

THE VANGUARD.

SEPTEMBER, 1894.

WEALTH OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

A feature of the recent Imperial Budget that roused the bitter opposition of the liquor trade, and over which there was a long and bitter struggle before it was adopted, was the proposition to add sixpence per barrel to the excise duty on beer.

In the course of the discussion some facts were brought out which throw a vivid light upon the drain made upon the general public by the liquor traffic. It was shown that this traffic is building up enormous fortunes at the expense to a great extent, of the poorer classes, who of course are still further impoverished by the operation.

Mr. W. C. Amery wrote a letter to the editor of the Birmingham Daily Post presenting the result of an inquiry he had made into the extent of the estates left by liquor sellers recently deceased. He submitted the following list in which no account is taken of landed property, the figures being merely for personalty, and referring only to persons directly engaged in liquor trading and who each left at death sums larger than Two Hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling.

Sir Andrew Barclay Walker.....	£2,876,781
J. W. Wittaker, wine merchant, 1893	872,109
Richard Vaughan, George's Brewery, Bristol, 1893.....	742,800

Lord Hindlip, Allsopps	£557,577
E. O. Coope, Ind Coope	552,000
James Jameson, Dublin, whiskey ...	489,352
D. Thwaites, Blackburn, brewer	464,516
H. P. Gilbey, wine merchant	463,600
E. Whitley, M. P., Greenall and Co..	445,554
Ch. Goding, Lion Brewery	409,000
Ed. Charrington, Anchor Brewery ..	386,082
Sir E. Lacon, Yarmouth, brewer	382,473
George Timmer, Farnham, brewer ..	380,385
Viscount De Gandarhina, wine	358,652
Ed. Green, M.P., Bury St. Edmunds.	356,000
Ch. F. Young, Wandsworth, brewer ..	349,915
J. Graham, Glasgow, wine merchant.	329,500
W. H. Crawford, Cork, brewer	328,000
Geo. Henty, Petersfield, brewer	335,589
John Berridge, Meux and Co.	312,360
Th. Berry, Sheffield, brewer	282,284
Wm. Hotham, York, brewer	270,203
Pickering Phipps, Northampton	263,311
Colonel Deakin, Cheadle, brewer	250,000
William Butler, brewer, Wolver- hampton	244,300
Barclay Field, Cannon Brewery Company	240,000
L. W. Wetherhed, Thames Valley ..	234,002
Hugh Tennant, Glasgow, brewer	230,226
Sir Ed. P. Cowan, Irish whiskey	213,000
B. Field, Mark Lane, brewer	210,200
Colonel W. C. Tamplin, Phoenix Brewery, Brighton	206,200
F. W. Cozens, wine merchant	203,668
Fred. Walker, Taylor, Walker and Co.	200,222.

The Post correspondent went on to say that the successors of those men and other owners having turned their businesses into limited liability concerns, are now obtaining higher dividends than can be made in almost any other way. In the Brewers' Directory for 1891, he finds a list of fifteen companies all paying ten per cent dividend, and having accumulated in addition on an aggregate share capital of £3,501,424, a reserve of £416,445. Five of these joint stock brewers and their respective reserves thus accumulated are as follows :—

Walker & Son	£24,000
United States	42,000
Wm. McEwan	60,000
Threlfalls	65,000
Wm. Younger	95,000

Companies paying a higher rate of dividend, with their respective share capital in reserve, are :—

Name.	Ordinary Shares.	Dividend thereon.	Reserve.
Lion Brewery Co....	£221,048..	12 per cent..	£12,600
F. Jones	400,000..	12 “ ..	29,000
Manchester Brewery..	129,000..	12 “ ..	16,500
Oakhill	60,000..	12 “ ..	9,500
Ohlssons	100,000..	12 “ ..	10,000
Parkers, Burslem....	180,000..	12 “ ..	18,000
Wm. Yates.....	17,250..	12½ “ ..	9,000
Nixey	30,000..	13 “ ..	1,250
Hancock	131,250..	15 “ ..	61,000
New York Brewery...	300,000..	15 “ ..	15,500
Holt Bry. Co., 1893 ..	90,000..	15 “ ..	45,000
P. Phipps	306,593..	15 “ ..	80,000
A. Guinness	2,500,000..	15 “ ..	675,000
Watney & Co.....	900,000..	16 “ ..	.....
Kirkstall Brewery Co..	47,732..	25 “ ..	35,000

Taking the whole list of liquor trafficking companies published in the latest issue of one of the trade journals, including the most poorly managed, as well as the most prosperous, it is found that the whole lot have upon the average of all stock, increased in value more than fifty-one per cent. since the companies were formed.

Mr. J. Austin Wells, of South Tottenham, in a letter to the Alliance News, adds to the list of a large deceased brewers' personalities the following, taken from the Statist of April 14th, omitted by Mr. Amery :—

Thomas Mann, Mann C. and P.....	£410,560
J. M. Threlfall, Salford.....	200,000
R. J. Bentley, Rotherham.....	235,516
P. McCracken, Melbourne	312,862
R. Courage, Horselydown.....	816,568
F. Tooth, Sydney	339,472
H. Nalder, Craydon	302,985

It may be added that the list of the estates ranging from One Hundred Thousand Pounds to Two Hundred Thousand Pounds is also a very large one. The startling facts speak for themselves, showing one of the principal causes for excessive wealth on the one hand and grinding poverty on the other.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE IN THE BRITISH ARMY IN INDIA.

Very important testimony to the value of total abstinence has lately been made public in reports of the progress of the movement in the British Army in India. Mrs. Lewis, of Blackburn, England, lately received a letter from a young man in India, dated at Jutogh, Bengal, June 24th, 1894, in which were the following statements :—

You may be interested to hear something of the work that is being done among the soldiers of India. I am glad to say that the Government of India gives us more facilities for carrying on the work of temperance reform than the home authorities. They provide and furnish a room for every regiment, troop, or battery, for the men who are teetotallers. The work is carried on somewhat on the same lines as your Temperance clubs. The Army Temperance Association room has become a refuge or shelter from the temptations of the regimental canteen, by providing healthful recreations and amusements. A man can get his cup of tea, and coffee, and eatables, and various games are provided. We also have a dancing club, which is very popular. The society is entirely self-supporting, receiving no outside help, and is worked by the members themselves; and as well as advancing the cause it makes the men feel that they have an individuality of their own, and that they are not mere machines in the hands of the authorities. It is a common saying at home, that in the army it is nearly an impossibility for a man to be a teetotaller with all the temptations, and there are many to contend with, but that the idea is a myth can be proved by the number of teetotallers there are in India. I am on detachment away from the battalion to which I belong at the hill station in the Himalayan hills, one of the wildest spots in the world. We are 160 strong, and although we have more temptations here than at the majority of stations in India, we have more than 100 members on our total abstinence roll. This, I think, speaks for itself for our A.T.A. system. In our regiment, 1,000 strong, we have 456 members.

The letter from which the above quotation is taken, was written a few days after the holding of the annual meeting of the Army Temperance Association. At the meeting his Excellency the Commander in Chief of the India Army, delivered an address in which he bore strong testimony to the value to soldiers of the temperance movement. His speech deserves to be preserved as a deliverance of unusual value, coming as it does from one who certainly cannot be classed among those who are sometimes considered fanatics on the temperance question. He said :—

SOLDIERS,—I have come here to-night at the invitation of your Commanding Officer, and of the Rev. Mr. Bateson, the energetic secretary of the Army Temperance Association, who has done so very much for it, in order that I may say a few words to you on the spread of Temperance in the Army, and, if it may be, to support and strengthen you in the good and wise course upon which you have entered.

I am not a teetotaller myself, but, perhaps, as an outsider I may be able to speak with more freedom and less suspicion of partisanship of the good that your society is bringing about. I am so fully convinced of the excellent results that are being worked out by it, that I have had great pleasure in becoming President of the Association in India.

I will commence what I have to say to you to-night by asking you to refer with me to the secretary's last report, for the year 1893-4. The report has not yet been published, but I have received advanced copies of some of the sheets containing statistics on the points I was most anxious to put before you, and the results they disclose are not only most happy, but are also most remarkable. During the year the numbers on our rolls have increased by no less than 4,014. This makes up the total average number of members to 22,369; or, practically, about one-third of the British Army in India are now total abstainers. The very large increase in the past year, 4,014, does not fully represent the actual excess over the previous year, as in former returns the members in England were included in the average totals, but since the beginning of the year to which the report relates these have been removed from the rolls. As

far as I can find out the members thus struck off were 641, so that the year's increase has really been 4,014 + 614 = 4,655.

To show in what an increasing ratio total abstinence is commending itself to our soldiers, I read you the following figures representing the average totals of former years:

1889-90	.....	13,487
1890-91	.....	15,050
1891-92	.....	16,948
1892-93	.....	18,355
1893-94	.....	22,369

To estimate the true value of these results it is necessary to examine into the advantages which membership of your association offers (first) to the members themselves; (second) to the discipline and efficiency of the Army at large. I think these advantages may also be considered with reference to the improved impressions of service in the Army which a higher standard of conduct amongst soldiers may make upon the civil population.

In doing this, men, I have no intention of asking you to adopt all virtues straight off, without giving due consideration to the conditions under which you live and the influences which surround you. I do not look upon this platform as a line of demarcation between you in front of me who need a talking to, and myself and those behind me who are too good to require it. I was myself a regimental soldier for thirty-two years, and, therefore, I know something of the trials and difficulties which beset a soldier's life, and, therefore, I want to speak to you to-night as one soldier talking to other soldiers.

The first head to consider is the advantage the Abstinence Society confers on the men themselves. No matter what walk in life a man may adopt, there is no qualification for success that can compare with a good character; a reputation for being a good man that can be relied on at all times to do his duty strongly and bravely. To earn such a reputation amongst his comrades, and they are close observers and often captious critics, a man must teach himself self-control. From generalities let us now proceed to particulars. I will ask you to come back with me to

the report. I find that the Court Martial return of 1893 shows that there were 8 general courts-martial held for the trial of British soldiers. Of those tried all were non-abstainers. There were 1,450 district courts-martial, and of these only 34 were non-abstainers. There were 1,150 regimental courts-martial, and of those tried only 39 were members of the association. To sum up, there were 2,608 courts-martial in the year, and of these trials only 73 have been held for the trial of members of the Army Temperance Association. It does not need the help of the schoolmaster to show that according to the percentage of our strength we are entitled to about 869 courts-martial, and we have only got credit for 73; but all things considered, I cannot advise you to make a complaint to your captain that you have been defrauded of your rights in this respect.

My experience tells me that nearly all the crime in the British Army in India is directly traceable to drinking to excess. In this country there are not the same inducements to the offence of absence without leave, and others that will occur to you, that there are at home. Yet there are many offences committed by soldiers which, though not recorded as drunkenness, are the direct consequences of drink; such as the disinclination for work or duty which follows after the period of dissipation, or the illhumour resulting from reaction leading up to insubordinate words or acts. The figures I have quoted to you are positive proof of the extraordinary effects of Temperance in decreasing crime. Some may perhaps think that these figures are not reliable; in fact, that they are Army Temperance figures. I confess that I was so astonished last year at the comparative absence of crime amongst the Temperance men, disclosed by the figures in the report of the Association, that I had them investigated by the Adjutant-General of the Army in communication with commanding officers, and though there were some slight discrepancies the difference was so small as to be altogether outside the zone of practical consideration.

His Excellency then proceeded to read some extracts from the last report of the National Association for the Employment of Reserve Soldiers, showing the value of a good record on leaving the army in aiding to secure employment in civil life, after which he went on to say:—

The next head under which I said I would consider the results of the Army Temperance Association was its effect on the discipline and efficiency of the Army.

I have already said enough to show how it has improved and is improving the discipline of the Army. The efficiency of the Army depends in the highest degree on the health of its soldiers. Let us again refer to the report for evidence as to the effect of Temperance on health.

I find that an average taken over twenty-two different corps, selected at haphazard and representative of all our nationalities, that the admission into hospital per cent. of abstainers was 5.5, and amongst non-abstainers 10.0. The corps selected represent all branches of the service. These figures establish the benefits of Temperance on health.

In fact they leave a reasonable presumption that half the sickness in the British Army in India is traceable to drink.

When a man has lost control over himself from drink he is as unmindful to what is due to his health as he is forgetful of what he owes to his reputation.

It is thus that men, maddened by drink, expose themselves to the ruthless rays of the noonday sun in the plains of India, and get knocked over, possibly to be helpless imbeciles for the rest of a wearisome existence.

It is thus also that at stations like Quetta in Beluchistan, where the thermometer goes down to near zero on winter nights, men expose themselves to attacks of pneumonia which, if they are not fatal, often send those stricken home unable to bear the cold and bracing climate of England, which they would have enjoyed and benefited by if they had but taken care of themselves in India.

There are other forms of sickness which will occur to you which the recklessness of consequences bred of drink led men into, often to the ruin of the steady nerve and strong physique which should be the pride of every soldier, and which he should guard as the apple of his eye. Men, I think this is a point that you cannot be too often reminded of. What is a soldier without health and power of endurance? He is a fraud. He is being educated and paid, not for parade purposes in times of peace—for a soldier in peace is a chimney in summer—but for a sterner occasion which, if

it occurs during his service, he will be found unfit to cope with. I make no reference here to the, I am sorry to say, many who from the effects of the climate or other causes beyond their own control became invalids or are sickly. They deserve every respect, help and sympathy from us. But what of those others who, from want of self-discipline, render themselves unfit to fulfil the contract they have entered into with their country? They are false to themselves, for they betray the highest trust reposed in man, the preservation of his manhood, and they are false to the country for which they have volunteered to fight, because they render themselves incapable of upholding the credit and the glorious traditions of England's Army in its hour of need.

I speak to you as one who has just pride in the grand men I have always commanded, and to whose manliness and honor I owe it that I am now addressing you as your chief. This makes me regret it the more when I see men rendering themselves unfit for the honorable profession in which you have volunteered to serve. I am no preacher; I leave that to better men; but I would put it to each of you—Is it not better to keep your body as the temple of the living God rather than to degrade it into the ruined hovel of a cripple?

There is, I believe, in some quarters an idea that it is the more spirited section of our soldiers that drink. I do not believe it for a moment. This is one of the old-world fallacies that may be classed and dismissed with the idea that the greatest blackguards make the best soldiers on service. Undoubtedly, there is a certain recklessness of disposition that will carry men a certain length, particularly in the first flush and fashion of a campaign; but it is not a dependable quality. The characteristics that mark the best soldiers in trying circumstances and amidst depressing surroundings are a high sense of duty, self-respect and self-command. You have associated yourselves together to exercise self-command, and to promote self-respect, and, therefore, I say that you are giving yourselves the best training for service.

There is another consideration which makes me welcome

the increase of Temperance amongst our soldiers as the dawn of a brighter and better day for the Army.

I think that you will agree with me that the uniform of our Army is not granted the distinction in England which other European nations accord to theirs. Why is this? I am glad to think the reason of it is growing rapidly less: but we have ourselves to thank in a great degree for what remains. Scenes that most of you can recall do not tend to increase the respect of our cloth. The surroundings of some of our barracks in the larger towns at home would account for some of the bad name.

If, therefore, you would raise the social status of our profession you must cultivate Temperance and decorum, and banding yourselves together in societies such as this is the best means of attaining the much to be desired end.

My last words therefore to you to-night will be: Live so that you may rejoice in high health and its first-born child happiness, adding to the credit and efficiency of the grand army to which you belong; fitting yourselves, when your service with the color is done, to return to civil life in a position higher than you occupied when you left it; returning to your country self-disciplined men to be respected citizens; the best recruiting agents for a disciplined army, examples of its elevating influence and not of its demoralising effect; so that you may be a source of pride to those—it may be parents or it may be often relatives—who hung their heads in sorrow, not unmingled with a tinge of shame, over the dashing lad they thought lost because he had gone to be a soldier.

THE DRINK BILL FOR NEW SOUTH WALES FOR 1893.

BY REV. F. B. BOYCE.

My estimate of the sum spent last year upon intoxicating drink, as in former year, is approximate only. I give the details of the bill, the prices of which are averaged, as they vary very much. Up the country, publicans usually charge sixpence a drink. The following are the figures:—

Spirits, 997,857 gallons at 37s.....	£1,846,035
Wines, sparkling, 11,336 gallons at 40s	22,672
Wines, still, 86,219 gallons at 20s	86,219
Wines, colonial, 888,000 gallons at 7s.....	310,800
Beers, imported in wood, 819,433 gallons at 5s.	204,857
Beers, imported in bottles, 719,535 gallons at 7s.	251,838
Beers, colonial, 9,642,217 gallons at 3s.....	1,446,332
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Total for 1893.....	£4,168,753

As the mean population was 1,210,010, the amount per head was £3 8s 11d, and per family of five persons £17 4s 7d. In the previous year the bill was £4,775,359, or £606,606 more, and per head 11s 11d more. This is a remarkable decrease. There has been a regular annual fall, with one exception, since 1885. In seven years the decrease has been £1 1s 4d per head.

On several occasions my figures have been severely criticised. It is, therefore, very gratifying to find Mr. Coghlan, the Government Statistician, taking the question

up and substantially confirming my estimate by recently published valuable statistics. It must be remembered that I have always emphasised that the total could be approximate only. Mr. Coghlan's estimate for 1892 shows a difference with me of £61,425 less, and for 1893 of £156,916 less. In so large a sum this is a practical agreement. Mr. Coghlan is distinct in saying the total can only be approximate. I may state that I now estimate the price of colonial wine, as it has become cheaper, at 7s a gallon, which is the average price adopted in Victoria, while Mr. Coghlan's estimate is 6s. As the wine is often sold for the country at 4s a bottle and 6d a glass, I consider I cannot rightly go below the average named.

My estimate does not include that for water added by the publican and others after liquors have left the custom-house. Probably one-fifth in water is added. Nor do I include the illicit distillation, of which the best of the publicans have strongly and rightly complained, and which is considerable. I fear these causes much increase the actual drink bill, but there are, of course, no figures by which they can be estimated.

BEER CONSUMPTION IN 1893.

Statistics were published in the *Vanguard* for December last, giving details of the consumption of liquor in different parts of the world. Some later statistics in reference to the production and consumption of malt liquor, have been published by the *Gambrinus*, a Vienna journal, in an article setting out the figures for 1893, the principal facts of which are presented by the *London Times* in a condensed article as follows:—

The leading position amongst beer producing and consuming countries is occupied by Germany. The brew in the German Empire last year was 1,202,132,074 imperial gallons, against 1,168,089,472 gallons in 1892; the increase in 1893 being thus 34,032,602 gallons, or nearly 3 per cent. The average annual consumption of malt liquor per head in the whole of the German Empire last year was 33·378 gallons, ranging from 62 gallons in Bavaria to 11·66 gallons in Elsass-Lothringen. In the production of this large quantity of beer there were used 1,552,950 tons of malt and 20,183 tons of hops.

The United Kingdom makes a good second to the German Empire as a producer of malt liquor. The breweries of this country produced last year 1,164,752,952 gallons, or 30 gallons per head of its population per annum. The brewers of Great Britain and Ireland used in the production of their heavy ales and porters in 1893 a total of 1,863,386 tons of malt, &c., or about 295,000 tons above

what the German brewers require in their production of 37,379,122 gallons more of beer.

America, including in this term the United States and the various South American countries, is the third in rank amongst the great brewing countries. The breweries of the Western Continent produced last year 1,084,433,460 gallons of malt liquor, and the consumption per head per annum was 16 gallons. In the production of her quota of malt liquor, America used 1,723,900 tons of malt or its equivalents.

Austria, the fourth on the list of beer-producing countries, brewed in 1893 385,256,168 gallons of malt liquor, an increase of 14,456,222 gallons over 1892. The average for the entire Austrian Empire was 12.9 gallons per head. The brewers of Austria used last year 195,366 tons of malt and 6,558 tons of hops.

Of the remaining countries Belgium brewed 209,856,174 gallons of beer, or 32 gallons per head of the population. She used 205,323 tons of malt and 3,747 tons of hops.

France, with 2,649 breweries, made 196,630,500 gallons of beer, and used 219,453 tons of malt and 3,219 tons of hops.

Russia produced 98,638,892 gals. of beer, or $1\frac{1}{4}$ gals. per head, and used 110,088 tons of malt and 1,355 tons of hops.

Denmark turned out 45,059,300 gallons of malt liquor, or 20.46 gallons for each head of the population, and used 52,030 tons of malt and 657 tons of hops.

The Netherlands produced 33,080,300 gallons of beer, or 6.69 gallons per head, and used 38,884 tons of malt and 566 tons of hops.

The brewers of Sweden produced 28,301,350 gallons of beer, or $5\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head, using 32,090 tons of malt and 510 tons of hops.

In Switzerland, 26,170,342 gallons of beer were brewed in 1893, or 9.64 gallons per head, the consumption of malt amounting to 28,000 tons, and of hops to 415 tons.

The remaining countries for which statistics are given (Luxemburg, Spain, Norway, Italy, Roumania, Servia, Bulgaria, Greece, and India and other British possessions) all produced less than 20,000,000 gallons each, and the total output of malt liquor for all these countries, together with those specially referred to, is put at over 4,500,000,000 imperial gallons. It is estimated that they used last year 7,270,000 tons of malt and 82,000 tons of hops.

MEDICAL OPINION CONCERNING ALCOHOL.

Two deliverances just made by men entitled to be considered experts in both medical science and temperance investigation, are specially noteworthy as forcibly epitomizing the recent progress and the present position of the medical aspect of the temperance question. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, M.D., F.R.S., and Norman Kerr, M.D., F.L.S., are gentlemen whose personal character, wide experience, high ability, and careful judgment, are unquestionable. A statement by the former, published recently in *The Medical Pioneer*, is well worthy of careful consideration, as is also the valuable paper by the latter, which was read at the International Temperance Congress in New York last June. We submit the most important paragraphs of both these valuable documents.

Temperance Pioneering in Medicine.

SIR BENJAMIN WARD RICHARDSON, M.D., F.R.S.

Twenty-five years of medical pioneering in the matter of temperance suffices to teach many curious facts in the social as well as in the purely scientific world of medical science. When I, from conscientious motives, inspired solely by scientific research, declared myself on the side of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors, I experienced a position in many ways extremely painful. Only a year or so previously (1868) the profession, represented by its best known members, had extended to me a recognition and honour which, perhaps, had never been surpassed, and I was on the most cordial and intimate terms with many

of the great scientific bodies that exist in medicine. One of my eminent friends said "I was Fortune's child, and the childhood was well merited." It was a sweet compliment, but when I began to appear as a supporter of the temperance propaganda that same friend chilled me by saying "that I had passed into a craze, and it was good for me that the honours gleaned came before it, for they would never come again." I look back now and ask, "Is it right to regret the course I then took?" It was attended by the loss of many friendships, of much esteemed confidence, of some recognition, and a considerable reduction of professional means. But the answer that comes on reflection and experience is, after all, to the effect that regret ought not to be for a moment realized or thought of. Every man who lends himself to a cause which carries with it social and scientific novelty must, however good the cause may be, expect to meet with opposition, distrust, and even anger, all of which we must be prepared to bear, with the assurance that if his cause is right he in turn will be right also.

With me everything has tended in this direction, and a great satisfaction wells up when the position of temperance in regard to medicine at the present time is compared with the position of a quarter of a century back. It is true that medical friends still persist a little in their jokes and fancies; tell you they are not going to be bamboozled by any argument out of their nightcap of spirits before they go to bed; explain to you that they cannot dine properly in the absence of a glass of wine; expostulate with you that you, a temperance man, ride your hobby too far; declare that there are times and seasons of a recreative kind when a little wine brings you up to the mark, and when it should be taken, if at none other, as Sir Walter Raleigh taught; affirm that they would find it very difficult to get on in practice if they did not bend a little to the popular desire for the least drop of spirits, and watch you very closely that you do not yourself trip over the abstinence line ever so lightly. At a distant country railway station I was once amused immensely by a learned fellow of my college dropping upon me as I was drinking a cup of tea, and explaining candidly with splitting sides, that he had been watching me for ten minutes to see if I

was as consistent abroad as at home ; but, on the whole, the tone and manner of the profession has vastly changed. There were perhaps fifty staunch abstaining men in medicine in 1869. There are five hundred now who openly declare themselves, and there are a great many more than five hundred thorough abstainers who do not declare themselves, that is to say, who practice, though they do not preach, medical abstinence. I notice also in our societies there is a forbearance never before shown, a forbearance that could not have been better displayed than in the election to the presidency of the British Medical Association of the distinguished Dr. Long Fox, of Bristol. There is also a most decided change in respect to the mode in which physicians and surgeons prescribe alcohol for their patients ; there is a caution shown which never existed before. The sufferer is advised that the alcohol is prescribed as a medicine ; that it must not be indulged in or trespassed upon, or played with. Above all, that it must not be made to induce a habit of taking it, which may be easily lead into inebriety. I do not, for my own part, consider this a safe caution, but it is much better than no caution at all, and it is certainly influencing the public opinion in favour of abstinence principles, the argument being that if the doctor expresses fear or doubt about the use of alcohol, then it cannot be the necessary and heaven-sent thing which our predecessors took it to be.

Another observation is a source of great hope. The profession has learned to use the word "alcoholic" as an adjective freely applied to diseased conditions induced by the use of alcohol. In 1863 I wrote an essay to "Alcoholic Phthisis," or the consumption of drunkards, and about the same time my learned friend, Dr. Marcet, wrote a little treatise on "Alcoholic Dyspepsia." It has occurred to me many times to hear applied to both of us severe criticisms on the particular use of the word "alcoholic" in this manner. It was suggestive of a false argument in favour of total abstinence, and it was almost suggestive of a new and specific pathology, in which alcohol, "a true food," was treated as if it had toxic properties. For a while this criticism held its place, but now, such is the change, alcoholic diseases are spoken of in the

most frank and open form. We have not only alcoholic phthisis and alcoholic dyspepsia, but alcoholic paralysis, and various other maladies bearing the fatal name; nay, alcohol has even been compared with a metallic poison, lead, in regard to its pathological effects upon the body.

I reserve to the last that which has given me greatest satisfaction in medico-temperance pioneering, namely, the certain truth, gleaned by direct observation on a large scale, that as men, women, and children, can live through their most healthy lives in the best health without alcohol, so in their diseases they can recover with equal facility under the same abstinence. The practice of the London Temperance Hospital is incisive and decisive in this respect. We receive there patients in the most varied types of diseases, acute and chronic, and in all stages without any thought of selection. We receive some who are abstainers, and, therefore, it might be supposed, ready for abstaining treatment; we receive many who are not abstainers, but we treat all alike in so far as the non-administration of alcohol is concerned, and our results leave nothing to be desired. I have watched the treatment of disease for 25 years with alcohol; I have watched it for 25 years without alcohol, and, apart from any prejudice or the least bias, I am confident, on a review of the whole of the facts, that if the systems of treatment of disease with alcohol, and absolutely without it, be compared, the non-alcohol system leads the way as the safest, the rapidest, and most certain system in curative tendencies.

The Medical Profession and Total Abstinence.

NORMAN KERR, M.D., F.L.S.

Considerable misapprehension seems to prevail on the attitude of the practitioners of medicine to the great and growing cause of abstinence. At every stage of the onward march of abstinence, representatives of the art of healing have been conspicuous by their presence. Nor has the voice of medical science been dumb on the perils of drinking and the blessing of abstention.

Of course, there has been opposition to the abstinence movement from the ranks of medicine, as there has been from all other classes of human kind; but the narration of

the simple fact that the membership of the British Medical Temperance Association had risen from 7 in 1876 to nearly 500 in 1894 is a sign of the great progress of abstaining temperance among medical practitioners in the United Kingdom. This advance is the more manifest from the further fact that (I speak from a large personal medical acquaintance) there are as many more British medical abstainers outside the British Medical Temperance Association, so that in Britain there are about 1,000 abstaining medical men. This advance in personal abstinence has been largely concurrent with, though not the sole cause of, the extraordinarily lessened amount of alcoholic intoxicants prescribed medically by British doctors.

In hospitals there has been a very large reduction in the cost for strong drink, probably from 20 to 30 per cent. all round; but, as they are not under a general administration, it is difficult to arrive at the truth.

The poor-law expenditure on alcohol affords an excellent standard by which to gauge the decline of alcoholic prescription, inasmuch as poor-law medical practice is a fair reflection of private medical practice.

ALCOHOL AS A MEDICINE.

My own experience of 34 years in the practice of my profession has taught me that in nearly all cases and kinds of disease the medical use of alcohol is unnecessary, and in a large number of instances is prejudicial and even dangerous. Having given an intoxicant, in strictly definite and guarded doses, probably on the whole only about once in 3,000 cases (then usually when nothing else was available in an emergency), and having had most varieties of disease to contend with, my death-rate and duration of illness have been quite as low as my neighbours. The experience of the London Temperance Hospital and other similar institutions, the current reports of that hospital being now reliable scientific records, amply support this experience.

The chief peril of narcotic drugs has always appeared to me to lie in their disguising the real state of the patient from himself as well as from his doctor and his friends. If there is any serious ailment, such as cholera or fever, the

sufferer may seem to be and may feel better. He is not better. He is actually worse—made worse by the alcohol, and not unseldom, after the evanescent alcoholic disguise and deceptive improvement has faded, it is found that the malady itself has been progressing, unseen and unsuspected, from the delusive aspect of the alcohol, steadily toward a fatal determination, which might in many cases have been averted but for the true state of the patient having been completely masked.

RULES FOR MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION OF ALCOHOL.

Twenty years or more ago I therefore laid down three rules for the medical administration of alcohol:—(1) Never to give alcohol if any other drug would answer the purpose; (2) to give it for the occasion only, in definite doses each day or portion of day, and (3), if possible, in the form not of a beverage, but of an alcoholic tincture, the strength of which is a fixed quantity.

Medical men have constantly been accused by advocates of abstinence of giving to their patients an alcoholic intoxicant unguardedly and as a mere matter of routine. There is less truth in the accusation every day, and it ought to be remembered that in a large proportion of cases the doctor has been unjustly credited with the prescription. Nurses often (with a kindly eye to their own palate), doting mothers, and injudicious friends have frequently been the true offenders, though they have fathered the physic on the physician and emblazoned with the magic motto—"Doctor's orders."

Wherever the blame really has lain, one thing is now clear, that alcoholic intoxicants are very rarely useful as a medicine; are at the best dangerous remedies; and that, other things being equal, the less they are resorted to the better for the chances of the patient's recovery, the better for body and brain, the better for physical, intellectual and moral well-being.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MEDICAL ATTENDANT.

On the medical attendant a grave responsibility rests. The fact that his prescription of an intoxicant liquor may arouse in the susceptible patient a dormant inherited

tendency to drunkenness, ought ever to be a predominant consideration lest he provoke to activity the latent, slumbering, narcomaniacal demon within. He, therefore, should be exempt from inquiries and urgings on the part of the patient and friends for a trial of an intoxicant medicine. Time and again I have been assailed, even in teetotal households, by pressing entreaties as to whether I did not think some "nourishing stout," some "blood-making claret," or "port wine," or "sherry with an egg beat up in it," or "good sound whisky or brandy," would "stimulate" and "strengthen" the weak sufferer. "Nourish," "stimulate," "strengthen!" What utter humbug! Alcohol does not nourish, but pulls down; does not stimulate, but depresses; does not strengthen, but excites and exhausts. Alcohol is the pathological fraud of frauds, degenerating while it claims to be reconstructing, enfeebling while it appears to be invigorating, destroying vitality while it professes to infuse new life.

In the rescue of the fallen through strong drink, the intelligent and consistent medical practitioner can play a noble and useful part. Such a physician will teach the despairing and hopeless inebriate that he is the subject of a physical and moral disorder; that he is a diseased man; that there is no royal road to recovery, no magic process or potion to destroy his drink craze; but that there is a fair prospect of cure if only he will carry out and persist in the open, straightforward remedial measures, of which absolute abstinence from all intoxicants is the most essential condition, competent to achieve a renewal of healthy brain structure, and a restoration of moral control, the paralysis of which largely constitutes the disease of inebriety, (or narcomania—a mania for intoxication by any intoxicants.) The true physician will take care to support teaching and advice by a personal example of that abstinence in strong drinks in which alone lies the drunkard's safety. A lengthened experience enables me to assure my professional colleagues that if they only realized the influence for good over inebriate patients, and the inexpressible happiness of having by the practice of habits in accordance with the professional advice plucked many a "brand from the burning," they would be abstainers to a man.

TRUE MEDICAL TEACHING ON ALCOHOL.

On the utter fallaciousness of the widespread belief that alcohol is an article of diet, the medical profession should speak with no uncertain sound. It ought to be their high aim to proclaim the great truths that the regular use of intoxicating drinks, in any quantity, is wholly useless and unnecessary; that even a limited consumption of these mere articles of luxury is never absolutely free from the risk, not only of the drinker being unconsciously drawn into excess, but also of gradually inducing structural degradations and functional derangements which may lead to grave physical disorders, to serious bodily weakness and mental palsy, in the off-spring as well as in the parentage. Above all, the honourable practitioners of the art of healing should bear witness before the world that wherever there is alcohol there is poison—a poison which exerts its poisoning, paralysing, narcotising influence in exact proportion to the quantity consumed, and the capacity of the consumer to resist the action of the poison. The cardinal medical and physiological doctrine ought to be taught that this lethal poison is no respecter of persons, affecting alike the educated archbishop and the uneducated corner-loafer, doing its blighting work on many a human body, on many a human soul, in all circumstances, secular and sacred. The enlightened physician will emphasise the intensified prejudicial influence of intoxicants on the youthful and growing constitution, calling for a full exposition of the injurious effects of alcohol in every school, and the most terrible of all the phases of the alcoholic question, the transmission by the law of alcoholic heredity of a proclivity to excess or other mind perversions or defects to the unborn and innocent babe.

APPEAL TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

With my honoured friend and colleague, Sir Andrew Clark, whose recent loss the British world of medicine still deeply mourns, let every loyal and honest medical practitioner in the world declare the truth as to the physiological valuelessness and the pathological dangers of alcoholic inebriant beverages. Let them act out that truth by a life of abstinence from all such perilous drinks, and the great profession of medicine will attain to an honour, dignity and

power in the glory and effulgence of which all the triumphs of medicine in the past will fade as in the obscurity of night. Fellow healers of humankind, let us teach the truth; let us commend the truth by a life consistent with truth; let us, as being in a position to know the truth, live a professional life worthy of the truth; let us do all that in us lies to prevent the strong from becoming enslaved by the tyrant Alcohol, and to rescue in our holy warfare his tortured and despairing victims, thus proving our fealty to the high mission of the great medical host to which we belong, whose ennobling watchword is so truly sung in the glowing strains of one of our most renowned commanders, Oliver Wendell Holmes:—

“ Along its front no sabres shine,
No blood-red pennons wave;
Its banner bears the single line,
‘ Our duty is to save.’ ”

METHODISTS AND TEMPERANCE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The annual report of the Standing Temperance Committee of the English Wesleyan Methodist Conference shows an encouraging progress made in the number of pledged abstainers connected with the denomination named. Rev. G. Armstrong Bennetts, B.A., secretary of the committee places these facts in the following tabular form.

Temperance Societies 1894.....	1,153
Temperance Societies 1893.....	984
Increase.....	169
Membership in Temp. Societies 1894..	68,798
Membership in Temp. Societies 1893..	61,176
Increase.....	7,622
Bands of Hope 1894.....	4,222
Bands of Hope 1893.....	4,035
Increase.....	187
Membership in the Bands of Hope 1894	435,141
Membership in the Bands of Hope 1893	420,888
Increase.....	14,253

One section of the committee's report referred to a remarkable petition that had been presented to Parliament in favor of the Liquor Traffic Local Control Bill.

The petition was signed by Ministers of the various Methodist bodies and represented all the six branches of Methodism in Great Britain. There were attached to it 3,301 signatures made up as follows, Wesleyan Ministers, 1,829 ; Methodist New Connexion, 176 ; Primitive Methodist, 803 ; Bible Christians, 174 ; United Methodist Free Churches, 334 ; Wesleyan Reformers, 19. It may be regarded as an official document, for it is headed by the names of the President, Secretary and Connexional Temperance Secretary of the six Methodist Conferences, the Rev. H. J. Pope, President of the Wesleyan Conference being the first.

In all the denominations named there were according to the latest returns, 3,671 Ministers, eight-ninths of whom had signed this document. If the number of deaths, resignations, and persons otherwise prevented from signing be taken into consideration, it will be seen that the petition was all but unanimous.

Among the resolutions adopted by the Conference were the following :—

The Conference is glad to note that again there is a very remarkable increase in the adult societies and their membership, but records its conviction that this section does not adequately represent the interest felt by Wesleyan Methodists in the temperance movement, and hopes that earnest attention will be given to this department of our work, believing that the formation of adult societies would aim in conserving the results of our Band of Hope work, and would tend generally to strengthen our church.

The Conference again places on record its deep regret that England has not yet secured the boon on Sunday closing.

The Conference notes with pleasure the petition from so large a number of the ministers of the various Methodist bodies on behalf of the Liquor Traffic (Local Option) Bill, in support of which it last year passed a resolution, but it records its deep regret that legislation for proper control of the liquor traffic should be so long delayed.

The Conference recommends the appointment of a circuit temperance secretary in every circuit ; and the superintendents are directed to send the name and address of such secretary to the secretary of the Temperance Committee of

the Conference not later than the end of September; but wherever no circuit temperance secretary is appointed, the superintendents of circuits are directed to send to the connectional temperance secretary by the same date the names and addresses of all the secretaries of Bands of Hope and Temperance Societies in their respective circuits.

That in view of the serious hindrance to missionary effort, caused by the liquor traffic amongst heathen and uncivilized races, the Conference expresses its hope that Her Majesty's Government will do all in its power to secure the prohibition of this iniquitous traffic amongst such nations, and would especially urge upon Her Majesty's Government that, when the General Act of the Brussels Conference comes under revision in 1895, such steps shall be taken as shall ensure, if not total prohibition, the imposition of a high duty in these west coast territories in Africa where a small minimum duty now exists; and that Her Majesty's Government will take steps to enforce the General Act of Brussels in all British colonies and protectorates which are included in the zone of prohibition; and that a memorial in the sense of this resolution be signed by the president and secretary of the Conference, and be sent to the Prime Minister and Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

ELECTORAL ACTION.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The attention of prohibitionists everywhere in the Dominion of Canada is respectfully called to the following important matters.

At the Dominion Convention, held in Montreal last July, a report on political action was adopted, embodying the following resolutions :—

That this convention believe that prohibitionists ought to firmly stand by the position that in political matters they will support only known, avowed and reliable prohibitionists.

That to aid in securing the nomination and election of such candidates, our friends everywhere are urged to organize prohibition clubs, which will take advantage of every opportunity to plan and work for the carrying out of the objects above set out.

That it is also recommended that in order to secure the nomination of prohibition candidates, our friends take a more active part in political organization, so as to secure the nomination, by all parties, of men who can be depended upon to support our cause, giving it to be understood distinctly that any other candidates will have their active opposition. That no candidate for Dominion Parliament or Local Legislature receive our support who will not publicly pledge himself to work in the interest of prohibition at every opportunity, regardless of fealty to his political party.

That where such prohibition candidates cannot be nominated by any political party, our friends nominate independent candidates, and make special effort to secure their election.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Dominion Alliance, recently held in Toronto, it was resolved that the following be published as suggestions of forms of questions to be addressed to candidates in different constituencies, with the recommendation that prohibitionists should support in conventions and at the polls only such candidates as would give affirmative answers thereto:—

1. Are you in favor of the prohibition of the liquor traffic?

2. If elected to the House of Commons, will you support and vote for a prohibitory law?

3. Will you co-operate with the other members of Parliament who favor prohibition, to secure the introduction and enactment of such legislation at the earliest possible opportunity?

It is respectfully and earnestly urged that friends of the cause in every part of the Dominion will at once organize to secure the carrying into operation of the plans above set out for the nomination and election to the Dominion House of Commons of known and avowed prohibitionists.

LOCAL OPTION IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The enactment of the Liquor Traffic Local Control Bill is a prominent plank in the platform of the British Liberal Party.

An attempt has been made to represent Hon. Mr. Gladstone as having changed his mind in reference to Local Option. In support of this contention quotations having been made from a letter written by Mr. Gladstone to Lord Thring in which he expresses himself as favorable to legislation providing for the carrying on of the sale of liquors for the public profit.

Mr. Gladstone's statements have been fully explained by himself. He favors legislation similar to that advocated by the Bishop of Chester, believing that under it the liquor traffic would be less harmful and injurious than it is under the present licensing system. That he does not abandon his favor for Local Option is made perfectly clear by the following letter written by himself and forwarded to Mr. John Hilton, Parliamentary Agent of the United Kingdom Alliance.

Hawarden, Sept, 27th, 1894.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your obliging letter, I need hardly point out that I have in no respect receded from former declarations as to local option. My opinion in its favor remains unaltered, but I hope more may be done for coping with the frightful evil than local option, if it stand alone, seems likely to effect.—I remain, yours faithful and obedient,

W. E. GLADSTONE.

P.S.—You are free to publish this letter.

Mr. James Whyte, Secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance wrote a letter to Mr. Gladstone calling his attention to the deliverances he formerly made in reference to Local Option, and asking the hon. gentleman to make such a statement as would set the matter to rest. Mr. Whyte received the following reply—

Hawarden Castle, Chester, Sept. 28.

Dear Sir,—I am desired by Mr. Gladstone to say that he is very sensible of the care and discretion of your letter to him. Unhappily, he has not by him his letter to Lord

Thring ; but he feels confident, even as to the words you quote, that if he used them they were much modified by the context. What he thinks of Local Option is that it is a second principle, which has every title to be pressed on Parliament, and which would be useful wherever it is adopted. But the mischief of drink is so frightful that he is not willing to trust exclusively to the remedy which he fears may not be of wide operation. He thinks that the principle of sale under public authority is defensible, and it seems to him to be the most hopeful of the methods now attainable for producing benefit on an extended scale. He speaks, of course, according to the latest information he possesses.—I remain, yours faithfully,

H. GLADSTONE.

Even among ardent prohibitionists there are many well-informed persons who believe to some extent in state control of the liquor traffic. They favor the entire suppression of that traffic, but hold the opinion that until that entire suppression is attained it is much better to eliminate from the traffic if possible the element of individual profit. It is not to be expected that so dangerous a business can be carried on without evil results, but those evil results would doubtless be minimized if the traffickers had not the inducements to a vigorous pushing of the business which they have at present. One may be a prohibitionist and yet an advocate of some form of state control as a temporary measure.

A letter was also addressed to Sir Wm. Harcourt asking what are the intentions of the Government in regard to the important question above mentioned and the hon. gentleman replied in the following definite statements:—

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, S.W., Sept. 29, 1894.

Dear Sir,—I have no reason to believe that the views of the Government or of the Liberal party generally are in any degree altered in regard to the policy of Local Option as applied to the drink traffic. It has been my duty, ever since the year 1883, to declare the adhesion of three successive Liberal Administrations to that policy, and the last occasion upon which I spoke upon the matter was at the great deputation to Mr. Gladstone in Downing Street at the close of last year. To the opinions then expressed by Mr. Gladstone and myself I firmly adhere, and shall do what in me lies to promote that policy.—Yours faithfully,

W. V. HARCOURT.

Local Option then remains a part of the Liberal policy and has therefore a fair prospect of being embodied in law at an early date.