



# THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

VOL. VII. No 12.

TORONTO, ONT. JUNE, 1901.

25 CENTS PER YEAR

**Every one who receives this paper is respectfully requested to read every part of it carefully. It is a journal that no Canadian temperance worker can afford to be without. The subscription price is almost insignificant. In the great impending campaign for prohibition in Ontario it will be of intense interest and great value.**

## IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION.

It is our imperative duty to refuse to accept as a settlement of the liquor question anything short of total prohibition. It is at the same time our right to expect the Legislature, pending the settlement of the question of jurisdiction, to exercise at once its unquestioned power of restriction, by such revision and improvement of the License Law as is manifestly reasonable, and much of which is absolutely necessary to remove unjust discrimination in favor of the liquor traffic as against the general public, and to make effective the plain intention of the law. Among the amendments which ought to be made are the following:

(a) A majority of the electors in a polling subdivision ought to have the right by a signed petition to prevent the renewal of a license in their locality at the end of a license year.

(b) The sale of liquor to minors ought to be absolutely prohibited. The law now allows sale to little children on orders from parents, guardians or employers.

(c) Persons to whom liquor has been sold unlawfully ought not to be punished if they give straightforward evidence in prosecutions against the law-breakers. Their present liability to punishment interferes badly with law enforcement.

(d) A municipal council ought not to have power to prevent the taking of a vote on the question of local prohibition. A twenty-five per cent. petition of the electors should compel the taking of a vote.

(e) There ought to be a change in the law which now makes a tavern license that has been issued unlawfully as valid and effective as if legally granted.

(f) Inspectors and magistrates ought not to have unlimited power to keep on continually imposing only first offence penalties upon offenders who have been many times convicted of law breaking.

(g) Provision ought to be made to prevent the continued renewal of licenses to persons who have been repeatedly convicted of violating the law.

A proposal to ask for these changes will be one of the matters to be considered at the approaching Provincial Convention. No doubt other suggestions of a similar kind will be made. Friends who propose attending that Convention ought to bring along with them suggestions of any further changes in the law which their experience has shown to be specially desirable.

## CONVENTION CALL 1901.

**DON'T MISS THIS GREAT MEETING.**

The Annual Provincial Convention of the Dominion Alliance will be held at Toronto, in the **HORTICULTURAL PAVILION** beginning on **TUESDAY, JULY 9th. at 10 a.m.** and will probably close on the evening of the same day, or the following forenoon.

**REDUCED RATES. SINGLE FARE.**—Special reduced rates will be given by all railway lines. Each delegate will purchase on starting a single fare ticket to Toronto. He will also procure from the ticket agent a standard certificate filled up, showing that he has purchased said ticket. This certificate he will present to the Secretary of the convention, who will sign it. It will then entitle him to a return ticket free of cost. **Every delegate is urged to attend.** The standard certificate must be secured before starting, otherwise the free return cannot be secured. Those having to travel over roads operated by different companies should procure a certificate for each. The free return will be conditional upon our having three hundred delegates purchasing full fare tickets to the convention. Otherwise the railway companies will charge one-third of a single fare for return tickets. It is confidently anticipated, however, that there will be present many more than the number necessary to secure the free return.

**REPRESENTATION.**—The plan of representation to this convention is as follows:—Every church and society is entitled to two representatives, and each church and society having more than fifty members, is entitled to an additional delegate for each additional fifty.

The following organizations are entitled to representation on the basis named: County, City and Electoral District Prohibition Alliances, Leagues or Central Committees, Branches of the W.C.T.U., Divisions of the Sons of Temperance, Lodges of the I.O.G.T., Councils of the R. T. of T., Branches of the League of the Cross, Prohibition Clubs, any prohibition or temperance organizations, Church Congregations, Young Men's Christian Associations, Salvation Army Corps, Societies of Christian Endeavor, Epworth Leagues, Branches of St. Andrew's Brotherhood, Baptist Young People's Unions, and other young people's associations in connection with church work; Ontario members of the Council of the Dominion Alliance, elected from representative ecclesiastical, temperance and prohibition bodies, members of the Executive Committee of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance, Ontario Members of Parliament and members of the Provincial Legislature in favor of prohibition, will also be members of the convention.

**DELEGATES AND VISITORS.**—It is specially requested that every organization appointing delegates will send a list of the names and addresses of such delegates to the Secretary of the Alliance at the earliest opportunity. The post card form enclosed, or any other, may be used for this purpose. Every delegate should also be notified, and informed of railway rates, and other matters set out in this circular.

The commodious gallery of the Pavilion will be reserved for the accommodation of persons coming to the convention who are not delegates, and all such may secure reduced rates on the plan above set out.

The Secretary will cheerfully and promptly furnish additional copies of this "Call," credential forms, or any further information in his possession to any friend applying for the same.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

**F. S. SPENCE,**  
Secretary.

**W. A. McKAY, D.D.,**  
President.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The Prince Edward Island Provincial Prohibitory Law is in operation. Reports so far received are of an encouraging character. The new Act prohibits the sale of intoxicating liquor only in those parts of the province in which the Canada Temperance Act is in operation. The Canada Temperance Act covers the whole province excepting Charlottetown. Only in the city of Charlottetown, therefore, is the new measure taking effect.

This experiment will be watched with deep interest by all friends of prohibition. If the law is not set aside through some legal proceeding, it will show how far provincial prohibition can go towards checking intemperance. We have no doubt that under the Prince Edward Island law the liquor traffic will be limited and intemperance lessened much more than under a license system.

The law, however, will be unsatisfactory, because it cannot prohibit the free importation of liquor from other parts of the Dominion by those who desire to use it. Provincial prohibition is far better than license, but far short of the Dominion prohibition, for which we still must strive.

## A STRONG TEAM.

Rev. J. H. Hector and Rev. P. S. McKillop, M. D., are carrying on a joint campaign of prohibition meetings throughout the western part of Ontario, with excellent results.

During the present month they will be at Niagara Falls, Thorold, St. Catharines, Brantford, Norwich, Tilsburg, Galt, Woolstock, Ingersoll, Exeter, Clinton, Goderich, Stratford, Listowel, Wingham, Mount Forest, Walkerton, and other important centres.

Dr. McKillop is a skilled organizer. Rev. Mr. Hector is well known as one of the most eloquent and stirring men on the prohibition platform. They make a strong combination and we earnestly urge our friends in every part of the province to do their best to make this movement a splendid success.

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## The Camp Fire.

A. MONTHLY JOURNAL  
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF  
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE

ADDRESS - TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers.

The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, JUNE, 1901

### STEADY PROGRESS.

Impatient people sometimes grow weary of effort, because they do not see immediate and great results from their labors. In their disappointment they are almost ready to abandon a cause that has done and is doing much for humanity. Others call for changes of policy and new experiments. Is this impatience wise?

Hitherto, in Canada, friends of the temperance cause have been generally agreed that the wisest method of dealing with the drunk evil was the advocacy of total abstinence from intoxicants as a personal practice, and the prohibition of the liquor traffic as a legal method.

Working along such lines, these advocates have so far failed to reach the goal of total prohibition, but have succeeded in securing the delegatization of the liquor traffic in many localities, the limiting of the number of licenses in other places, and the incorporation of various prohibitory features in the license laws of the different provinces.

The prohibition principle has so far prevailed that at the present time in the province of Nova Scotia there are only two counties out of eighteen in which licenses are issued. In New Brunswick nine counties out of a total of fourteen are under prohibition. The liquor traffic is prohibited throughout the whole province of Prince Edward Island. Outside the large cities, Quebec has six municipalities without licenses, out of a total of 955. The greater part of Manitoba is under prohibition. In Ontario there has been a steady reduction in the number of licenses issued. For the year ending in 1875 the total number was 6,185; for the license year ending in 1900 the number was 2,950.

Along with a steady restriction of the liquor traffic there has been going on for many years a falling off in the record of drunkenness. A striking instance is seen in the following table giving the last published year's convictions for drunkenness in the Dominion of Canada and the Province of Ontario, compared with a year's convictions five and ten years ago:

Year.	Canada.	Ontario.
1889	13,893	7,059.
1894	11,358	3,267.
1899	11,790	2,764.

In considering these figures it must be remembered that during the period mentioned the population was steadily increasing, so that proportionately to the population there has been a great falling off in criminal drunkenness as

well as a large increase in the operation of prohibition.

The progress has been continuous. Immediately upon the repeal of the Scott Act there was of course an increase in the number of licenses issued in Ontario. Since that time, however, every year has witnessed a reduction, notwithstanding the growth of the population.

Our progress has not been all that some of us expected. We may have underestimated the character and strength of the forces that are working against us. We have been disappointed in some of the men in whom we trusted. We have had checks and reverses. Nevertheless, we are winning and shall win. It is no time and we have no reason to be faint-hearted. We have abundant reason to "thank God and take courage."

### ORGANIZATION

A necessity of our work is a more thorough organization of our forces. The temperance sentiment of our country is strong. It needs consolidation and direction to make it effective.

It is not desirable that another should be added to the many temperance societies and church organizations now in operation. What is needed is a method by which these forces will be made available for action. Perhaps the result would be best secured by having in every locality a committee composed of representatives of different bodies ready to act as occasion requires, securing the union of the members of the bodies they represent, in any important campaign.

The working out of any such plan, and in fact the effective management of political temperance work of any kind, requires the constant supervision of someone who can give it undivided attention. There ought to be an agent or agents devoting their whole time to the important problem of unifying and directing the temperance sentiment of the different parts of the Dominion.

The coming Conventions at Toronto may well give this important matter their close attention. A level-headed, energetic man, moving from place to place, sizing up the situation in every locality, advising local workers regarding license restriction, local option by-laws, electoral action and the like, would be a power for good. Let some of our practical friends try to work this suggestion out.

### THE MANITOBA CASE.

Our readers will be pleased to learn that the number of cases to be heard at the present session of the Judicial Committee of the Imperial Privy Council is smaller than usual, so that there is every prospect of an early hearing of the Manitoba appeal regarding the validity of the provincial prohibitory law. The speedy settlement of this question will make us much better able to wisely plan and work for a further advance.

### GOOD TEMPLARY.

The annual meetings of a number of Grand Lodges of the Independent Order of Good Templars are about being held.

The Grand Lodge of Ontario will meet in Toronto on June 19th. Advance information from the Grand Secretary leads us to anticipate an increase in the membership for the year that has just closed. A public meeting will be held in connection with the session, and the Convention will no doubt be full of interest in view of the revival that is taking place.

The Grand Lodge of New Brunswick will meet at Moncton on July 16th and

17th. Plans are being laid for a session that is expected to be in every way interesting and important. It is to be sincerely hoped that loyal workers in the various temperance organizations will do their utmost to secure a revival in a line of effort that has been of incalculable value to our country.

### THE COMING CONVENTION.

In another column will be found the "Call" that has been issued by the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance for the Annual Meeting to be held in Toronto on July 9th.

#### ITS IMPORTANCE.

There is no doubt that this meeting will be one of the most important meetings of prohibition workers that has yet been held in Ontario. It comes together to plan for definite, aggressive action; not to arrange some campaign in which energy is to be dissipated in carrying out some politician's plan for side tracking the temperance question.

#### THREE QUESTIONS.

Along with the Convention "Call" there has been issued a circular containing valuable suggestions regarding lines of possible action. Three matters will demand attention at the meeting: (1) Dominion Legislation, (2) Provincial Legislation, (3) Electoral Action.

#### DOMINION LEGISLATION.

The plan of Dominion action issued by the Alliance Council aims at national prohibition. It also advises earnest effort to make the Government's proposed revision of the Scott Act as comprehensive and useful as it can be made. The Scott Act will always be a partial measure, but perfecting it will make it more effective in those places where it is in force. Its improvement is a manifest duty.

#### PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION.

There must be no hesitation about this important matter. The Ontario Government has declared itself in favor of prohibition. Action is, however, delayed pending the settlement of the question of jurisdiction. It is only reasonable to ask the Government and Legislature to at once do what they have unquestioned power to do, make our License Law more rigid, putting into it more prohibition and making it a more useful means of restricting the liquor traffic and lessening intemperance. Suggestions regarding this important matter will be found in an article in this paper headed "Immediate Legislation."

#### POLITICAL ACTION.

Before the time for another Annual Meeting a Provincial election will be held. In that election the liquor traffic will be a potent force. The traffic is well organized, and is planning to capture all the constituencies possible. Only by outspoken, aggressive, determined action can this danger be met. The coming Convention must plan for such action as will prevent the liquor traffic carrying out this scheme to control the Ontario Legislature.

#### LET THERE BE A RALLY.

The situation is grave. The outlook is bright, but ahead of us there are elements of danger that call for wise and fearless action. Our cause has made progress and will make progress. Much of the success of our work in the near future depends upon our attitude and action at the present crisis. We appeal to all temperance workers in Ontario to do their best to make this meeting in every sense a success. Let there be a great rally of the earnest friends of the cause.

## IMPORTANT.

TORONTO, 1901.

DEAR FRIEND,—

You are respectfully requested to carefully examine **The Camp Fire**, a neat four-page monthly Prohibition paper, full of bright, pointed, convenient facts and arguments; containing also a valuable summary of the latest news about our cause. It is just what is needed to inspire workers and make votes.

The victory won in the plebiscite was only the opening of a campaign in which the liquor traffic will do its utmost to block, delay, and if possible prevent our securing the enactment and enforcement of prohibitory law. We have plenty of hard fighting ahead of us. We must keep posted and equipped, knowing all that is being done by our friends and foes, and sophistry and misrepresentation that will be advanced.

**The Camp Fire** will be one of the best aids you can have in the struggle. It will contain nothing but what you need. Every number ought to be preserved. You cannot afford to be without it, and the subscription price is only nominal, **Twenty-five cents per year.**

While a necessity to every prohibition worker the **The Camp Fire** will also be of special value for distribution. Literature won the plebiscite victory. We must keep up the educating work. Printed matter tells. It does its work continuously, silently, fearlessly and so generally read and so potential as the up-to-date periodical. It comes with the force and interest of newness and life. For this reason the form of a monthly journal has been selected.

This journal will be in every respect reliable and readable. Every article will be short, good and forcible, containing nothing sectional, sectarian or partizan. The literature of the old world and the new world will be ransacked for the most helpful and effective material. The price is very low.

Such literature will convince many a man whom his neighbors cannot convince. It will talk to him quietly, in his own home, in his leisure moments, when he can listen uninterruptedly, when he cannot talk back and when the personality of the talker cannot interfere with the effect of the talk.

It will ply him with facts, arguments and appeals, that will influence, instruct and benefit him. It will set him thinking. This is half the battle. Its wide circulation will swell the victory that we are about to win. This is its object.

Your help is asked in this great work. Every society should subscribe for and distribute hundreds of copies. This is the easiest and surest plan of making prohibition votes. Look at the terms:

**Twenty copies will be sent to any one address every month for six months, for ONE DOLLAR, payable in advance**

On no other plan can a small investment be made to produce so much of educative results. One hundred and twenty copies may be placed in as many homes. And have more than HALF A THOUSAND readers. One dollar will cover this placing of the claims of our cause before five hundred people. Ten dollars may reach FIVE THOUSAND. WILL YOU HELP US?

Address,

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52 Confederation Life Building,  
Toronto.

## Selections.

## FILL NOT FOR ME.

Grief banished by wine will come again,  
And come with a deeper shade,  
Leaving perchance on the soul a stain  
That sorrow hath never made.  
Then fill not the tempting glass for me,  
If mournful, I will not be mad;  
Better sad because we sinful be,  
Than sinful because we are sad.

—Sir W. A. Becket.

## DASH IT DOWN.

Ha!—dash to the earth the poison bowl,  
And seek it not again—  
It hath a madness for the soul—  
A scorching for the brain.  
The curses and the plagues of hell  
Are flashing on its brim—  
Woe to the victim of its spell:  
There is no hope for him.

—John G. Whittier.

## THY WILL BE DONE.

Not in dumb resignation  
We lift our hands on high;  
Not like the nerveless fatalist,  
Content to trust and die,  
Our faith springs like the eagle  
Who soars to meet the sun,  
And cries exulting unto Thee,  
Oh Lord, Thy will be done!

In Thy name we assert our right  
By sword or tongue or pen,  
For even the headsman's axe may flash  
Thy message unto men.

Thy will! it bids the weak be strong;  
It bids the strong be just;  
No lip to fawn, no hand to beg;  
No brow to seek the dust.  
Wherever man oppresses man  
Beneath thy liberal sun,  
O Lord be there, Thine arm make bare,  
Thy righteous will be done!

—John Hay.

## HOME, SWEET HOME.

Passing one evening along the Westminster Bridge-road, I stopped a moment attracted by the glare of a great gin-palace. The room over the bar was lighted up, the long lace curtains drawn back, and one of the windows opened at the top. Someone inside was playing a piano, and through the window came the strains of a clear, girlish voice, singing, "Home Sweet Home." I stood a moment in thought. How often, oh, how often in the past, had I heard that heart-touching melody! On board the ocean steamer, among strangers of a foreign shore; in health, when strength was given to me in great measures, and during a long sickness, when the shadows of death seemed drawing nigh, and I was wistfully peering forward to the eternal home, dear friends oft times mingled with holier strains the ever welcome "Home, Sweet Home." Many recollections came rushing o'er my mind; gratefully I offered a little prayer of thanks to that kind Father who had guarded me so long and so well, turning my feeble steps once more homewards, though perchance but to die. Thus did I stand in reflection outside the gin-palace. The singing ceased. A young girl of some fourteen summers came and looked out of the window. It was the publican's daughter. As she raised her hands to draw the curtains one could see the golden bracelet on her wrist, and the chain around her neck, glittering in the gaslight. I was turning away, when suddenly I heard a little weak voice humming, "There's no-o Place Like 'ome." I looked down. There on the pavement, at the step of the public house, sat a poor ragged little lass, seven or eight years old perhaps, no hat on the rough unkempt head, no shoes on the swollen feet. She was strumming her small shivering fingers on the hard stone step, "Making b'lieve, sir, to play the pianer," and singing in a suitable tone to that cheerless accompaniment, "Home, Sweet Home." It was the child of the publican's victim. I regarded her closely; I drew near un-noticed and heard her muttering, "It's sumthin' to be Miss Emily, she's got a pianer and everythin' 'cos 'er father keeps the pub. I ain't got nothin', because my father spends all his brass there. I'm sure as how I kud play like 'er if somebody 'ud show me. Hallo! father's inside, I can 'ear 'im." She pushed the door a little open, and peeped in, "Hallo, father; can I come in?"

"No, — yer; you — little pig, cut off home."

She drew hastily back, and ran a little distance away; keeping her eyes fixed on the public house door to see if her father came out. Poor thing, she would have liked to stay in the gas and glitter. Her home, no doubt, was dark and dreary enough.

I followed her quickly, "Here, little one; here is a penny for you."

"Thank you, mister."

"You should stay at home with your mother," said I.

"I ain't got none," she replied. "The bobbies were after 'er, 'cos one day when she was drunk she hit old Missus Jenkins over the nut with a pot. Mother Jenkins is in the hospital ever since, then the bobbies came after mother and she bolted."

"And who is at home now?" I asked.

"No one. Mother took the young un with 'er. Old Mother Potts looks after me; but she's nearly allus tight. She's there in the pub now with father."

"Where do you live?"

"Just down the alley there, the first 'ouss. I'll show yer, sir, if yer likes."

"Yes, my little dear, do. "Here is another penny."

She took me around the corner down a close alley. I could not see for a minute or two as I passed from the main road into the gloomy shadows of this narrow way.

"Here it is, mister, said my little guide. She pushed the door and went in. "Oh, there ain't a bit of candle. Never mind, I'll get a light in Mother Pott's room."

She went into another room, and came back in a moment with a little bit of tallow candle stuck in a gingerbeer bottle. I was able by the flickering light to see a little around me. It was a veritable drunkard's home. A rusty stove that had remained unwarmed for many a month, a chair without a back, a table with one leaf hanging off and a leg broken, a couple of sacks in the corner, a publican's almanac nailed on the wall—that was all the room contained.

"When I've got a bit of light I ain't afraid to stay here by myself; but if I ain't got a light I sits there on the step and watches the people go by the alley till the pub is shut, and then I goes and lays down there, and makes believe to be sleeping when father comes in. He's allus tight, yer know, and he'd give me what for if he caught me sitting here."

"Does your father often stay out?" I demanded.

"Oh, every night, 'cos he earns a lot of money now."

"And have you nothing to eat?"

"Oh, Mother Potts gives me sumthin' when she's in a good temper, and ain't tight. She lives up-stairs, and she ain't a bad sort 'cept when she's tight. She said as how she'd knock two bob a week out of father to get me sumthin' to eat. When I ain't got nothin' I just goes and asks the ladies and gentlemen to give me a 'apenny and then I buys a ha'porth of peas-puddin'; and if I gets another penny I buys a sav'loy too. The tuppence you give me, Mister, 'ull just do proper for me to-night."

"Do you go to school?" I asked her.

"Yes, sometimes. The School Board man is allus arter me. Father blistered my back with his strap once 'cos I told the School Board man where we lived. But now I knows all the School Board men, and I easily slips them."

"When do you go to school?"

"Oh, arter a summons. But father moves, you know, and then they don't know where to find 'im."

"But why do you not go to school?"

"Ain't got no clothes. Look 'ere, I ain't nothin' on 'cept this frock and petticoat. A lady give me hat and boots and a jacket, three times, but they're all in pop. Mother put 'em up the spout at Holdem's. Then the lady said it wasn't no good giving me nothin'. She said she'd take me home to live with 'er but father says I sha'n't go anywheres while he's alive."

The candle began to splutter a little.

"Oh, mister, the candle's going out! I must get a 'apenny un out of the tuppence, and then I'll get a sav'loy and peas-puddin' as well."

"Do you ever say any prayers?"

"Dot's that? I don't know."

"Have you ever heard of God?"

Oh, yes! Father says 'God blind me, when he's wild and savage.'

"Have you ever heard of Jesus Christ?"

"Yes! Father ses that, too, when he's wild. But I must go and get the candle, mister; I can't do without light."

Poor little miserable! Ah, indeed she has need of light! thought I, as she ran off in front of me.

As I passed the gin palace, I could not resist the temptation to peep in a moment. There stood the father at the bar. A big, hulking fellow; his face that copper colored, heavy, bloated, habitual drunkard's face; a face scorched by its besetting sin; God's image blotted out, and the mark of the beast graven in its place.

Then I gave a glance at the interior of the publican's parlor. Ah! that was very different from the wretched "homeless" home I had just left. How bright, how cosy, how comfortable everything seemed.

That night my mind was filled with bitter reflections as I walked homewards, thinking over all I had seen: the two singers, their song, and the contrast of their homes. Alas! how many such scenes do the lights of the gin palace shine upon. How many children worse than fatherless are growing up in our midst, knowing naught save sin and wretchedness; the innocence of childhood blasted, the joys of infancy unknown. God help them! for help they need. Perchance in His own time, good men working as his instruments, a day will dawn in this England of ours when a new generation, freed from the heaviest curse of the race, will lift their voices in glorious melody, singing in truth, "Home, Sweet Home: there's no place like Home."—A. C. R. M. Self in Temperance Record.

## PLUM PUDDING.

John B. Gough tells us a story, which we venture to reproduce here, with the object of adding to the saasion which we ourselves urge.

"We know well what men will do to gratify this appetite, what they will do, what they will suffer. And when the pinch comes—oh, the battle! I love to see a man fight, don't you? It is a grand thing to see a man struggle. I like to whisper in his ear, 'Courage, my brother!' I like to lay my hand on his shoulder, if by laying it there I can give him sympathy—can give him strength of arm to fight. It is a grand thing to see a man fight; and I tell you my heart's sympathy goes out to the drunkard when he makes up his mind that he will fight. He will have to fight. Ah, yes! I want to go to that man, and say to him, 'You must fight. It is not as easy a thing for you to give up the drink as it is to turn your hand round. You must fight!—and some men are fighting all the days of their lives.'

"A minister of the Gospel said to me, 'I was once a sad drunkard, and I signed the pledge. Many times I had been in the ditch. When I became converted I made up my mind to study for the ministry. I was a student. I had no desire for the drink. I had an idea that my religion had driven all that out of me. The grace of God had taken away the appetite for, and the love of Jesus had taken away the love of drink. I thought myself perfectly safe. I was invited out to dinner. If the gentleman had asked me to take a glass of wine, it would have been 'No,' or a glass of ale, 'No'; but he gave me some rich English plum pudding, pretty well saturated with brandy, and with brandy-sauce over it. I thought nothing of it. I liked it. I ate freely. I sent up my plate for a second helping. On returning to my study I began to want drink. I wanted it. The want began to sting and burn me. My mouth got dry. I wanted it. 'Well, surely, if I go now and have some—I have not had any for six years—certainly if I take just one glass now, it will allay this sort of feeling, and I shall be able to attend to my studies.' No! I thought of what I had been: I thought of what I expected to be; 'and now,' I will fight it.' I locked the door, and threw away the key. Then commenced the fight. What I did that night I do not know. I know I was on my knees a good deal of the time, but what I did I do not know. Some one came in the morning about eight o'clock and knocked at the door. 'Come in.' 'The door is locked.' I hunted about, found the key, and opened the door. Two of my fellow students entered. 'Why,' said one, 'what is the matter with you?' 'What do you mean?' 'Why, look at your face!' They took me to the glass, and my face, I saw, was covered with

blood. In my agony, I had with my nails torn the skin from my forehead—look at the scars now!—in my agony of wrestling against the desire for drink that cried through every nerve and fibre of my system. Thank God, I fought it, but it was forty-eight hours before I dared to go into the street."

"You say, 'That is a rare case.' Such cases are very rare. I wish they were. See to-day what men are sacrificing for the drink. See what they are giving up—home, friends, reputation, ay, even life itself; and that which is better than life, hopes of heaven—dissolving the pearl of great price in the cup, and drinking away their very hopes of heaven at a draught. Oh, it is awful when we go among them and see the men 'What will they not do? What will they not sacrifice? What will they not give up? Do you say it is because they are weak-minded? No; it depends more on the temperament, constitution and nervous organization of a man whether, if he tries to follow your example, Mr. Moderate Drinker, he becomes intemperate or not—more than it does on what we call his strength of mind."—Public Coffee House News.

## A GLASS OF BEER.

"Mamma," said Bessie Ashton, "didn't you say that a glass of beer makes a person feel good; and that it was healthy and harmless?"

"Why, yes, Bessie, I think I did," answered Mrs. Ashton, slowly, somewhat puzzled at Bessie's question.

"Mrs. Thompson don't think so, mamma. The poor woman just cries nearly all the time."

"Cries?" interrogated Mrs. Ashton, in surprise, for she believed her neighbor to be one of the happiest of women.

"Yes, mamma, cries all the time," repeated Bessie, with emphasis. "Mr. Thompson's cheeks look pulled away out, and his face is always so red. She says he is cross and scolds continually. But he didn't used to be that way. He only drank one glass of beer then; now he can drink six and eight, and gets mad at everything. It don't seem to make him feel good or look healthy."

Mrs. Ashton's countenance assumed a serious change. She felt keenly the force of the rebuke, but answered:

"Mr. Thompson should not give way to his appetite for drink. I'm sure one glass can do no harm."

"That's just what he thought," spoke up Bessie. "But Mrs. Thompson says it had him down on his back before he was aware of it."

"Well, I don't know," answered her mother abstractedly. "I drink a glass occasionally: it don't seem to affect me."

"It don't puff your cheeks out, mamma; but it makes your face awfully red sometimes, and you can drink more than you used to."

Mrs. Ashton stopped to think. She could drink more than she used to. Bessie had told the truth.

When supper came, instead of beer, a glass of fresh, sweet milk stood near her own and her husband's plate. Mr. Ashton opened wide his eyes when he sat down to eat, and as his wife finished relating the conversation between herself and Bessie, he caught the child in his arms and kissed her affectionately, remarking, "Not another drop of beer shall ever enter my home."

And he kept his word.—Selected.

## WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The saloon exists: who is responsible? I am, if I keep a saloon. The saloon cannot be run without some one to run it.

I am, if I patronize it. If the people do not ask for it, those in authority do not grant the license.

I am, if I vote for it. The saloon keeper is but carrying out my will as expressed by my vote.

I am, if I apologize for it. The business would soon run its course if respectable people did not make excuses for it.

I am, if I do not oppose it. The man who knows of a contemplated robbery and does not use his best efforts to prevent it, is accessory before the fact. The man who knows the evils of the saloon and does not oppose it, is a party to the evil done. The measure of our responsibility for the saloon is the extent of our ability to prevent its existence.—Royal Templar.



THE GOTHENBURG SYSTEM.

There seems to be a great deal of misunderstanding about the so called Gothenburg system of dealing with the liquor traffic. Many persons imagine that this system is government ownership, and that under it the liquor traffic is carried on by officials who have no interest in its financial success. The following are the actual facts of the case.

Up till the middle of last century Sweden and Norway were notorious for spirit drinking and intemperance. These countries had practically free trade in the manufacture and sale of liquor. There were in the year 1829, in Sweden alone, 173,124 spirit stills in operation.

Shortly after the middle of the century laws were adopted by both these countries, giving municipalities power to prohibit the liquor traffic, and also authorizing the granting of licenses for the sale of spirits, to companies to be formed for the purpose of managing the liquor traffic, for the public benefit.

The first of these companies was established in Gothenburg in 1865, hence the name given to the method. The profits of its shareholders were limited to six per cent. of the capital invested. All money earned by the business above that amount was to be devoted to public purposes.

In Sweden the surplus profits were to be paid to the municipality to lighten taxes. In Norway they were to be voted by the company for the establishment and maintenance of gardens, parks, hospitals, temperance societies and various other philanthropic enterprises. A recent change in the law in Norway applies much of the surplus profits in that country also to the lightening of taxes.

Under the new legislation a great improvement has taken place in both Norway and Sweden. All through the rural parts prohibition has been adopted. The Company system prevails in most of the towns of Sweden, and in about one-half the towns of Norway; the other Norwegian towns have prohibition.

In the towns in which the Company system prevails drunkenness still continues, though to less extent than under the old free trade system, but to a much greater extent than in similarly situated Canadian towns and cities.

The Company system does not apply to the sale of beer, in which a great many private parties engage. Other parties than the companies are also licensed to sell spirits not to be drunk on the premises on which they are sold. This is an accurate though condensed statement of the Gothenburg System, which is sometimes and more correctly called the Company System.

RESULTS OF THE COMPANY SYSTEM.

It is difficult to estimate the real value of a system which is so incomplete, which is hampered by so much free sale of liquor in towns, and helped by so much prohibition in the country.

The annual Swedish per capita consumption of spirits is eight litres, and of beer 45 litres. Stating the consumption in gallons and comparing it with that of Canada, we get the following table:

Table with 2 columns: Country, Gal's beer. Sweden 1.75 9.90, Canada .65 3.99

The population of Gothenburg in 1899 was estimated at 122,376. The quantity of spirits sold in that year by the companies amounted to 1,958,198 litres, equal to about 430,802 gallons, or three and one-half gallons per head of the population. This does not include the liquor sold by other parties, nor beer

and wine, of which the consumption is also large.

The arrests for drunkenness in the city of Gothenburg for the same year amounted to 58 per thousand of the population. In the same ratio arrests for drunkenness in the city of Toronto would be 12,876, whereas the actual number of arrests made in Toronto was 4,269.

Comparative statistics of arrests for drunkenness do not always convey correct impressions because of the different methods of dealing with drunkenness in different cities, and differences in the character of the population. It is instructive, however, to note that the number of arrests per thousand of the population has been diminishing in Toronto and increasing in Gothenburg.

RESPONSIBILITY OF CHURCHES.

During recent years there has been a marked falling off in the membership of the many temperance societies which formerly were both numerous and influential. One reason for the change is the development of young people's organizations in connection with the various churches, and the consequent diversion to new lines of work of those whose energies were the life of the temperance societies.

The report of the Epworth League Committee of the Toronto Conference of the Methodist Church called attention to this fact, and also stated that the church societies had given so little attention to the temperance movement, that the cause had suffered by the change.

The remedy is simple. More responsibility now rests upon the church congregations and young people's societies. They, in fact, are more responsible for the strength and growth of temperance sentiment. Their responsibility is increased by the fact that they are fast becoming the only active educating agencies working along moral suasion lines. The churches must be roused to their duty in relation to this great reform.

A LECTURE TOUR.

Mr. W. W. Buchanan is making a lecture tour of Ontario under the auspices of the Grand Council R. T. of T. So far his meetings are reported as being large and successful.

Mr. Buchanan took an active part in the campaign that resulted in the enactment of the prohibitory law in Manitoba. He is well posted on all phases of the prohibition question, and is a skilled organizer.

His work in this province ought to tell strongly, not only for the organization under whose auspices he is traveling, but for the advancement of the prohibition cause, of which he is an unusually able and effective advocate.

A VERY BAD LAW.

The temperance workers of the province of Quebec are deeply disappointed over the results that are following some vicious liquor legislation recently enacted.

The license law of the province of Quebec now provides for the issuing of bottlers' licenses, which authorize holders to travel through the country taking orders for liquors from house to house.

Under these licenses issued directly by the Government, liquor peddlars are now dealing in municipalities where local option by-laws have been adopted and where the people are strongly opposed to liquor selling.

In other words the Legislature gives the people power to pass prohibitory by-laws, then issues licenses authorizing men to sell liquor in the prohibitory territory.

This farcical method of taking away from the people the rights which for a long time they have enjoyed, must meet with the condemnation of every fair-minded citizen.

A GREAT OFFER.

READ CAREFULLY.

You need this paper. You will need it more and more as the prohibition fight gets hotter and hotter, and the issue of prohibition is before our Legislatures. Read carefully what is said about it in column headed "Important" on page 2.

Although the price of the CAMP FIRE—Twenty-five cents per year—is very low, we have decided to make a special offer of premiums for subscriptions received during the early part of the present year.

We have secured a line of interesting and attractive books which we propose to present to both old and new subscribers on the plan below set out. Those who are already on our list and send money to take advantage of this offer, may either have another paper sent them or have their present subscription extended one year.

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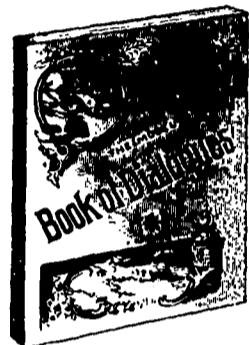
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A CART-LOAD OF FUN.



This is a new book, just published, and contains One Hundred and Sixty-six funny Stories, Anecdotes and Jokes by such famous humorists as Mark Twain, Max Aitler, Josh Billings, Bill Nye, B. B. Burdette, and many others. It is full of fun and nonsense from cover to cover, and a sure cure for "the blues." All the best jokes, anecdotes and stories of recent years have been carefully selected, and are now offered in this large and splendid collection, which will be highly enjoyed by all who love genuine humor and fun. Among the titles of the anecdotes and stories contained in "A CART-LOAD OF FUN" are the following: "A Man with a Liver," "Punkin Pie," "Potts and the Light-bulb Man," "How to Live on a Corn-cake," "Barrington's 10-2," "Stone's Elopement," "Mortgage a Scheme to Manufacture Happiness," "Mrs. Jones's Burglar," "The Facts About Sam Snyder," "Deacon Amos Tendonson Discovers Dudes," "The Sad Case of Elmyr du Bill," "The Deal Caled Christmas Tree," "A Primeval Serpents," "Martha, You are Recommended," "One Ephraim's Wisdom," "A One-Horse Hotel," "Concluded not to Commit Suicide," "Quercy Married," "A Foolish as Arouse," "How the Tired Patient Man had his Feelings Aroused," "Why the Tree Man Departed," "Jones's Baby," "Breaking up a Cat Concert," and 143 others. "A CART-LOAD OF FUN" is a book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive colored paper covers, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

THE MODEL Book of Dialogues.



A large and valuable collection of Dialogues, both dramatic and comic, for School Exhibitions and Public and Private Entertainments. Among its contents are: "The Bashful Man," "The Kullback," "The Jew's Lodgers," "Generally Useful," "Terry O'Toole and His Master," "There's None Like Pretty Sally," "The Fashionable Wife," "The Factory Girl," "The Rival Editors," "The Masonic Lodge," "The Wrong Box," "The Absent Man," etc. All young people who delight to participate in dialogues will find in this book exactly what they need. Each dialogue is bright and lively, and the variety is so great as to provide something for every occasion. The book contains 64 large double-column pages, bound in attractive paper covers, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

Fifteen Complete Novelettes BY FAMOUS AUTHORS.



This book contains Fifteen Complete Novelettes by fifteen of the most famous authors of America and Europe, as follows: "The Mystery at Peep-hole," by CHARLES M. BRADLEY; "The Woman in Black," by MISS M. E. BRADLEY; "The Fatal Secret," by MRS. EMMA D. E. SOUTHWORTH; "The Wheel of the Opprobrium," by H. RIDER HAGGARD; "The Ghost of Lenox Lane," by MRS. MAY AGNES FLEMING; "Curious the Detective," by SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE; "The Mystery of the Valley of the Sun," by SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE; "Judith's Sorrow," by SALVATOR COLLETTI; "The Miner's Wife," by MARY KATE DALLAS; "A Little Boy's Story," by J. H. WELLS; "The Reverses," by HORATIO ALGER, JR.; "The Uncle from India," by OLIVER OPTIC; "The Last Plunk," by NED BUNTLINE; "The Phantom Train," by PAUL PASTYER; and "Sam Buck's Cow," by TOM P. MORAN. Each one of these novelettes is extremely interesting, though they are also rich in character, some being of the domestic or home order, some humorous, and others of the dramatic and exciting kind. Never before was so grand a collection of complete novelettes by so many famous authors published in a single volume. Each novelette is published complete and unbridled. The book contains 64 large double-column pages, bound in attractive paper covers, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

FAMOUS DIALECT RECITATIONS.



This book contains a large and careful selection of the most popular recitations in the English, Scottish, German, Irish and other dialects, as recited by the leading elocutionists of the day. The contents embrace humorous, dramatic and pathetic recitations, both in prose and verse, some of which are the following: "The Stolen Watermelon," "The Spelling Book at Angels," "Caleb's Courtship," "Dorothy and the Fore-closing of the Mortgage," "The Bartender's Story," "The Husky Bee," "Grandpa's Courtship," "The Cowboy's Christmas Ball," "Tea-time," "Mike's Confession," "The Surprise Party in Dutchtown," "Old Daddy Turner," "Paddy's Courtship," "Sambo's Dilemma," "Davy and Gollard," "The Barley Boob," "Little Johnnie's Christmas," "Joe's Wife," "Panorama," "Buddy's Trouble," etc. The contents of this book have been selected with great care, the aim being to include only the best, hence it contains the cream of fifty of the ordinary recitation books, and is without doubt the best collection of dialect recitations and readings ever published. A book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers, it will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

Modern Entertainments.



"Modern Entertainments" is the title of a new book by Mrs. Ethel W. Merriman, describing numerous forms of entertainments for evening companies which have been successfully given by versatile hostesses in all parts of the country. It can be entertained without dancing or cards; it is the ever-recurring question of that large class who consider such amusements baneful, and this book has been written to meet this precise need. Its possession will enable any hostess to entertain her friends and acquaintances in a manner thorough, enjoyable and profitable. It contains so numerous and varied are the entertainments described that it will furnish all the material needed in this line for many successive seasons. The following are the titles of the entertainments described: "Entertainment as an Art," "An Initial Entertainment," "The Modern Sewing Bee," "The Five Senses," "An Enjoyable Musical," "The Round Table," "A Valentine Party," "The Bohemians," "A Book Party," "A Geography Party," "A Charade Party," "A Kindergarten for Adults," "An Evening with the Occult," "The Artists at Play," "A Spinning Party," "A Drawing Attraction," "A Halloween Party," "A New Year Party," "Out Door Entertainments," "Breakfasts," "Luncheons," "Tea," "Dinners," "Wedding Anniversary," "A Meeting of Celebrities," ENTERTAINMENTS FOR CHILDREN, "An Old Fashioned Party," "A Punch and Judy Party," "A Modern Battle," "A Mystic Circle," "A Shooting Match," "A Peanut Party," "A Christmas Entertainment," "A Hurly Burly," "Modern Entertainments" is a book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers, it will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

Famous Comic Recitations.



This is an entirely new book, just published, and it contains one hundred and ten of the very best humorous recitations, as recited by the most famous elocutionists of the day. These embrace recitations in the Negro, Yankee, Irish and Dutch dialects, both in prose and verse, as well as humorous compositions of every kind and character. Among its contents are: "The Ship of Faith," "The Dutchman's Mistake," "The Courtin'," "Mygel Snyder's Party," "De Cake Walk," "Uncle Ike's Roosters," "The Watermelon," "The Freckled Faced Girl," "Paddy's Dream," "The Dutchman's Serenade," "How Maloney's Goat," "The Tale of Maloney's Cow," "Parson Jinglejaw's Sermon," "Mike's Courtship," "Josiah," "Nora Murphy and the Spirits," "The Countryman at the Show," "Intensely Utter," "Taking Toll," "How Sockery Set a Hon," "Tim Murphy's Irish Stew," "Schneider's Tomatoes," "What Troubled the Nigger," and 85 others. The contents of this book have been selected with great care, the aim being to include only the best, hence it contains the cream of fifty of the ordinary recitation books, and is without doubt the best collection of comic recitations and readings ever published. A book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers, it will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.