



TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

The Aims and Objects of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America.

An Able Article, From the Pen of Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, in the "Catholic World."

The lack of true spiritual life is apparent to the condition of modern society. Wealth, honor and pleasure are the objects that attract men's attention.

HUMANITY SEPARATED FROM GOD lead only to the satisfaction of vanity, and soon homes but a loud-sounding word, while men languish and die for want of the proper moral food.

Among the moral evils which help to increase among passion and make selfishness brutal, and so to render social reform difficult, intemperance stands prominent.

Men dread the destructiveness of the elements. The great reservoirs of the heavens pour down their floods and rush headlong to the sea, gathering madness in their course.

The Catholic Total Abstinence Union, which will meet this month of August in Philadelphia, numbers many thousands of men who have not tasted intoxicating drink since early youth, and probably never will.

AND DISGRACES HER GOOD NAME. This will explain why men are called upon to combine against this monster slayer of humanity.

Men in all ages have combined for protection, whether the object was country, home, health, labor or intelligence. The bundle of sticks teaching the strength of the union has impressed itself upon men in all time.

REDEEMED FROM THE THRALDOM OF DRINK and made freemen? Men say this makes hypocrites and pharisees. We shall find these everywhere and under all banners.

mind in a sound body; that it guards man's intelligence for God's truth and man's heart for God's love. It should make better men and better Christians, holding with St. Ambrose that sobriety is the mother of faith, as intemperance is the mother of infidelity.

DESTRUCTION OF MULTITUDES OF SOULS.

This Catholic total abstinence movement is not infected with fanaticism. It does not assert the principle of the evil of drink, but it builds itself on the evils of drunkenness.

Catholic theology teaches us through St. Thomas of Aquin that temperance, being a cardinal virtue, restrains the appetites and inclines man to that which is agreeable to right reason, moderating the love and use of pleasures.

NOT FANATICISM, BUT CATHOLIC DOCTRINE. There are not wanting men who regard the total abstinence movement as productive of good for drunkards, while they do not hesitate to call it fanaticism when an appeal is made to them to become total abstainers.

INTERFERING WITH PERSONAL LIBERTY and injuring legitimate business. But the liberty of the drunkard, his business, his duty to his family, do not enter into some men's thoughts.

FIGHT THE BATTLE FOR THE WEAK and save humanity. It is the leaders in society who should stand forth and command. Men capable of sacrifice are needed.

BLESSED OUR UNION. Pope Pius IX., of sainted memory, in 1873 from his heart blessed the Union. Leo XIII. in 1878 bestowed upon it his apostolic benediction, and later granted to its members indulgences that, with a further extension, and more widely propagated, in order to lessen the evils of drunkenness and disease.

A GIFT TO THE POPE. Rome, Sept. 27.—Baron Von Scholcher yesterday presented to the Pope a Jubilee gift from the German Empire.

A CURATE MURDERS THE VICAR. LONDON, Oct. 3.—At midnight, Saturday night, the Rev. Mr. Cooper, curate of Creetingham, Suffolk, murdered his vicar, the Rev. Mr. Gifford, in his bedroom and cut his throat with a razor.

HAPPINESS IN RELIGION ONLY. (Rev. Father Cassidy of New Zealand) Man is forever restless, but he cannot rest because his end is not here; he was made for a sphere higher than the world; we feel and see he was made to gaze on a beauty infinitely more beautiful than the sunlight, or the rainbow, the ocean or the forest, the star gemmed heavens, or even the brightest angel's face.

PLAIN TALK BY POWDERLEY AT THE OPENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR. MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 3.—The General Assembly of the Knights of Labor was called to order this morning. The rink was handsomely decorated and contained about 3,000 people.

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Everything tells us that the purpose of man's life is to be perfectly happy somewhere, and everything tells us that that somewhere is not here. The bright sunshine, the far-off stars, the songs of birds, the cloudless sky, the murmuring river, the blue waves, the rough west wind, echo the Creator's voice and tell us man was made to enjoy a union and harmony with the highest and best, that is with God Himself.

It is, then, in the human soul and conscience that the union of God with his creatures in the highest form takes place; it is there that the highest harmony, and the most majestic music of the spheres is heard; it is there that the shortest organ, and the most gigantic trumpet, with no shore or continent to mount, to stay the onward wave of harmony that pervades heaven and earth, the Creator and the creature unite and blend.

We may call conscience a faculty given by God to man, whereby he can distinguish right and wrong, and feel that right ought to be, and wrong ought not to be. Carried out by the will and resting on this perceptive power is the conscience, our will moving with or against it.

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A FATAL DISPUTE.

BRACKENRIDGE, Ont., Oct. 1.—To-day, while Chas. O'Brien, who runs a threshing machine, was engaged in the barn of Mrs. Donnelly, about nine miles from here, Samuel Taylor, who owns a rival machine, entered the barn, when an altercation arose between the two men.

JOHN BRIGHT AND IRELAND. LONDON, Oct. 3.—Mr. John Bright has written a letter in which he has never been more a friend of Ireland than now when objecting to hand that unfortunate country over to the rule of revolutionary, rebel conspirators.

LITERARY NOTES. A singularly attractive frontispiece graces the October Magazine of American History. It is a spirited portrait of Daniel Webster, never before published, from a painting in the Long Island Historical Society, accompanied by a clever character study in the body of this excellent monthly, written by Hon. S. W. Benjamin.

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