I got this flaming nose, these bleared eyes, and have been sick ever since.'

'My former friend, would you not have been better off if you had put the \$30 in the fire and burned it, and never had gone to the drinking place at all? Yes; because you would have had a clear head, hard muscle, and could have gone to work at once and produced more wealth to take the place of that destroyed. The liquor dealer took your money and unfitted your brain and muscles for the production of more wealth.'—'Evangelical Visitor.'

## An Old Temperance Pledge.

We girls and boys  
We do not think  
It wise to taste  
The drunkard's drink.

We therefore promise  
To abstain,  
And firm to temperance  
Will remain.

This pledge I take,  
And hope that I  
Shall sober live  
And sober die.

—Selected.

## Brandy in Mountaineering.

In Mrs. Aubrey Le Blond's book, 'Adventures on the Roof of the World,' she makes some remarks on the experience of Alpine climbers with regard to the use of stimulants for their warmth which should be instructive to others than mountaineers. Referring to an ascent of Dent Blanche, she writes:—'It will be noticed that during a very cold night they avoided their "brandy flask like poison." When a climber is exhausted and help is near, a flask of brandy is invaluable, but when a party has to spend a bitterly cold night in the open it is madness to touch spirits at all. The effect of a stimulant is to quicken the action of the heart, and drive the blood with increased rapidity to the surface. Here it is continually cooled, and before long the heart finds it has to work doubly hard to keep up the circulation. Therefore to take brandy in order to resist the cold for hours together is like stirring up a cup of hot fluid, whereby fresh surfaces are continually brought in contact with the air and cooled with far greater rapidity than if left quiet.'

## Effects of Beer Drinking

'Health,' a journal of health and hygiene, says that the excessive use of beer is found to produce a species of degeneration of all the organs. Profound and deceptive fatty deposits, diminished circulation, conditions of congestion, perversion of functional activities, and local inflammation of both liver and kidneys, are constantly present. A stupor amounting to almost paralysis arrests the reason, changing all the higher faculties into a mere animalism, sensual, selfish, sluggish, varied only with paroxysms of anger that are senseless and brutal. In appearance the excessive beer drinker may be the picture of health, but in reality he is most incapable of resisting disease. Compared with inebriates who use different kinds of alcohol, he is more incurable, and more generally diseased. The constant and inordinate use of beer every day gives the system no recuperation, but steadily lowers the vital forces.

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