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THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

VOL. VII. No. 2.

TORONTO, ONT. AUGUST, 1900.

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.

AN APPEAL.

Every friend of moral reform in the Province of Ontario is earnestly requested to come to the help of the Dominion Alliance in the campaign for provincial prohibition, decided upon at the Convention of July 17th.

Another crisis has come to us in the history of our cause. The example of Manitoba and Prince Edward Island shows us a wide open door for an immediate advance. The head of the Government of this progressive province is a stalwart friend of the prohibition cause. He has the power to nearly wipe out the liquor traffic. He has behind him the strongly expressed desire of the people for an advance. We must take advantage of this great opportunity.

Within a short time further information will be placed in the hands of our workers, together with plans for action and advice as to the steps that are needful to be taken. The work to be done will require effort and organization. The latter may be begun at once. A prohibition committee should be formed in connection with every temperance society in the province, so that these agencies will be ready when the time for action comes.

THE POST Fountain Pen

IS A MARVEL OF

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It is the only SELF-FILLING and SELF-CLEANING Pen manufactured. Every one who sees it, wants it.

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AROUND THE WORLD.

NOTES OF NEWS FROM MANY LANDS.

A Temperance Press Agency.

That indefatigable temperance worker Councillor Joseph Malins, R.W.G.C.F. of London England, has established a free agency for the collection and supply of news concerning the great cause. A number of the following come from this source.

Yet the Government Refuses.

Upwards of 3,530 petitions have been presented to the present session of the British Parliament in support of the Bill to prohibit the serving of intoxicants to children under sixteen years of age, one petition from Cardiff measuring 385 yards, and bearing 50,086 signatures.

Progress in Germany.

In Germany the anti spirit movement did not develop into abstinence Societies, and such bodies have been very rare; but the *Duetscher Gut Templar* now reports 260 German Good Templar Branches, with 10,200 members—an increase of 2,825 in the year.

A Great Good Work.

During the last eleven years the scientific lecturers of the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union have given 34,167 temperance lectures in schools, at which 3,838,525 scholars and 127,072 teachers have been present, and 1,728,181—or forty per cent—of the children have furnished written reports of the lectures thus heard.

A Warning.

Dr. Whitecombe, Medical Superintendent of the Birmingham Lunatic Asylum, in his annual report says:—“Among causes, intemperance in drink shows 112 cases in 1899—as against 115 in 1898, and hereditary predisposition was found to exist in a large proportion. It does not appear to be generally recognized that where this family taint is present the injurious effects of alcohol are much more powerful, and that where there is any hereditary tendency to this disease total abstinence is the greatest preventative.”

A Wise General.

Sergt. Menzies, of the Gordon Highlanders Good Templar Lodge, writing from Ladysmith, says:—“We had no difficulty on the rum question. We applied through our commanding officer to General Sir George White for a ration of tea and sugar in lieu, and it was granted at once, and a Field Force order to the effect that all total abstainers in the garrison could have tea and sugar in lieu of rum was published, which was the best lift we have had, by placing temptation beyond reach of the weaker brothers.”

Lord Wolseley's Advice.

The great Commander-in-Chief of the British armies Field Marshal Lord Wolseley in addressing the boys of the Duke of York's School a few days ago, after impressing on them the necessity of absolute obedience, specially advised them to join the Service with a strict determination to adhere to Temperance principles. “Personally,” he said, “I should prefer that you become total abstainers. The curse of our Army and our race is drink, and those who are teetotalers have a great advantage over those who are not.”

Australian Success.

A triennial Local Option Vote has been taken by the Colony of New South Wales in the suburban and country municipalities, and in almost all cases the poll was against the increase of publicans' licenses and against allowing any to be transferred from one locality to another.

A Local Option Poll was taken on May 19th, for North Adelaide (South Australia), on applications for increase of publicans' licenses, wine licenses and grocers' licenses. The Temperance party won all along the line, and there can be no new licenses granted during the next three years. On the same day, in Central Adelaide, two Temperance candidates were elected to the Upper House of Assembly, against two publicans' nominees.

Intemperate Soldiers.

Among the Generals who are officers of the British Army Temperance Association are the following:—Lord Wolseley, Sir Geo. White, Lord Methuen, Sir Charles Warren, J. Kelly-Kenny, Sir W. F. Gatacre, Sir R. H. Buller. Among the Vice-Presidents of the Association are 73 of the leading Generals of the British Army. The Association has been remarkably successful in India where Lord Roberts worked hard for its promotion. The latest returns show the membership in India as being 18,663, while the British soldiers in India who are non-members number 48,842. For the year 1898 the record showed among the abstainers total convictions by court-marshal of 777 and among the non-members of 1,777. Taking the offences and summary punishments the total abstainers showed fewer than 40 per thousand of the force, while non-members showed over 92 per thousand. General Roberts' strong views on the temperance question are well-known and are referred to in Rudyard Kipling's famous poem in the following stanza:—

“E's a little down on drink
Chaplain Bobs;
But it keeps us outer Clunk—
Don't it, Bob?
So we will not complain
Tho' 'e's water on the brain,
If 'e leads us straight again—
Blue-light Bob.”

WHOLESOME BEER.

Much is being said of the healthfulness of beer, and the use of that drink is strongly advocated by certain parties because it is pure and genuine. Yet it would seem, from various advertisements, that there must be a lot of stuff used that hardly supports this view. Here are one or two such advertisements, and we leave the reader to form his own conclusions as to the value of the material produced. One of these advertisements in the Inland Revenue Year Book for 1897 runs thus:

“Carameline, for flavor, a most important point in stout production. Two hundred weight of this article is sufficient for every fifty barrels of wort in copper. Brewers wishing to increase their black beer trade should not fail to give carameline a trial. It is a thoroughly reliable article, easy of manipulation, giving black beers a lasting, luscious flavor and palatfulness, and a rich brown head.”

Another advertisement appearing in the “Brewer's Almanack” for 1898, of brewing requisites, includes, finings, sulphurous acid, bisulphites, isinglass, hydrosulphites of magnesia, potassium and sodium, sulphate of lime, heading powder and bicarbonates of potassium and sodium. —N. T. Advocate.

PROVINCIAL POWER.

On April 7th, 1898, Hon. David Mills, Minister of Justice for the Dominion of Canada, wrote a letter to the Premier of Prince Edward Island in which he said:

“There is nothing to prevent any province prohibiting the sale of intoxicants for consumption as a beverage within the limits of the province if so disposed.”

SHALL WE HAVE IT.

At the present crisis, when the people of Ontario are demanding legislation for which they twice recorded overwhelming majorities, it may be interesting to many to read the following extracts from a speech made by Hon. G. W. Ross in the Toronto Horticultural Pavilion on October 4th, 1897.

“It is said we have no guarantee that if public opinion is favorable to prohibition, even if the Ontario Legislature has the power, that it will pass a prohibitory liquor law. You have no guarantee? What guarantee do you want? The contract between a representative and the electors is not a contract between two parties of equal status, but it is a contract between master and servant. You are the master, the Legislature is the servant. Did you ever hear of a Legislature that refused to bow to public opinion? Such Legislatures are known by their epitaphs, not by their legislation.”

“You want guarantees from the Legislature! You want the Legislature to open the door while you have the key in your own possession! You want the Legislature to sign a bond not to trespass on your property, while you hold a title to it in fee simple. The Legislature can have no permanent opinion of its own. A few individuals may endeavor to control it, and sometimes do control it for a time, but just so sure as the superior force of the allied armies of Wellington and Blucher crushed Napoleon at Waterloo, so sure will every Legislature that resists public opinion be itself obliged by and by to obey the mandate of the people, or be relegated to a position of retirement where its opinions will be as harmless as the rhapsodies of Napoleon at St. Helena. The people of this country are supreme, and when their will is decisively expressed, Legislatures dare not offer opposition even if they would.”

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, AUGUST, 1900

PROVINCIAL PROHIBITION.

One of the most important deliverances of the Convention held in the Horticultural Pavilion at Toronto on July 17th was the following:

That while we can accept as final no legislation short of total prohibition, we believe that great good will result from the enactment and enforcement of laws similar to those recently passed in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, and that a strong deputation be appointed to wait upon the Provincial Government to ask for the introduction into the Provincial Legislature at its next session, of a measure prohibiting the sale of liquor in the Province of Ontario up to the full measure of the power of the Legislature.

That the said deputation also wait upon the Leader of the Opposition asking a pledge from his party if they come into power that his party will grant legislation prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, to the full extent of their power in the Province of Ontario.

These resolutions mean provincial prohibition. There is to be no lowering of the standard. There is to be no loitering on the way toward total national prohibition. That great object, however, is to be brought nearer by the suppression of the liquor traffic in the largest, wealthiest and most influential of the Provinces.

It is not likely that the Ontario Government and Legislature will refuse to accede to the request of the deputation. Hon. Sir Oliver Mowat committed his Government and the Liberal party to this policy. Hon. Mr. Hardy declared that there would be no going back. Hon. Mr. Ross, a life-long prohibitionist, cannot take any other position. Manitoba and Prince Edward Island have already taken the action proposed. We ought to have been ahead of them. We must now follow promptly in their steps.

A new campaign has already begun. There must be organization to make it effective in every part of the Province. Earnestly we call upon our friends to at once take steps to secure the uniting of all the moral forces of Ontario in a demand upon the Government for the legislation that it is reasonable to ask and expect.

THE JURISDICTION QUESTION.

In the year 1893 the Supreme Court of Canada at the request of the Dominion Government, considered a series of seven questions prepared by Sir Oliver Mowat and submitted for ascertaining the extent of the jurisdiction of a provincial legislature in the matter of the prohibition of the liquor traffic.

The first question enquired as to the power of a provincial legislature to prohibit liquor selling generally; the second question as to its power to prohibit selling in parts of the province in

which the Scott Act was not in force; the third as to its power to prohibit liquor manufacturing; the fourth as to its power to prohibit the importation of liquor; the fifth as to its power to prohibit retail liquor-selling only; the sixth as to its power to prohibit liquor selling in quantities such as the Scott Act prohibited; and the seventh as to its power to pass the Ontario Local Option Act.

The decision of the Supreme Court was appealed to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of Great Britain and the finding of the Judicial Committee is the latest decision on the question of jurisdiction.

The Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council rendered a lengthy judgment dealing almost exclusively with the seventh question and sustaining the legislation referred to therein.

The judgment stated further that the argument upholding the Ontario Local Option Act contained a sufficient answer to questions one, two, five and six, and said also that a provincial legislature had no power to prohibit importation, but had power to prohibit manufacture so carried on as to make its prohibition a merely local matter in the province.

Condensed into summary form the judgment affirmed that a local legislature had absolute power to prohibit any liquor selling or manufacturing transaction that was a provincial matter, or that was completed within the limits of the province.

A careful reading of the decision will convince any unprejudiced inquirer that it affirms that a provincial legislature has power to prohibit any sale in the province, of liquor for consumption in the province.

No legal opinion of any weight has been given opposing this interpretation of the Privy Council finding.

Before the Ontario Government and Legislature had any opportunity to act in pursuance of the Privy Council's decision, Sir Oliver Mowat became Dominion Minister of Justice and Hon. A. S. Hardy took his place in the Ontario Government. Mr. Hardy took the position that the decision of the Privy Council was not definite enough to warrant him in promoting prohibitory legislation. He offered no argument, gave no reason, quoted no authority in support of this bare and indefinite statement, which is at variance with all other careful conclusions that have been made public.

Acting upon the advice of competent lawyers the Governments of Manitoba and Prince Edward Island have introduced and carried through their respective Legislatures measures prohibiting the sale of liquor.

It is not at all likely that Hon. Mr. Ross, himself a level-headed lawyer, will take any other view than that generally taken, of the Privy Council judgment. He is personally a friend of the prohibition cause. He will have the province of Ontario at his back in enacting legislation to the limit of the power which the Provincial Legislature possesses.

THE ALLIANCE CONVENTIONS.

The week beginning July 15th was a busy one with the prohibitionists of Toronto, the chief interest of course centering round the Conventions of Tuesday and Wednesday, at which aggressive action was resolved upon in relation to both the Dominion Parliament and the Provincial Legislatures. Proceedings were practically opened on Sunday afternoon by an unusually large and interesting mass meeting in the Horticultural Pavilion, the principal speaker at which was Rev. J. H. Hector, the well-known Black Knight, just returned from a four years'

tour in the old world. On Monday evening the Alliance Executive met a number of other temperance workers in the W. C. T. U. headquarters and consulted regarding the action to be taken during the two succeeding days.

On Tuesday about four hundred delegates from various parts of the province met in Convention in the Pavilion, heard a stirring address from the President, Rev. W. A. MacKay, D.D., and the Ontario Report of the Executive Committee, presented by Dr. J. J. Maclaren.

Various committees were appointed, a large number of resolutions were presented and referred, and the Convention adjourned to allow of the preparation of reports, the consideration of which was to be the afternoon's work.

The Convention re-assembled in the afternoon, even more being present than at the morning session. Some of the reports presented were warmly debated and in some cases were amended. The actual conclusions arrived at may be summed up as follows:

The Dominion Government and Parliament were sternly denounced for their refusal to recognize and respond to the demand of the people as voiced in the Plebiscite of 1898, and the friends of temperance were earnestly urged to organize to secure the election of representatives who could be relied upon to support prohibitory legislation, and also for the purpose of obtaining from the Ontario Legislature a prohibitory law for the province.

While total national prohibition can alone be accepted as a final settlement of the liquor question, it is the duty of prohibitionists in Ontario to unite in a determined effort to secure the immediate enactment of a provincial law similar to those lately passed in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island.

Scientific temperance education should receive more prominence in public school work and any backward step in this direction must be strongly opposed. Canteens have been and are exceedingly mischievous, and the Minister of Militia is to be asked to see to the carrying out of the law prohibiting liquor selling at military camps. The Dominion Government is asked to prohibit the manufacture, importation and sale of cigarettes and the movement for the enfranchisement of women is cordially endorsed.

Very little change was made in the personnel of the officers of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance, Rev. W. A. MacKay, D.D., will be President for the ensuing year and most of his coadjutors will also retain their places.

The action taken at the meeting of the Alliance Council on Wednesday was a good deal on the same line as that approved by the Convention of the preceding day, the report adopted regarding political action going somewhat further than the deliverances of the provincial body. The Council called upon prohibitionists to unite to defeat at the polls the supporters of the Parmelee amendment. The officers of last year were re-elected.

A POLITICAL GOSPEL.

The ballot is the power of God to cast out national evil just as much as the gospel is the power to re-cue sinners from everlasting perdition. If Christians have the power by ballot to destroy the saloon, the gambling den, the pool room, and refuse to exercise it, they have just as much denied the faith as if they refused to use the gospel in winning souls to Christ.—*Christian Standard*.

"By lookin' in de microscope," said Plodding Peter, "you learns dat every time you drinks water you puts a bunch o' wild an' waggerin' animals in yer stomach." "Yes," said Meandering Mike, "an' if you drinks whisky you has 'em in yer head."—*Scottish Reformer*.

IMPORTANT.

TORONTO, 1900.

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 last year 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 No form of literature is 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,

F. S. SPENCE,

52 Confederation Life Building,
Toronto.

Selections.

THE PRESENT CRISIS.

[This sublime and heart stirring appeal was uttered by James Russell in 1845. It had reference to the great anti-slavery agitation in the United States, a movement that was not then as promising as the prohibition reform is in Canada to-day. Nearly every word of this great poem suits our present position.—EDITOR CAMP FIRE].

When a deed is done for Freedom,
Through the broad earth's aching breast
Runs a thrill of joy prophetic,
Trembling on from east to west,
And the slave, where'er he cowers,
Feels the soul within him climb
To the awful verge of manhood,
As the energy sublime
Of a century bursts full-blossomed
On the thorny stem of Time.

Through the walls of hut and palace
Shoots the instantaneous throe,
When the travail of the Ages
Wrings earth's systems to and fro:
At the birth of each new Era,
With a recognizing start,
Nation wildly looks at nation,
Standing with mute lips apart,
And glad Truth's yet mightier man-child
Leaps beneath the Future's heart.

So the Evil's triumph sendeth,
With a terror and a chill,
Under continent to continent,
The sense of coming ill,
And the slave, where'er he cowers,
Feels his sympathies with God
In hot tear drops ebbing eastward,
To be drunk up by the sod,
Till a corpse crawls round unburied,
Delving in the nobler clod.

For mankind are one in spirit,
And an instinct bears along,
Round the earth's electric circle,
The swift flush of right or wrong;
Whether conscious or unconscious,
Yet Humanity's vast frame
Through its ocean sundered fibres
Feels the gush of joy or shame—
In the gain or loss of one race
All the rest have equal claim.

Once to every man and nation
Comes the moment to decide,
In the strife of Truth with Falsehood,
For the good or evil to do;
Some great cause, God's new Messiah,
Offering each the bloom or blight,
Parts the goats upon the left hand,
And the sheep upon the right,
And the choice goes by forever
'Twixt that darkness and that light.

Hast thou chosen, O my people,
In whose party thou shalt stand,
Ere the Doom from its worn sandals
Shakes the dust against our land?
Though the cause of Evil prosper,
Yet 'tis Truth alone is strong,
And though she wander outcast now,
I see around her throng
Troops of beautiful, tall angels,
To ensheal her from all wrong.

Backward look across the ages
And the beacon-moments see.
That, like peaks of some sunk continent,
Just through Oblivion's sea;
Not an ear in court or market
For the low foreboding cry
Of those Crises, God's stern winnowers,
From whose feet earth's chaff must fly;
Never shows the choice momentous
Till the judgment hath passed by.

Careless seems the great Avenger;
History's pages but record
One death-grapple in the darkness
'Twixt old systems and the World;
Truth forever on the scaffold,
Wrong forever on the throne,—
Yet that scaffold ways the Future,
And, behind the dim unknown,
Standeth God within the shadow,
Keeping watch above his own.

We see dimly in the Present
What is small and what is great,
Slow of faith, how weak an arm
May turn the iron helm of fate,
But the soul is still oracular;
Amid the market's din,
List the ominous stern whisper
From the Delphic cave within,—
"They enslave the children's children
Who make compromise with sin."

Slavery, the earthborn Cyclops,
Fellest of the giant brood,
Sons of brutish Force and Darkness,
Who have drenched the earth with blood,
Famished in his self-made desert,
Blinded by our purer day,
Gropes in yet unblasted regions
For his miserable prey;—
Shall we guide his gory fingers
Where our helpless children play?

Then to side with Truth is noble
When we share her wretched crust,
Ere her cause bring fame and profit,
And 'tis prosperous to be just;
Then it is the brave man chooses,
While the coward stands aside,
Doubting in his abject spirit,
Till his Lord is crucified,
And the multitude make virtue
Of the faith they had denied.

Count me o'er earth's chosen heroes,—
They were souls that stood alone,
While the men they agonized for
Hurl'd the contumelious stone,
Stood serene, and down the future,
Saw the golden beam incline
To the side of perfect justice,
Mastered by their faith divine,
By one man's plain truth to manhood
And to God's supreme design.

By the light of burning heretics
Christ's bleeding feet I track,
Toiling up new Calvaries ever
With the cross that turns not back,
And these mounts of anguish number
How each generation learned
One new word of that grand Creed,
Which in prophet-hearts hath burned
Since the first man stood, God conquered,
With his face to heaven upturned.

For Humanity sweeps onward:
Where to-day the martyr stands,
On the morrow crouches Judas
With the silver in his hands;
Far in front the cross stands ready
And the crackling fagots burn,
While the hooting mob of yesterday
In silent awe return
To glean up the scattered ashes
Into History's golden urn.

'Tis as easy to be heroes
As to sit the idle slaves
Of a legendary virtue
Carved upon our father's graves,
Worshippers of light ancestral
Make the present light a crime;—
Was the Mayflower launched by cowards,
Steered by men behind their time?
Turn those tracks towards Past or Future,
That make Plymouth rock sublime?

They were men of present valor,
Stalwart old iconoclasts,
Unconvinced by axe or gibbet
That all virtue was the Past's;
But we make their truth our falsehood,
Thinking that hath made us free,
Hoarding it in moldy parchments,
While our tender spirits flee
The rude grasp of that great Impulse
Which drove them across the sea.

They have rights who dare maintain
them;
We are traitors to our sires,
Smothering in their holy ashes
Freedom's new lit altar fires;
Shall we make their creed our jailer?
Shall we, in our haste to slay,
From the tombs of the old prophets
Steal the funeral lamps away
To light up the martyr-fagots
Round the prophets of to-day?

New occasions teach new duties;
Time makes ancient good uncouth
They must upward still, and onward,
Who would keep abreast of truth;
Lo, before us gleam her camp-fires!
We ourselves must pilgrims be,
Launch our Mayflower, and steer boldly
Through the desperate winter sea,
Nor attempt the future's portals
With the past's blood-rusted key.

TOO LATE.

By ISABEL MAUD HAMILL.

Mrs. Ellerston was a beautiful woman, tall, well made, full of life and animation, and whenever she entered a room people turned to look at her. Her guests were unanimous in thinking they had never seen her look more lovely than on the occasion of a garden party she gave for the benefit of the society to help crippled children. She had none of her own, and this was the one sorrow in her hitherto cloudless married life.

What a gay scene it was! The pretty dresses, the exquisite flowers, the music of the band, and the happy laughter and clatter of those present. Claret cup, iced champagne, and various other refreshments, were served, regardless of expense, and many young girls left the garden with a flushed face and an excited manner. Amongst the guests was a lady upon whose sweet face when in repose there was a sad look. She was talking earnestly to a man whose appearance denoted him to be a clergyman.

"Yes there are more cripples made by drink than anyone here imagines. It has made me quite sad, since I have made enquiries on the subject, to find out how many young lives have been ruined, as far as this world is concerned, through no other agent."

"I don't quite understand you, Mrs. Graham. How can drink make children cripples?"

She smiled at him incredulously.
"Is it possible that you, the clergyman of a parish in England, ask such a question?"

He appeared ill at ease under her gaze, and replied apologetically:—

"Ah, well, you see, mine is a country parish, and we see very little drinking."

"Thank God for that! During the last three months I have myself discovered more than twelve children who have been made cripples, owing to the father's or mother's drunken habits. One woman let her little baby fall from her arms when returning home late from a public-house, and so injured its spine that the doctor says she will never be able to walk any distance as long as she lives. A father threw a brick at his boy of three years old, when mad with drink, and fractured the poor little fellow's foot so horribly that the surgeon said that the only chance for his life was to amputate above the ankle, and that lad has to limp through life on crutches as best he can. Oh! it is heartrending. These are only two of scores of cases that I could name."

"Very, very sad, indeed; heartrending as you say."

"Then, Mr. Warren, ought we not, as professed followers of Christ, to do all in our power, both by example as well as precept, to put a stop to such things?"

At this moment Mrs. Ellerston came up.
"Now Mrs. Graham," said she smilingly, "I know you are trying to convince Mr. Warren that he ought to be an abstainer, but you cannot make us see these things as you do; and as to people saying that many of these cripples are made so through drink, I simply don't believe it."

As she turned to speak to another guest, Mrs. Graham could not help thinking.

"Ah, if she had a child of her own, and an accident befel him through this curse, she would speak and think differently."

Four years passed away, and during that time Mrs. Ellerston's cup of joy had been filled to the brim, for she was now the mother of a beautiful baby boy. The christening day had been an eventful one, and friends from far and near had come to witness the ceremony, Champagne—in fact, wines and spirits of all sorts—were much in evidence; the servants, too, were not forgotten, and a liberal allowance of wine had been allowed them in honour of the event. Alas! the nurse was one of that numerous and increasing class of persons who from inherited tendencies must either be total abstainers or drunkards. Since entering Mrs. Ellerston's service she had not tasted intoxicants, but being unable to withstand the chaffing and teasing of the other servants on this occasion she had yielded. After taking the baby to the nursery she laid it down in its cradle, and went quietly to the pantry, ostensibly to get milk for the child, in reality to steal wine for herself. Greedily she drank of the insidious beverage, forgetting all about her little charge, until a cry made her realize that she had not undressed and put him to sleep for night. Rising hastily, she stumbled, and feeling dizzy she clutched at the cradle, pulling it over, and throwing the baby heavily on the floor. In her excitement, hardly knowing what she did, she took hold of him by the frock, and let him fall from her unsteady hands. This seemed to sober her; she loved the child, and soothed and comforted it to the best of her ability; but never by word or sign did she tell anyone of the fall. Three weeks after, Mrs. Ellerston dismissed her for drunkenness, saying that her child was too precious to leave in the hands of a woman who drank. Did she realize how

she was responsible for the "woman who drank?" Not in the least.

Months went by, when one day the nurse told Mrs. Ellerston that "she felt sure something was wrong with baby; he screams awful when I wash him, and seems tender like, as though he'd been hurt," she said.

The mother's heart sank as she hurried to the nursery and took upon her knee her fair haired, blue-eyed boy, the joy of her life. A medical man was sent for, who, after examination, looked very grave, and hesitatingly said he feared there had been an injury, but he would see what could be done. It is needless to enter into the father's and mother's agony when by degrees they realized that their only child would never be as other children.

Yes Howard Ellerston, heir to a large property and only son, was a cripple, through an injury to the spine caused by a fall. There are many sorrowful ones on this earth, but no more sorrowful or more deeply repentant woman than Gertrude Ellerston. From the day she knew how her child's injuries were caused—for the woman, stricken with remorse, came and confessed all—alcohol was banished from her table, and she took up the cause of total abstinence with a burning desire to save others from suffering; but when she sees her boy drawn about in his invalid chair her face contracts with pain, and she murmurs, "Too late, too late, for my own child, but God grant it may not be too late to save others!"—The Alliance News.

CONTINENTAL DRINKING.

As drinkers of beer, pre-eminence is claimed for Germans, although other northern nations with more catholic tastes may rank with them as hard drinkers. The German, however, has great powers of suction, as Tony Waeiler would say. Only the other day a German youth won a wager by drinking seventy-five large glasses of beer at a sitting. He at once became a bibber of distinction. Compared with his ancestors in medieval times, and their feats in eating and drinking, he can only be regarded as a poor creature of moderate capacity.

Hitherto it has been the fashion to regard the southron as a temperate wine drinker. It is no longer so, for a taste has grown up for whisky and other spirituous drinks besides which vin ordinaire must appear a sorry beverage. The French, or at any rate the Parisians, are now regarded as being more addicted to alcohol than either German, Dutch, or English.

The statement is supported by a recent report of a great Paris hospital. Out of 1,000 patients examined, 70 in the 100 amongst the men, and 31 in the 100 amongst women were hopeless "alcoholists." The whole of the thousand lived in Paris.

One of the number, the keeper of a Paris wine-shop, gave the following account of his normal life for each day:—"At 6-30 a.m. I rise. At 7 a.m. I take coffee and brandy. About 9 a.m. I drink three to four glasses of white wine, and perhaps, eat a little therewith. Between nine and 'dejeuner' I usually take three or four 'aperitifs'—bitter, Vermuth, or absinthe. For my second breakfast, I have one litre of wine, and then coffee and rum. During the afternoon I take various 'consummations.' Between 5 and 8 p.m. I take some more 'aperitifs,' on an average about three or four. At eight o'clock I have my dinner, or supper, with which I drink one litre of red wine. Between that and bed-time I consume a few glasses of brandy or liquor." And yet, we dare say, the poor man was astonished to find himself in hospital after living in this generous fashion.—Leeds Mercury.

AN UNHOLY BOND.

Liquor selling is universally acknowledged a curse, but not yet a felony. The saloon victim is a social outcast, but the saloon-keeper and the brewer and distiller are the companions of politicians and princes. And yet civilization is progressing, though with dragging steps, for hanging to her arm is the rum-seller. He claims her company and her protection. They are united by bonds of self-interest. They married for money, and though civilization has nothing but loathing contempt for her life-companion, there seems as yet no arm brave enough or strong enough to break the unholy bond which unites them.—Ram's Horn.

WHERE THE COUNTRY STANDS.

EASY TO CRUSH THE SALOON.

The Province of Ontario voted on the question of prohibition on January 1st, 1894. Leaving out the vote of the women, which was overwhelmingly for prohibition, the result of the ballot was as follows:—

For prohibition	180,087
Against prohibition	108,491
Majority	71,596

This Plebiscite of September 26th, 1898 was taken at a less favorable time. In 1894 the vote was taken during a municipal election when the people were at the polls. In 1898 the voting was independent and no one had any reason to go to the ballot box, except his interest in the question of prohibition. Moreover, there was among the people a feeling of disappointment that no result had come from the former Plebiscite. Everything considered, the vote of 1898 may be taken as an expression of public opinion even stronger than that given in 1894. The vote was as follows:—

For prohibition	151,498
Against prohibition	115,284
Majority	36,214

The Liberal Government at Ottawa, which controls the destiny of Canada to-day, has no such vote or majority in Ontario as those polled for prohibition. The Ontario Government which controls this province has not the support among the voting electorate that has been given to the prohibition movement.

It is a great vote. It is a pure vote. It represents the intelligence, the character, the independence, the unselfishness of not only the greatest, but the best part of the electorate of Ontario. Its mandate must be obeyed.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

A Growing Evil.

An English paper states that between 1897 and 1899 the consumption of beer in the United Kingdom increased from 34,000,000 to 36,000,000 barrels, and the consumption of spirits from 32,000,000 to 35,600,000 gallons.

Free Liquor.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Montreal Witness gives the following discussion of disgraceful conduct that added to the mischief done by the terrible fire at Ottawa on April 26th. "When some of the hotel keepers found that there was not much likelihood of their premises escaping the fire, they opened their bars and invited every one to come and help themselves with all they could drink, and a great many accepted the invitation, and not only drank liberally themselves, but carried off any number of bottles of the fiery stuff with which to treat their absent friends. So it came about that a great many men were so 'top heavy' that they were unable or unwilling to exert themselves in carrying even their own clothing and furniture to a place of safety."

The Drink Problem.

There is a awful leprosy upon us. There is a tyranny of one worse than the Turk, a slavery a hundred fold more savage than that which bound the negro, fastening upon our body politic. We grant the devil for a consideration absolute freedom to produce misery and profligacy, cruelty and wickedness, disgrace and social demoralization; to transform creatures from heaven into felon, the harlot, the pauper and the madman. We have permitted an organized Satanic despotism to be reared in our midst, which has boundless resources, moves forward with gigantic strides, crushes millions of victims, inflames society with all the passions of the pit. It is the school of anarchy, the breeding ground of criminals, the nursery of woe, the sworn foe of the church. Economically, politically, religiously, this is the problem.—Rev. F. D. Powers, in C.T.W.

There are some problems which can never be solved in the prayer meeting. The saloon problem is one of them. We may preach about it and sing about it, and resolve about it, and weep about it, and pray about it until Gabriel blows his trumpet, and if we do nothing more we shall accomplish nothing. The mill-honoree brewer and the red-faced saloonist want us to keep right at our devotions. They will meanwhile laugh in very glee.

God will not do for us what we ourselves can do. We cannot preach the saloon out. We cannot sing it out. We cannot resolve it out. We cannot weep it out. We cannot pray it out. But we can arise from our knees, and trusting in God, go forth to smite the monster, hip and thigh, by the conquering power of a citizen's ballot.

When will the Christian forces of the republic see how easy it would be to crush the saloon power if they would only move out from the churches to the ballot boxes in one great, eager, determined, united, victorious army?—Epworth Herald.

GOOD AMUNITION FOR PROHIBITIONISTS.

Under the first two and one-half years of prohibition the total number of convicts in Iowa ran down from 800 to 532. Under the first four years of the mullet law the number ran up from 694 to 1,171. This supplies pretty plain evidence concerning the merit of the mullet law as a "better prohibitory measure than the prohibition law."

But there is more. The reports from counties is equally instructive. In 1884, before prohibition was enacted, Polk county sent twenty-two convicts to the state prison. In 1888, under prohibition, it sent eight. In 1894, under the mullet law it sent seventy. Mahaska county sent eight convicts in the year before the passage of the prohibitory law; in 1888 under the law it sent none; in 1897, under the mullet law it sent fifteen. In the prohibitory year of 1888 the criminal court expenses of the county were \$5,332; in the mullet year of 1896 they were \$21,497.

Washington county, of about the same population and wealth as Mahaska, is still under prohibition. In this same year, 1896, its criminal court expenses were \$3,622.—Union Signal.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

To-night it enters the humble home to strike the roses from a woman's cheek, and to-morrow it challenges the republic in the halls of congress.

To-day it strikes the crust from the lips of a starving child, and to-morrow leaves tribute from the government itself.

There is no cottage humble enough to escape it, no place strong enough to keep it out.

It defies the law when it cannot coerce suffrage.

It is flexible to cajole, but merciless in victory.

It is the moral enemy of peace and order, the despoiler of men and terror of women, the cloud that shadows the face of children, the demon that has dug more graves and sent more souls unshaved to judgment than all the pestilences that have wasted life since God sent the plague to Egypt, and all the wars since Joshua stood beyond Jerico.

It comes to ruin, and it shall profit mainly by the ruin of your sons and mine.

It comes to mislead human souls and to crush human hearts under its rumbling wheels.

It comes to bring gray-haired mothers down in sorrow and shame to the grave.

It comes to change the wife's love into despair, her pride into shame.

It comes to still the laughter on the lips of the little children.

It comes to stifle all the music of the home and to fill it with silence and desolation.

It comes to ruin your body and mind, to wreck your home, and it knows it must measure its prosperity by the swiftness and certainty with which it wrecks the world.

Henry W. Grady.

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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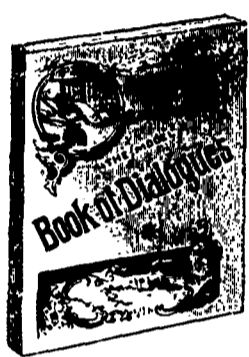
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This is a new book, just published, and contains one hundred and fifty-six funny stories, anecdotes and jokes by such famous humorists as Mark Twain, Max Addler, Josh Billings, Bill Nye, H. Burdette and many others. It is full of fun and nonsense from 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 richly 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," "Pots and the Light-bulb," "How to Cook," "Marrage," "Baumgartner's Boog," "Stowe's Elephant," "Mr. Ramage, a scheme to Manufacture Happiness," "Mrs. Jones's Burial," "The Facts About Sam Snyder," "Deacon Amos Anderson Discusses Dudes," "The Sad Case of Filly du Bell," "The Dead Guleh Christmas Tree," "A Primeval Serpant," "Marty's Peculiar Recumbent," "The Ephraim's Wisdom," "A one-Horse Hotel," "He Concluded, got to Commit Suicide," "Queerly Married," "Hansel and Gretel's Arrested," "How the Third, Fatigue Man had his Feelings Hurt," "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.

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This book contains a large and careful selection of the most popular recitations in the Yankee, Negro, 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 Angel," "Catherine's Courtship," "The Forerunner of the Closing of the Mountaineer," "The Bartender's Story," "The Huskin' Bee," "Grandpa's Courtship," "The Cowboy's Christmas Ball," "Hansel and Gretel Jim," "Mike's Confession," "The Surprise Party at Dutchtown," "Old Daddy Turner," "Paddy's Courtship," "Sambro's Pleasure," "Davy and Golar," "The Darkey Book-keeper," "Little John's Christmas," "Joe White's Uncle Anderson on Prosperity," "The Irishman's Panorama," "Bully's Troubles," 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, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.

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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 Conductor's Lygel Snyder's Party," "Uncle Ike's Roosters," "Watermillions," "The Frocked Faced Girl," "Paddy's Dream," "The Dutchman's Serenade," "How Maloney's Cow," "Parson Jinglewag's Surprise," "Mick's Courtship," "Jonlar," "Nora Murphy and the Sprites," "The Countryman at the Show," "Intensely Utter," "Taking Toll," "How Sockery Set a Hon," "Tim Murphy's Irish Story," "Schneider's Tomatoes," "What Troubled the Nigger," and 96 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, and 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. Elsie W. Mottram, describing numerous forms of entertainment for evening companies which have been successful, given by versatile hostesses in all of the countries of the continent. "How can we entertain without dancing or cards?" is the ever-recurring question of that large class who consider such amusements trivial, 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 thoroughly enjoyable, and 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 Inland Entertainment," "The Modern Swing Bee," "The Five Senses," "An Enjoyable Musicale," "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," "The Door Entertainments," "Breakfasts," "Luncheons," "Tea," "Dinners," "Working Anniversaries," "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 Hamlet Party," "Modern Entertainments," "A Hurly Hurly," "Modern Entertainments" is a book of 64 large double-column pages, bound in attractive paper covers, and will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents.