

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of The Temperance Reform.

VOL. 1. No. 9

TORONTO, ONT., MARCH, 1895.

SUBSCRIPTION 15 CENTS PER YEAR.

Please read this paper carefully, and get your children and friends to read it also.

NOTES OF NEWS OF THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

WHAT OUR FRIENDS AND FOES ARE DOING IN THE STRIFE.

CANADIAN.

The Grand Council of Quebec R. T. of T. met at Point St. Charles on Tuesday, February 26th. All the sessions were interesting. A membership of 3,000 was reported.

The *Lance* is a monthly prohibition paper published by the Royal Templar Council at Boissevain, Manitoba, Rev. A. Vrooman, editor. It is full of interesting information.

The township of Nelson, in Halton county, voted on a local option by-law on the 11th inst. It was carried by a majority of 150. The voting stood: for the by-law 220, against 70.

Rev. Dr. McLeod of Fredericton, one of the best known prohibitionists of Canada, was recently tendered two nominations for parliament in N. B. He was obliged to decline both. Dr. McLeod is a member of the Royal Commission on the liquor traffic.

The Grand Council of Manitoba Royal Templars of Temperance held its twelfth annual meeting in Winnipeg on Friday 20th. 1225 active members were reported. Strong resolutions were adopted favoring prohibition and asking for a number of important amendments in the license law.

The outrageous assault case in which Quebec tavern keepers hired a rowdy to assault Mr. W. W. Smith, an earnest temperance worker, has been dealt with by the courts. The four men concerned in the affair pleaded guilty to common assault, and were sentenced each to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

A temperance deputation waited recently upon the Ontario government asking for amendments to the license law. The Attorney-General stated that it was not likely that any alterations would be made at present as the decision of the Privy Council on the jurisdiction question was expected shortly.

Oxford County prohibitionists held a mass meeting at Woodstock on Feb. 19th. Rev. Dr. W. A. McKay presiding. Officers were elected and prohibition candidates were nominated for the North and South ridings in the approaching Dominion Election. The candidate named for North Oxford was D. R. Ross of Embro, and for South Oxford, W. W. Buchanan, of Hamilton.

R. T. PROGRESS.

The Grand Council R.T. of T. of Ontario met at Oxford during the last week in February. A membership of 15,000 was reported in about 300 councils. The meeting was earnest and successful. A deputation was appointed to wait upon the Ontario Government to ask for amendments to the License Law. A policy of aggressive political action was approved.

ELECTORAL ACTION.

The Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance held its annual meeting in the latter part of February and adopted resolutions calling upon temperance workers to make special efforts to secure the nomination of prohibition candidates, expressing satisfaction with the adoption of prohibition by the Patrons and with the plebiscite policy of the Liberal party so far as it goes.

MR. BUCHANAN'S CANDIDATURE.

Mr. W. W. Buchanan, Manager of the Royal Templar Organization has

been nominated as an independent Prohibition candidate in Hamilton. A strong campaign committee is organized, a guarantee fund for needful expenses has been subscribed, and Hamilton workers are going into the fight with commendable earnestness and determination. Neither of the principal political parties has yet nominated candidates in Hamilton, so that Mr. Buchanan is first in the field, and the only candidate before the people so far.

ONTARIO S. OF T.

We have received a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Division S. of T. Annual Session held at Prescott in December last. It contains an interesting record of a year of good work. Notwithstanding the financial depression and many difficulties that temperance societies have recently met, an increase in membership was reported. A net gain of eighteen divisions has been made. The energetic working officers, Bro. J. B. Brooks, G.W.P. and Bro. W. Bewell, G.S. deserve special credit for the zeal and wisdom with which they have labored during the year.

HAD TO PAY.

Prohibitionists in the Province of Quebec are jubilant over a victory recently won in the courts. Some legal technicalities had been thrown in the way of the enforcement of the Dunkin Act in the county of Richmond. They have been removed, and the law is meeting with much success. One persistent law-breaker who refused to pay his fines, was committed to jail some days ago. To secure his release he paid a judgment against him for \$352.40. Other convictions stand against him which may be enforced if he does not observe the law.

AN INDEPENDENT.

Mr. Oswell N. Price of King's Co., N. B., writes an interesting account of the proceedings at the Conservative and prohibition conventions held in Hampton last month. The Finance Minister made a special effort to convince the electors that prohibition could be best promoted by working through existing political parties. The prohibitionists however, held a different view, and decided upon nominating an independent candidate. They have chosen Samuel H. Flewelling to carry their banner in the approaching election.

A FRUITLESS EFFORT.

A deputation from the brewers and malsters waited recently upon the Ontario Government, as did also a deputation of license holders. They were anxious to get certain alterations in the law. Among the things they wanted were the granting of licenses for five years at a time, and the making of the hours of closing statutory and not in any case dependent upon local sentiment. They also wanted to have shop licenses authorize sale in smaller quantities than at present, and to have additional restrictions imposed upon druggists. Sir Oliver Mowat told the deputation that he did not think there would be any liquor legislation during the present session.

FOREIGN.

A bill has passed the Alabama House prohibiting the sale of liquor anywhere throughout the state outside of incorporated towns.

There were over 61,000 arrests for intoxication and vagrancy last year in Philadelphia under the high license law. The law has reduced the number of saloons, but has not reduced drunkenness.

A clause in the local option bill before the New Zealand legislature provides that any one convicted of being a habitual drunkard shall be photographed at his own expense and every

saloon keeper in his district supplied with a copy.

Orders to strictly enforce the regulations against the sale of spirituous liquors in Alaska have been issued by Secretary Carlisle, and the revenue cutter Corwin has been ordered to the territory to assist the local authorities in their enforcement.

The state constable of Maine "raided" a Belfast hotel last month, which had persistently violated the law and secured two horse-car loads of liquors. The landlord has paid \$1,800 fines the last year. The liquors will be labelled.

The Third Biennial Convention of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union will be held, in connection with the annual meeting of the British Woman's Temperance Association in Queen's Hall and Exeter Hall, London, June 14th to 21st, 1895.

A LADY MAYOR.

Women in New Zealand vote, and are eligible for municipal offices. Mrs. Yates has been elected mayor of Onehunga a town of about 3,000 or 4,000 population.

TEETOTALLERS ALL.

A number of the mayors of leading English cities recently elected are total abstainers. Peter Gilson, the new mayor of Leeds, is a prominent temperance worker, so is James Robinson, the new mayor of Richmond. So are the new mayors of High Wycombe, Hestley, Luton and Carlisle. The list will include a large number of others.

A TERRIBLE RECORD.

An official report gives the number of convictions for drunkenness, made in England and Wales during the year 1893 as 153,072. Of these convictions 11,950 were for drunkenness between the hours of 12.30 p.m. and midnight on Sundays. This shows what permitted liquor selling on Sundays can accomplish.

IT HITS HARD.

The *Flying Hammer*, published bi-weekly at Manchester, N. H., is the official organ of the New Hampshire Grand Lodge. It is a bright attractive journal, edited with remarkable ability and judgment. The subscription price is only fifty cents a year. We are indebted to it for many paragraphs in the CAMP FIRE.

A VICTORY.

Word has just come from South Australia from the President of the W.O.T.U., Mrs. Nicholls, of Prospect, Adelaide, that the Adult Suffrage Bill has been carried for South Australia, giving all women the right to vote on the same terms as men and with no barrier to a seat in Parliament. The Bill now only awaits the Queen's consent. Mrs. Nicholls writes it is a grand victory after a hard and well-fought battle of seven years in which the Woman's Christian Temperance Union has done its fair share of the fighting. It was carried by a majority of seventeen, being three votes to spare above the constitutional majority needed to carry the measure.

GREAT BRITAIN'S DRINK BILL.

A letter has been published by Dr. Dawson Burns giving a careful estimate of the extent of the liquor traffic in Great Britain and Ireland during the fiscal year, 1894. He states that the total retail cost of the liquor consumed in the United Kingdom in 1894 was £188,737,828, as compared with £138,864,829 in 1893. The expenditure in 1894 was thus less than in 1894 by £117,001. On spirits there was a decrease of £287,767, and on wine of £257,236, an aggregate decrease of £545,003; but on beer the increased expenditure was £408,008, making the net decrease £117,001.

A PRETTY STRONG LAW.

The Nicholson temperance bill has passed the Indiana legislature. It pro-

vides that the rooms where liquors are sold shall be on the ground floor or basement, fronting the street and without blinds or screens; prohibits amusements or music; makes entering the saloon during prohibited days and hours prima facie evidence of guilt; forbids sales to minors or allowing minors to loiter in the saloon; forbids sales in drug stores except on written prescription of a reputable practicing physician not connected with the store; and makes it unlawful for the commissioners to grant license, for a period of two years, to an applicant against whom a remonstrance in writing has been filed signed by a majority of the legal voters of the township or ward in which the liquor is to be sold.

THE GREAT PETITION.

The Polyglot Petition signed by fifty nationalities, or thereabouts, in 40 different languages and including with names and attestations no fewer than four million adherents, was presented in Washington, D. C., by the officers of the World's W.C.T.U. and other leading women, Feb. 15th. The W. C. T. U. of the District of Columbia worked up the details of the meetings. Among the speakers were Mrs. Stevens of Maine, Mrs. Stevenson, Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Essenden, Mrs. Holman, Miss Belle Kearney of Mississippi. The petition was presented to representatives of the United States Government. It was important that this should be done before the third World's W. C. T. U. meeting as on that occasion the petition will be presented to the British Government. The petition calls for the separation of all governments from the protection of the "alcohol trade, the opium trade and the legalizing of social vice.

U. S. DRINK OUTLAY.

The *Atlanta Constitution*, one of the leading United States journals, has been figuring up the national drink bill of that country and seems staggered at the result. The official government report shows that 88,777,187 gallons of distilled spirits were manufactured during the year. It estimates that 37,000,000 gallons were purchased across bar counters, and that on an average, there were 63 drinks to the gallon, or 6,000,000,000 in all, costing \$600,000,000, or \$5,000,000 more than all the annual appropriations of Congress. This represents 100 glasses a year for the entire population, or 500 glasses each for all adult males. Then the beer has to be added. There were 31,962,943 barrels of it, representing 12,785,169,201 glasses, representing a cost of \$617,258,460, or 10 dollars for every inhabitant. Very many do not drink at all, but the others appear to make it up pretty well for them. The total amount of this worse than needless tippie bill must be over \$1,200,000,000 a year, or over \$20 per head for the entire population. Little wonder the country suffers from hard times.—*Christian Guardian*.

THE GATLING.

WHAT IS SAID ABOUT IT.

The advent of a temperance book in Canada is so rare that the friends of the cause can really afford to purchase and read each new comer.—*The Templar*.

Written in a pleasing style. I did not notice a dull paragraph anywhere.—*Rev. Dr. Ross*.

In extra English cloth, with gilt lettering etc. 35 c. In paper binding 20 cts.—*REV. D. J. GERRA, DUNGANNON P.O.*

Any friend who will undertake to place a copy of the *Camp Fire* in each of a number of homes, will please write us at once, saying how many of the April issue will be thus used, if sent FREE for that purpose.

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, FIFTEEN CENTS a Year.

NOTE.—It is proposed to make "THE CAMP FIRE" 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, MARCH, 1895.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

Three years have gone by since the appointment of the Royal Commission, nearly four years have elapsed since the House of Commons voted in favor of the commission. Again and again has it been promised that the report would shortly be forthcoming. Still there is no report. A general election is imminent. It looks as if the report would not be presented to the parliament that asked for it.

The appointment of the commission was unnecessary. It was generally looked upon as simply a device to relieve parliament of the trouble of dealing with a troublesome and urgent question.

The commissioners selected were nearly all men who in their inquiry showed themselves to be strongly prejudiced against prohibition. In many cases they did not even show common courtesy to witnesses who expressed themselves against the liquor traffic.

The appointment of the commission was needless. The wrong men were appointed. Their action was far from impartial. Their report has been unreasonably delayed. The whole undertaking is utterly discredited.

It is however, a costly failure to the country. The outlay upon it, unnecessary in any case, has been made excessive by the course taken and the long delay. Still it is not over. Surely it is time that the expensive farce was ended.

PROHIBITION CLUBS.

There ought to be in every municipality in the Province of Ontario, an organization of prohibition workers.

It may be called a prohibition club, or a league, or a union, or an alliance, or any other name that its members may choose. The word is unimportant; the organizations all important.

Such clubs are needed now to deal with the temperance question in the approaching Dominion election campaign. Every candidate nominated should be asked to state his position on the prohibition issue. There are thousands of electors who will be influenced, in marking their ballots, by the attitude of the candidates towards the prohibition movement, provided they know what that attitude is. We owe it to the prohibitionist voters to see that they are fully informed.

Men who have declared themselves favorable to prohibition and are elected with that understanding, will naturally be more anxious in the House of Commons for the promotion of that reform than if they had not been pledged.

A prohibition club is needful also to work for the return of the best candidate, from a prohibition standpoint, who is in the field. Where no candidate nominated by any political party is in favor of prohibition, then the platform adopted at Montreal calls for the nomination of independent candidates.

Whatever action is to be taken should be action agreed upon by friends of prohibition united regardless of party. This they cannot be without some organization in and through which to work.

Earnestly we appeal to our friends to see that there is some such organization in every part of our Province and Dominion.

THE DUTY OF VOTERS.

It is not uncommon to hear earnest temperance workers speak strongly and harshly of the littleness of interest taken by our legislators in the temperance cause. Members of Parliament are frequently roundly abused because they ignore this all important question.

The criticism is probably right. There is too much indifference in this matter. It must not be forgotten however, that the average legislator generally tries hard to win and retain the favor of those who have elected him. He therefore pays attention to just those questions in which he believes his supporters are most deeply interested.

The same is true in regard to parties. Political parties devise and advocate policies which they expect will find favor with the public. It may be that this is not the course of action that sterling principle would always dictate. It is, however, a fact.

If then, politicians and political parties slight the temperance question, they do so doubtless with the certainty that their constituencies do not require them to do anything else.

This is true. Legislators put party before prohibition knowing that they can rely upon a great majority of the electorate to do the same. More than this, they know that if they sacrifice their party, the electors will sacrifice them.

Just as soon as the temperance men have learned to practice what they preach, and are willing to sacrifice their party predilections for the promotion of prohibition, so soon will they find legislators following their example and supporting prohibition regardless of party.

The lesson is not that we should demand less of our legislators, but that we should demand more of ourselves. If the prohibitionists, who certainly constitute a great majority of the Canadian electorate, had reached the point at which they would always put prohibition first in marking their ballots, the whole question of prohibition would be solved.

QUESTION THE CANDIDATES.

Every candidate for the Dominion House of Commons should be called upon to state definitely and publicly where he stands upon the question of total prohibition.

Enquiries are frequently coming to the office of the CAMP FIRE from parties who wish to have suggestions as to forms of questions which it is desirable to use.

The friends of prohibition in every locality are in the best position to judge as to what their particular circumstances make desirable and right. At a meeting of the executive committee of the Dominion Alliance held some time ago, a series of questions was adopted as suggestive of forms that might be used.

This series of questions was intended to secure from the candidate (1) his personal views upon prohibition, (2) a

pledge to support legislation in parliament, (3) a promise that if elected he will co-operate with the other prohibitionists in parliament in work for the obtaining of prohibitory legislation.

The last point is very important. We need men in parliament who will put principle before party, and who will work with all prohibitionists regardless of party. We need men who will unitedly consider what is best for the temperance cause and then support that policy regardless of whether it helps or hurts their political party.

The questions referred to were framed with a view to meet the requirements above set out. Each candidate should be asked all three of them, or questions that will elicit the information and pledges which these three questions are intended to elicit. The suggested forms of questions are the following:—

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 liquor 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.

A DOMINION PLEBISCITE.

It would hardly be correct to state that the present political parties have no policy on the temperance question.

The Conservative party have adopted the plan of a Royal Commission. They propose to wait until the Commission reports, and then frame a definite plan of dealing with the liquor question. This was the policy stated by the late Sir John Thompson when he was head of the Government and the leader of his party.

The Liberal party have declared in favor of having a Dominion plebiscite taken on the prohibition question. The leader of the party has further declared that if his party assumed the Government of the country, they would provide for the taking of a plebiscite, and if the plebiscite showed a substantial majority in favor of prohibition, then the party would proceed to enact a law in harmony with the people's opinion.

At first sight it would seem that this plebiscite plan is the shortest road open to the attaining of prohibition in Canada at the present time. A Dominion plebiscite with a definite pledge from the party in power, that a prohibition majority would be followed by a prohibitory law, would rally temperance men to the polls and probably result in majorities in favor of prohibition even greater than those obtained in the provincial plebiscites.

Prohibitionists however, claim that such action is entirely unnecessary. Four provinces have already declared themselves in favor of prohibition by immense majorities. No party or government needs any more evidence of public opinion in those provinces. There could not be polled in the provinces that have not yet voted any majority in favor of the liquor traffic equal to the prohibition majorities that have been recorded. If it is thought necessary to have the full figures, plebiscites in the provinces that have not voted ought to be sufficient. Temperance workers in Manitoba, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia would feel that they were being put to unnecessary trouble and expense if asked to vote a second time.

The late leader of the Conservative party was opposed to the plebiscite plan. The present Finance Minister was however, at one time a strong advocate of it. It would be easy to have a vote taken in those parts of the Dominion that have not already voted. If this were done at the approaching

Dominion election, the Parliament to be returned would know the views of the electors of the whole Dominion, and there would be taken away from whichever party came into power any excuse for further delay.

IS DRUNKENNESS DIMINISHING?

Friends of the temperance cause in the Dominion of Canada are feeling gratified at the recent general reduction in the volume of the liquor traffic, and its attendant evils. Convictions for drunkenness have fallen off, the consumption of spirits has been reduced, there is a feeling that definite progress has been made.

It is true that the temperance cause is making progress. The falling off in convictions for drunkenness is not, however, the evidence of the measure of that progress. It is rather an evidence of the greater poverty which financial stringency has brought to the class of people who swell the drunkenness record.

This is no theory. It is a fact. Prosperous times are generally accompanied by an increase in criminal drunkenness. Hard times are generally accompanied by a falling off in the drunkenness record. It takes money to get drunk. Police courts generally deal with the drunks that are found among the poorer classes of the community. The high-toned inebriate seldom falls into the clutches of the officer of the law. At any rate he seldom finds his way into the police-court. There may be as much drunkenness as ever, there may be more drunkenness among the better off classes, without any evidence of the increase appearing in the police records.

We would like to take comfort from the official returns on this point; we can find none therein. The falling off in the drunkenness record is simply an evidence and result of the scarcity of money and the hard times through which we have been passing.

The financial depression has been telling also upon the ranks of temperance organizations. The membership of these societies has for some time been diminishing. This does not mean a falling off in temperance sentiment. There are different reasons for it, one of them being the scarcity of the money that is necessary to keep up lodge dues and other expenses.

We wish to call attention to the facts that the present decrease of drunkenness is not an evidence of advancing temperance sentiment, nor the falling off of temperance societies an evidence of declining temperance sentiment.

The present attitude of the Christian church towards the liquor traffic, the disappearance of the decanter and the bottle from many thousands of homes, the increasing disreputableness of the liquor selling business, the persistence with which prohibition is forcing itself upon the attention of politicians and political bodies, the demand of right citizens everywhere for more rigid laws against the traffic,—all these are signs of progress. It is, however, the progress of a developing sentiment, that has yet to close in mortal combat with the liquor evil. That evil must be dealt with by measures more radical than any that have yet been put into operation. Until this is done we must not be misled into believing that the plague of drunkenness has been materially checked by the agencies already in operation.

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QUOTATIONS.

The church that sleeps in the presence of crime deserves to die and be buried in the nearest ecclesiastical potter's field.—*Bishop Hurst.*

The power of the religion of Jesus Christ should be set over against the power of the saloon and other agencies of the devil everywhere all the time.—*Biblical Recorder.*

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

KINDLY READ IT CAREFULLY.

Canadian moral reform workers know and prize THE VANGUARD, a monthly magazine devoted to expert discussion of social problems, specially the liquor problem. It is a pleasure to be able to offer them for a short time at a very low price, a year's numbers bound in

ONE VOLUME,

making the most complete encyclopedia of information relating to the temperance and prohibition question ever published in Canada.

This volume contains the latest, fullest and most accurate statistics and other authoritative statements, covering nearly every field of available fact and argument, and including a great number of tables compiled with the utmost care.

It also constitutes a valuable record of the stirring events of the past two years of prohibition progress, and a summary of the history of the prohibition cause, in Canada. It is neat and convenient in form, **656 pages**, fully indexed. Price in cloth boards, ONE DOLLAR. Postage pre-paid.

This book is practically invaluable to moral reform workers. Every article is written by some person specially qualified to deal with the subject he discusses.

Among a great many subjects comprehensively treated, are the following:—The Liquor Traffic in Different Countries; Legislation Relating to the Liquor Traffic;—The Working of High License;—Prohibition in the Northwest;—Prohibition in Maine;—Prohibition in Kansas;—Prohibition in Pitcairn Island;—The Canada Temperance Act;—Local Option;—The Scott Act and Drunkenness;—The Gothenburg System;—The Question of Jurisdiction;—Constitutional Prohibition in the United States;—The Plebiscite Movement;—The Plebiscite Returns;—The Drink Bill of Canada;—The Drink Bill of Great Britain;—The Drink Bill of the United States;—The Drink Bill of Christendom;—The Indirect Cost of the Liquor Traffic;—Drink and Mortality;—Alcohol in Medicine;—Beer Drinking and its Results;—Drunkenness and Crime in Canada;—Drunkenness and Crime in the United States;—Drunkenness and Crime in Great Britain;—Drunkenness and Crime in other Countries;—The French Treaty;—Beer and light Wines; Adulteration of Liquors;—The Revenue Question;—The Compensation Question;—The Liberty Question;—Bible Wines;—Total Abstinence and Longevity;—The Catholic Church and the Temperance Question;—and others too numerous to mention.

The number of copies available is limited. It could not be reprinted except at very heavy cost. Those who apply first will be first supplied. Address

F. S. SPENCER,
51 Confederation Life Building,
Toronto, Canada.

Selections.

"WHAT CAN WE DO?"

Oh, what can we do, my brothers,
To speed the cause along?
We can speak a word to others,
We can cheer them with a song,
We can give them hearty greeting,
We can shake them by the hand,
We can bring them to the meeting,
We can help them firmly stand!

Oh, what can we do, my brothers,
To haste the longed for day
When the weeping babes and mothers
Shall wipe their tears away?
We can sow the seed and reap it,
We can help the sad hearts sing;
We can sign the pledge and keep it,
In the strength of CHRIST OUR KING?
—Fredk. Sherlock.

LITTLE THINGS.

Little drops of porter, little sips of stout,
Make the breathing shorter, and will aid the gout;
And these slight derangements (trifling though they be)
Prompt on other ailments, or some malady.
Little drops of liquor, little sips of ale;
Pulses beating quicker, faces grim and pale;
Mixtures alcoholic, be they what you please,
Will increase a colic, or a heart disease.
Little drops of Burton, little sips of wine,
Are a sure and certain health-destroying sign.
Little drops of Allsopp, little drops of Bass,
Take away the senses, and make a man an ass.
—Medical Pioneer.

GIVE A KIND WORD WHEN YOU CAN.

Do you know a heart that hungers
For a word of love and cheer;
There are many such about us;
It may be that one is near.
Look around you. If you find it,
Speak a word that's needed so,
And your own heart may be strengthened
By the help that you bestow.

It may be that some one falters
On the brink of sin and wrong,
And a word from you might save him—
Help to make the tempted strong.
Look about you, O my brother!
What a sin is yours and mine
If we see that help is needed
And we give no friendly sign!

Never think kind words are wasted—
Bread on waters cast are they,
And it may be we shall find them
Coming back to us some day.
Coming back when sorely needed
In a time of sharp distress;
So, my friend, let's give them freely:
Gift and giver God will bless.
—The Housewife.

LIGHT WINES.

A TRUE STORY.

Some ten years ago, whilst visiting in a distant city, I had several opportunities of seeing the workings of a State inebriate asylum, where several hundred women were serving terms of imprisonment, according to the sentence that had been passed upon them. The friend who introduced me conducted me to a handsome building, with well-kept grounds. We were ushered into a pretty little library, from whose open door we could see, across the hall, a spacious and cheerful office. Upstairs was a large and elegant parlour, dining-room, and other apartments for the use of the officers, all giving the impression of comfort, convenience and beauty. But how changed was the scene when we passed through the great door, which our conductor locked behind us. Everything was clean and neat, but cold, cheerless, prison-like. The brick walls were whitewashed and void of ornament, the staircases iron, the windows heavily barred. We passed through the different departments—the dining-room with its long tables; the kitchen, with its ranges and large vessels, constantly filled with tea or coffee, to quench the unnatural thirst of these poor creatures; the sewing-room, where they were taught to sew or knit; the laundry and chapel. Everywhere were women in gowns of coarse blue denim, some

with faces bloated and brutalised, some youthful, with a wild, fierce beauty in them, almost all bearing cruel traces of their past lives. Among them was one sweet, fair, refined face, and it is her story that I tell you.

A few years before, in an English home, one of its young daughters was educated as an artist. In course of time she went to the South of France, and while there a great sorrow came upon her. Accustomed to the use of light wines from her childhood, why should she fear the light wines of sunny France? How could she dream, as she sought relief from her depression, that she was fastening upon herself the chains of a terrible appetite? Yet it was so. Her friends, too late, awoke to her danger, took her home, and after months of loving care hoped she was cured. To enable her to begin life afresh, under new conditions, remote from all who knew her weakness, a position was obtained for her in a college on this side of the Atlantic. She was successful and happy in her work, but as she became known, and began to move in society, she entered homes where her entertainers served wines at their tables, and the fatal appetite reasserted itself. At last she fell so publicly that she was arraigned in a police court and sentenced to a term in the institution of which I have spoken.

At the expiration of her term a brother, who had journeyed from England for the purpose, was there to receive and help her. But the saloon beckoned on every side, polluting the air with its odours, and in three days she was lying dead drunk on the streets of the city, and was sentenced to a second six months imprisonment.

Her term of confinement was now nearing its end, and the matron felt much anxiety for her future. She showed me beautiful fancy work, wrought by her fingers, spoke of her fine literary tastes and musical ability, of the sweet disposition that had endeared her to them all, and then added: "My poor Mabel; if I only had some place to send her where she would not be constantly exposed to temptation." Alas! that such places should be so rare. But ever since, when I hear people advocate the use of light wines as the solution of the drink problem, I think of this young woman, twenty-two years of age only, who, despite education and social position, had been brought low. —Union Signal.

HOW IT HAPPENED.

"I hear that Smith has sold out his saloon," said one of a couple of middle-aged men who sat sipping their beer and eating a bit of cheese in a Smithfield Street saloon.

"Yes," responded the other rather slowly.

"What was the reason? I thought he was just coining money there."

The other nibbled a cracker abstractedly for a moment, and then said: "It's rather a funny story. Smith, you know, lives on Mt. Washington, right near me, where he has an excellent wife, a nice home, and three as pretty children as ever played out-doors. All boys, you know; the oldest not over nine, and all about the same size. Smith is a pretty respectable sort of a citizen, never drinks or gambles, and thinks the world of his family."

"Well, he went home one afternoon last week, and found his wife out shopping or something of that sort. He went on through the house into the back-yard, and there, under an apple tree, were the little fellows playing. They had a bench and some bottles and tumblers, and were playing 'keep saloon.' He noticed that they were drinking something out of a pail, and that they acted tipsy. The youngest, who was behind the bar, had a towel tied around his waist, and was setting the drinks up freely. Smith walked over, and looked in the pail. It was beer, and two of the boys were so drunk that they staggered. A neighbor's boy, a couple of years older, lay asleep behind the tree.

"Oh my boys, you must not drink that," he said, as he lifted the six-year-old from behind the bench.

"We's playin' s'loon, papa, an' I was sellin' it just like you," said the little fellow. Smith poured out the beer, carried the drunken boy home, and then took his own boys in and put them to bed. When his wife came back she found him crying like a child. He came down town that night, and sold out his business, and says he will never sell or drink another drop of liquor. His wife told mine about it, and she broke down crying while she told it."

This is a true story, but the name was not Smith. —Pittsburg Dispatch.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

STRONG SENTENCES FROM SPEECHES BY THE GREAT JOHN B. FINCH.

No government has a right to license wrong.

The negligence of statesmen is the opportunity of demagogues.

Every person must either be in favor of the sale of liquor or against it. There is no neutral ground.

The record of the liquor traffic proves it to be the enemy of law, morality, christianity and civilization.

We want no compromise with the liquor traffic; no halfway measures; no gilding over the great sin; no overtures of peace with the grog-shop.

From the day the liquor business was introduced into this country, it has existed as a bitter, blighting, damning curse on everything decent, virtuous and holy.

To license a man to sell rum because he will break law and sell without license if you don't is simply to compound felony and reward a criminal for his crime.

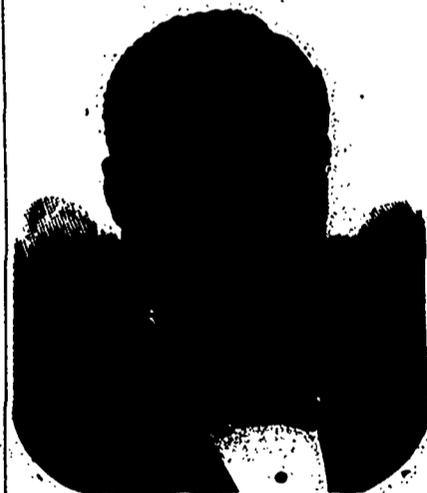
Compromise has followed compromise—unrestrained sale, license, high license, civil damage, local option—and all of these compromises have been failures to the extent that principle has been sacrificed.

If the whole brood of drunkard-makers could be hung to-morrow unless we destroyed the system that produced them, near the neck of the license hydra, another crop would spring up in three months.

The Christian church, to purge itself from all complicity with the unholy rum traffic, must banish alcoholic liquors from the communion table, convert or expel its tipping communicants, and refuse to stain its righteous coffers with the blood money of the liquor dealer.

Man's right to degrade and ruin himself does not include the right to insist that a government based upon his intelligence and manhood shall furnish the means to ruin his intelligence and manhood. To make such a claim is to claim that individual man has a right to make the government commit suicide.

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PUTTING IT STRAIGHT.

"Take something with me," remarked one laboring man to another, heading him toward a saloon. "Take something from your wife and children, you mean," replied the other, and the first man blushed and looked ashamed. — *Detroit Free Press.*

LICENSED LAW-BREAKER.

The liquor business is a consistent and persistent law-breaker. It violates a license law as much and more openly than it does a prohibitory law. The plea that a prohibitory law must be repealed because it is violated is sheer hypocrisy. Prohibitory laws are always and everywhere better enforced than the best license law ever enacted. — *The Constitution.*

WHAT WHISKY BRINGS.

"What is whisky bringing?" asked a dealer in that article one day. He meant to ask, How much is it selling for? A gentleman who heard the remark took it in an entirely different sense from that. "What is whisky bringing, do you ask? I'll tell you. It is bringing men to prison and to the gallows, and it is bringing women and children to poverty and want." There never was a truer answer than this. — *Exchange.*

ALCOHOL AND DIGESTION.

Alcohol in any quantity or in any form, being in the stomach during the progress of digestion, either retards or entirely checks that process. It does so mainly by reason of its chemical action in destroying the digestive ferments. To take alcoholic drink at meal time on account of weak digestive power is fallacious to a ridiculous extreme. If you wish to prove it, employ the ordinary test-tube experiments with artificial ferments, and then make the same test with varying amounts of alcoholic liquors added or by means of the stomach tube, remove from the stomach for examination a portion of a meal taken with liberal supplies of alcohol. — *Family Doctor.*

NO TIME.

A gentleman recently said to us: "I have no time to bother with politics. It will hurt my business." Hundreds are saying the same thing in this country every day in the year. That is the trouble in this country. Men are so bent on making money that they will let the country go to the dogs rather than turn aside from their money-making long enough to attend to their political duties intelligently. Our reply to this class of men is: "Somebody must attend to politics or the country would go to the dogs, and that before very long." If the rum monopoly and the trust monopolies run this country for twenty five years to come as they have during the twenty years that are past, there will not be much left of the country that will be worth saving. — *Living Issues.*

AN AWFUL WASTE.

An abstract from the *German Imperial statistics* shows that one fifteenth of all the cultivated land in the country is devoted to the production of materials for the making of alcoholic drink. The liquor traffic employs directly 1,500,000 men out of the 20,500,000 engaged in German industries of every kind. The loss to the country in money through this diversion of land, capital and labour into the service of an industry which leaves the country no richer than before is estimated at 458,000,000 marks—an average loss to every family of eight persons of a sum large enough to keep a labourer's family of that size for eight weeks.

THE GOTHENBURG FRAUD.

Mr. W. S. Caine, M.P., speaking at Bradford, Eng., said "People ask him why he did not take up the Gothenburg system. He replied that he held on for prohibition, and would take nothing which prevented the likelihood of reaching that. The Gothenburg system was a quack remedy about as useful in getting rid of this evil of drunkenness as a smell of Eau de Cologne was for a bilious headache. He doubted whether it was any improvement on the existing system. In every respect Gothenburg under

the system was more drunken than any town in the United Kingdom; it was even more than twice as bad as Liverpool. Last year, in Gothenburg, 4,400 persons were found drunk in the streets and brought before the magistrates, though the population was only about 100,000. In Liverpool, it might be said for comparison, 1,800 per 100,000 of the population were charged with drunkenness, and, according to the police returns of Gothenburg, in the last twenty years 13,200 persons had been arrested for drunkenness, who had got their drink at the public-houses run by the philanthropic company. The fact was, it did not matter whether the drink was sold by a bishop or a publican, if a man drank it would make him drunk."

BEER AND WAGES.

The following table, compiled from *Wages and Production*, issued by the British Government in 1891, shows the percentage of wages and receipts in the following various occupations:

Occupation.	Percentage of Wages to Receipts.
Mining.....	55.0
Shipbuilding.....	37.0
Docks and Harbors.....	34.7
Railways.....	30.0
Agriculture.....	29.0
Canals.....	29.0
Cotton Manufacture.....	29.2
Waterworks.....	25.7
Iron and Steel Manufacture.....	23.3
Textile Industries.....	22.6
Gas Manufacture.....	20.0
Brewing.....	7.5

The above proves conclusively that in England, as well as in America, little employment is found for the working man by the manufacture of drink, and that, as Lord Randolph Churchill said several years ago, if by some wise legislation we could diminish the fatal facility of recourse to the public-house, and divert from the liquor trade to other trades some of the scores of millions of money now spent in drink, all the trades in the land would be benefited. — *Exchange.*

UNLOOSE HER HANDS

Rev. F. D. Powers, of Washington, D. C. in a letter to the conference meeting of reform forces held recently, said: "I am able to say in a sentence what should be the next step—the conquering step—in anti-saloon warfare; four words express it: Give woman the ballot! If woman's sphere is the home, if this be the centre and citadel of her power, she has the right to be heard and felt in its protection. Unloose her hands, and let her strike in the face this deadly foe to all that she holds sacred. If woman reigns in monarchies she should vote in Republics. If women can rear statesmen and heroes in the home they may be trusted to say who shall govern and defend the State. If women can, without the ballot, combine and overthrow a vicious Congressman and a corrupt municipal ring, with the ballot, they could and would revolutionize society, hurl to the pit the licensed iniquity which, like a terrible octopus, would gather into its slimy and horrid folds, not only their husbands and sons, but schools and churches, and thus destroy the land we love. Let the mothers, wives, and daughters vote on the question, "License or no license," and the struggle is at an end.

"THE COMMON USE OF TOBACCO CONDEMNED."

By Physicians, Experience, Common-sense, and the People," is the comprehensive title of a neat volume of 200 pages, by Rev. A. Sims, of Uxbridge. It embodies a great array of facts and statistics relating to the tobacco habit that will be found of interest and value. Among them are a number of forcible extracts from medical journals and the writings of eminent men, showing that the extensive use of tobacco among young people is at present producing alarming results. The book is written in an attractive style and got up in convenient form. We have much pleasure in recommending it to our readers. Price, in paper covers, thirty cents, cloth fifty cents. May be ordered of the author.

A WISE COUNSELLOR.

Our working men are wise—and otherwise. Mr. Powderly is one of the wise, and so opposed to drinking that the liquor men have taken occasion to

shove him out of the Knights of Labor. I wish they would remember that their interests as wage earners are in no wise bound up with the liquor traffic. Some of them say to me, "If prohibition prevailed you would throw out no end of workers who are now engaged in the distilleries and breweries;" but let us see. In Sheffield, England, there is an iron factory with a capital of \$150,000; it employs 3,000 men. In Scotland there is a distillery with the same capital; it employs 150 men. There is no industry that requires so few hands to carry on its work in proportion to the amount of capital invested as the liquor traffic but our wage-earners do not stop to think of that. If we should close every saloon, put a policeman on hand to guard it and somebody on hand to guard the policeman, and keep our people employed in legitimate and productive industries, the country would blossom like the rose and laugh like a happy child. Our people will see this some day, they are slow but they are sure. As Abraham Lincoln said: "You can fool all of our folks some of the time and some of our folks all of the time, but you can't fool all of them all the time." In this fact lies our hope. — *Frances E. Willard.*

REV. JOHN WESLEY ON THE "TRAFFIC IN DISTILLED SPIRITS"

"Neither may we gain by hurting our neighbour in his body. Therefore we may not sell anything which tends to impair health. Such is eminently all that liquid fire commonly called drams, or spirituous liquors. It is true these may have a place in medicine; they may be of use in some bodily disorders, although there would rarely be occasion for them were it not for the unskilfulness of the practitioner. Therefore, such as prepare and sell them only for this end may keep their conscience clear. But who are they? Who prepare them only for this end? Do you know ten such distillers in England? Then excuse these. But all who sell them in the common way, to any that will buy, are poisoners general. They murder his Majesty's subjects by wholesale, neither does their eye pity or spare. They drive them to hell like sheep. And what is their gain? Is it not the blood of these men? Who then would envy their large estates and sumptuous palaces? A curse of God is in the midst of them: the curse of God cleaves to the stones, the timber, the furniture of them! The curse of God is in their gardens, their walks, their groves, a fire that burns to the nethermost hell! Blood, blood 's there: the foundation, the floor, the walls, the roof, are stained with blood! And canst thou hope, O thou man of blood, though thou art clothed in scarlet and fine linen, and farest sumptuously every day: canst thou hope to deliver down thy fields of blood to the third generation? Not so, for there is a God in heaven; therefore thy name shall soon be rooted out. Like as those whom thou hast destroyed, body and soul, thy memorial shall perish with thee." — *The above is an extract from Mr. Wesley's sermon on "The Use of Money."*

ONLY ONCE.

How brief yet how expressive the above is. Multitudes perish simply because they did some vile deed or crime ONLY ONCE. Beware of it. Ponder well the following:

"A bright and once promising young man, under sentence for murder, was brought forth from his prison cell to die on the scaffold. The sheriff said, "You have but five minutes to live. If you have anything to say, speak now." The young man, bursting into tears, said, "I have to die. I had a little brother with beautiful black eyes and flaxen hair; and I loved him. But one day I got drunk for the first time in my life, and coming home I found him getting berries in the garden, and I became angry with him without a cause, and killed him with one blow of a rake. I was so drunk I knew nothing about it until the next day, when I awoke and found myself bound and guarded, and was told that my little brother was found, his hair clotted with blood and brains, and he was dead. Whiskey had done it. It had ruined me. I never was drunk but ONCE. I have only one more word to say, then I am going to my Judge. I say to young persons never! NEVER! touch anything that can intoxicate!" The next moment the poor wretch was swung into eternity. He was drunk ONLY ONCE, but it was enough." — *Selected.*