

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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POPULAR GOVERNMENT.

On September 29th, 1898, the people of Canada declared in favor of the total prohibition of the liquor traffic by a majority of 13,687, the votes cast being, for prohibition 278,380, against prohibition 264,693. The Province of Quebec gave a majority of 94,324 against prohibition, the other provinces gave majorities aggregating 108,011 in favor of prohibition.

On July 3rd, 1900, the House of Commons by a vote of 98 to 41 adopted the following resolution:—"That at the plebiscite of 1898 only about twenty-three per cent of the registered electors of the Dominion voted for prohibition, that in the provinces and territories excluding Quebec, only twenty-seven per cent of the registered electors voted for prohibition, that these results show that there is not an active prohibition sentiment sufficiently pronounced to justify the expectation that a prohibition law could be successfully enforced, and therefore in the opinion of this House such a prohibitory law should not be enacted at present."

The people emphatically say "yes" The Government and Parliament emphatically say "no." What are the people going to do about it.

NOTES OF NEWS.

ABOUT THE WAR WITH THE DRINK.

Dangerous Sweets.

A good deal of interest is being taken in Montreal in an agitation by the W.C.T.U. against the sale of candies containing alcohol. It has been shown that the evil has been carried to such an extent as to cause drunkenness among some children. The London ladies recently made a successful campaign on the same line.

Drink Did It.

On Friday, June 16th, the jury of the Court of Queen's Bench in Montreal, declared Avila Bourass guilty of murdering his wife on April 4th last. The case was one in which drink was manifestly the cause of the crime and the Honorable Chief Justice in sentencing the prisoner to be hung on August 24th, began his address by saying "Prisoner at the bar, you are a sorrowful, but yet a striking example of the evil of drunkenness."

Temperance Pays.

The United Kingdom and Provident Institution of Great Britain has published its fifty-ninth annual report. As our readers are aware this organization has a general section in which safe lives are insured, and a temperance section to which only total abstainers are admitted. The record for the year shows that the number of death claims expected according to actuarial figures, was 392, and the actual claims made were 341. In the general section the expected claims were 414, and the actual claims 404.

A Vast Business.

The Scottish League Journal states that the public houses in London, England would form a single continuous row long enough to link Charing Cross with Brighton Pavilion. If a lover of intoxicants were to patronise these houses at the rate of one a day, it would take him 38½ years approximately to reach his last drink in London houses alone. The gross rental value of these 14,039 houses is £2,103,421, or, roughly, one pound in every twenty of the entire valuation of London.

Beer and Wine.

The annual English parliamentary return setting out the average consumption of intoxicating liquors in different countries gives the following as the figures for the consumption of beer which is said to be steadily increasing.

	Total Gallons.	Per head Gallons.
United Kingdom	1,250,000,000	31.3
France	2,050,000,000	5.3
Germany	1,382,000,000	26.0
United States	920,000,000	12.6

The beer consumption in Canada is about four and one-half gallons per head. France consumes 2¼ gallons of wine per head.

Russian Progress.

One of the most interesting exhibits at the great Paris Exhibition is a section of the Russian Department given up entirely to the work of the official temperance committees of the Russian Empire. Striking pictures are shown contrasting the conditions of homes where drink is freely used with the homes of temperate people. A great deal of literature is at hand and is gratuitously distributed. The Committees of Temperance of Russia are a state established institution and are charged among other duties, with overseeing the sale of intoxicating liquors, such sale being in Russia a state monopoly, spreading abroad knowledge relating to the effects of strong drink, providing counter attractions to public houses, establishing hospitals and other institutions for the cure of inebriety and aiding private societies that work towards the same end. The amount of work reported is enormous. It is supported by a Government grant of about \$1,500,000 per year.

A Great Convention.

The Prohibition Party in the United States have nominated J. G. Woolley, the famous temperance lecturer, as candidate for President, and Henry Brewer Metcalf, of Rhode Island for Vice-President. The National Convention of the Party met at Chicago on Wednesday, June 27th. There was an immense attendance from the different States, and tremendous enthusiasm. A strong organization was effected and plans laid for a vigorous campaign. The principal contest of the Convention was between the party desiring to have a broad platform including advocacy of many reforms, and the party seeking to make a campaign on the central issue of prohibition. Those who favored a union against the liquor traffic alone carried the day. A platform was adopted declaring that "the licensed liquor traffic is, or ought to be the overwhelming issue in American politics, and the destruction of this iniquity stands next on the calendar of the world's progress."

An Aggressive Anti.

Charles Schweickardt is a member of the Missouri State Senate and also the proprietor of several saloons in Missouri. He recently introduced into the Senate a bill providing that any license to sell intoxicating liquors should be permanent until the death of the holder or his conviction for crime. The Bill passed the Senate but was defeated in the House of Representatives. During his speech at the close of the debate Senator Schweickardt said: "Senators have said upon the floor today in this debate that they would like to see the saloon out of politics. So would I; and I will tell the senators when it will go out of politics: When every law restricting the liquor traffic is repealed; when you cease by legislation to discriminate against my business and to cripple it; when we can open our saloon on Sunday and run it as we could any other day of the week; when our business is placed upon the same footing and upon the

same plane with every other legitimate business—then, and not till then, will the saloon go out of politics. We shall fight you until this is accomplished. And in the end you will surrender."

Consumption of Drink.

A report issued by the English Board of Trade shows the production and consumption of alcoholic beverages in various European countries as well as in the United States and British colonies in each year from 1895 to 1898. Reducing the amount to an alcoholic basis the Licensing World shows that the amount of alcohol consumed per head of the population in four of these countries is in proof gallons as follows:

United Kingdom	4.70
France	10.07
Germany	5.09
United States	2.12

In this connection it is interesting to note that the estimated yearly per capita consumption of alcohol in Canada as set out in the report of the Royal Commission is less than six-tenths of one gallon.

FOLLY AND SIN.

Until this evil drink is put away, unrighteousness will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea; the cause of religion will be hindered, and there will be an impassable barrier to the triumph of Christ's gospel. Both physical and spiritual haleness are stunted by the drink.

Science and experience has given their voice in an unmistakable manner against alcohol, and later studies have also demolished the supposed sanction given by the bible to the use of these intoxicants. The apostolic injunction is, not to be drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit. There are two kinds of enjoyment and sources of life; avoid the one and drink deep of the other. The author of "The Anxious Enquirer," and therefore a true "endeavorer," John Angell James, said to young people years ago: "I do most earnestly entreat you to abstain from all intoxicating drinks. You do not need them for health, and to drink them for gratification is the germ of inebriety." We believe there should be no making, buying, or drinking of the poisonous spirit, and in this direction only is to be found the way of ending the sin of liquor-selling.

The sin of liquor-selling: that word will occasion some heart searching and even savor. But is the term contrary to the actual truth? Sin is a violation of a Divine law, and to make intoxicating drink is to do violence to the law both of nature and of God. The "good creature of God" theory, as applied to alcohol as an article of consumption, is surely exploded; the grain and grape are good, but the manipulation and manufacture of these good gifts into alcohol is the work of the devil. Many learned Jewish Rabbis believed that the fermenting grapes formed the "forbidden fruit"; anyhow, this spirit of alcohol is the present great cause of the "fall of man," as it has ever been; the "Mortal taste which brings death into the world,

And all our woes," from the times before Noah; and this worship of Bacchus down to the present day dominates over the worship of God. What can we think then of the high priests of Bacchus, those who serve at its altars, who build their fortune on the misfortunes of its votaries? What awful wrongs must be perpetrated if the brewer and publican are to live and flourish!—Good Templar's Watchword.

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A TERRIBLE HEREDITY.

A special study of hereditary drunkenness has been made by Prof. Pellman, of Bonn University, Germany. His method was to take certain individual cases, a generation or two back. He thus traced the careers of children in all parts of the present German empire until he was able to present tabulated biographies of the hundreds descended from some original drunkards. Notable among the persons described by Prof. Pellman is Frau Ida Jurka, who was born in 1740, and was a drunkard, a thief and a tramp for the last forty years of her life, which ended in 1800. Her descendants numbered 834, of whom 709 were traced in local records from youth to death. One hundred and six of the 709 born were born out of wedlock. There were 144 beggars and sixty-two more who lived from charity. Of the women 181 lived disreputable lives. There were in the family 76 convicts, 7 of whom were sentenced for murder. In a period of some seventy-five years this one family rolled up a bill of costs in almshouses, prisons and correctional institutions amounting to at least 5,000,000 marks, or about \$1,250,000.—Medical Record.

WHAT PRODUCES DRUNKENNESS.

We noticed in a paper this morning the report of a death from "alcoholism," and we could but wish that all the deaths from drunkenness could be so reported until people have it burned in upon their consciousness that alcohol is a deadly poison. We hear so much about impurities in liquor that we are in danger of forgetting that the most dangerous thing in strong drink is alcohol. It is this that produces drunkenness. This is the element essential to whisky, wine and beer, of all degrees of goodness or badness. This is what is sought for and demanded, and this it is that causes the bite like the serpent's and the sting like the adder's. No poison that goes into what is called pure whisky is so deadly as the pure liquor itself.—Herald and Presbyterian.

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, JULY, 1900

THE COMING CONVENTIONS

We earnestly appeal to all our friends to do their utmost to secure the success of the prohibition conventions to be held in Toronto on July 17th and 18th. They will be gatherings of unusual interest. The recent unfair treatment of the temperance cause by politicians of both parties has created indignation in our ranks. We sincerely trust that the result will be more determination than discouragement. A Dominion election is not far away. A provincial election must shortly follow. It is for the prohibitionists of Ontario to place themselves on record now in regard to their intentions and desires, and to place themselves on record at the ballot box in a few months in regard to the manner in which their demands are received by those who ought to be ready to obey the voice of the people, when that voice is so manifestly in favor of what is righteous and progressive.

PROVINCIAL PROHIBITION.

Manitoba and Prince Edward Island have set an example to the rest of the Dominion. Provincial prohibition will never be accepted as a final settlement of the liquor question in Canada. It may be necessary for us however, to use it for a while, pending the development of a better feeling in the province of Quebec.

The Quebec vote in the prohibition plebiscite cannot be accepted as a fair expression of the opinion of our French Canadian brethren on the liquor question. The methods adopted to stampede the French electorate are well-known. Clever and unscrupulous liquor advocates appealed to them to vote against prohibition to save their hero, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, from the defeat that it was said would follow a prohibition majority. Religious prejudices were also invoked and misleading statements made regarding the character and object of the prohibition proposed.

Quebec however, is on record against prohibition, and will probably for some years be a serious obstacle to national prohibition, which however must not be abandoned. The liquor traffic will have to be driven out of Canada with the help of our French brethren if we can get that help, without it if we must fight the battle ourselves. Meanwhile every province that declares for prohibition puts us another step in advance, and weakens the power of the liquor traffic with which we have to contend.

We are thankful then for the success of our friends in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island. It ought to be Ontario's

turn next. The Premier of Ontario is a pronounced prohibitionist. Sir Oliver Mowat declared that he would give the people a prohibitory law if the Privy Council's decision warranted him in doing so. Hon. G. W. Ross cannot afford to do less than Sir Oliver Mowat was willing to do.

The Convention in Toronto on July 17th will be watched with interest. No doubt it will stand by the flag of total national prohibition. It will do wisely in calling for the immediate enactment of as much prohibition as the Provincial Legislature is warranted in enacting.

A NOTABLE EVENT.

A great World's Temperance Congress was held at London, Eng., during the week beginning June 10th. Many temperance sermons were preached on that day, and all through the five following days important sessions were held forenoon, afternoon and evening. Representatives of different lands told of the progress of the cause in their respective countries. The President of the Congress was the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the number of delegates appointed to the meetings was about 1200. The greater number of course were British people, but delegates were present from France, Russia, Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, Austria, Holland, Norway, Sweden and the United States, besides representatives of Canada, Australia and other colonies. The progress of the cause in Canada was set out in a carefully prepared report submitted by Mr. R. J. Dougall, of Montreal, President of the Dominion Alliance. Papers were read relating to every phase of the liquor question. They will constitute when published, a volume of immense interest and value. The great gathering forms an event in the history of the world's progress.

THE PROHIBITION DEBATE.

The prohibition question was again discussed in the House of Commons on Tuesday, July 3rd. The main motion before the House, presented by Mr. Flint, set out the facts of the plebiscite, and declared that in view thereof Parliament should enact such measures as will secure prohibition in at least those provinces and territories which voted in favor of prohibition. Mr. McClure's amendment declared in favor of total national prohibition. An amendment moved by Mr. Parmalee, declared that a prohibitory law should not be enacted at present.

Mr. Flint argued that his proposal was a reasonable compromise between the radical views advocated by Mr. McClure and Mr. Parmalee. He declared himself in favor of Mr. McClure's resolution if the House would take the advanced position thereon set out.

Mr. Clark Wallace made a strong attack upon the Government for its unfair treatment of prohibition, and argued at length in favor of compensation for those engaged in the liquor business if prohibition should be enacted.

Dr. P. Macdonald did not agree with any of the propositions before the House. He did not consider that the plebiscite was a sufficient mandate for the enactment of prohibition. He argued in favor of further restricting the liquor traffic by enlarging and perfecting the Canada Temperance Act.

Hon. Mr. Foster blamed the Government for not keeping faith with the prohibitionists. He stated that there had been a secret agreement that a great majority vote would be required before prohibition would be enacted. He had no faith in plebiscites as a basis for such

legislation as prohibition, which could only come by the electing of prohibitionists to Parliament.

Hon. Mr. Fielding defended the Government, and argued that the vote was not sufficient to warrant legislation. He stated that the experience of the Maritime Provinces had clearly proved that many people would vote for prohibition who would not endeavor to secure its enforcement. He challenged Hon. Mr. Foster to define the position of the Conservative party on the question.

Sir L. Davies attacked Mr. Foster for his change of ground on the question of prohibition, and argued that from a constitutional standpoint it would not be lawful for parliament to pass prohibition for part of Canada alone.

Hon. S. A. Fisher fully endorsed the position set out in Mr. Parmalee's amendment. He believed that the vote did not warrant legislation and could not see how anyone could hold a different view. He accused the Conservative party of endeavoring to use the position in which the temperance cause was now placed as a catspaw for their own party ends.

Mr. F. Dixon Craig blamed his colleagues for want of honesty and sincerity on the prohibition question. He declared himself a prohibitionist, but believed that the time for prohibitory legislation had not yet arrived and therefore gave his support to Mr. Parmalee's amendment.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier stated that the question was not a ministerial one. He claimed that the Government's Plebiscite pledge had been fully carried out by the taking of the vote, the result of which in his opinion was not such as to make the enactment of a prohibitory law advisable. There was no unanimity of opinion among prohibitionists as to the course that ought to be taken. A number of propositions had already been advanced by different Members of the House. He was strongly opposed to the enactment, for any Provinces, of legislation that did not apply to the whole Dominion. Legislation ought to tend to promote unity rather than to separate the different communities. Believing that the country was not ready for prohibition, and that the question of temperance was largely a question of education, the Premier declared that he was not a prohibitionist. He favored legislation however, that would be progressive, and believed that the Canada Temperance Act had rendered good service to the temperance cause. If temperance people asked to have that Act improved the Government would be ready to respond to their request.

Mr. McClure argued that the plebiscite did not fairly and fully represent the prohibition sentiment of the Dominion. He thought the best method of solving the problem before the House would be the election by prohibitionists of prohibition representatives. The liquor traffic ought to be suppressed by law. That was his position and he accepted no compromise.

After discussion by a number of other members the vote was taken and resulted in the adoption of Mr. Parmalee's amendment by 98 yeas to 41 nays.

After Mr. Parmalee's amendment was adopted, Rev. Dr. Douglas seconded by Mr. McGregor, proposed the addition of a clause declaring that with a view to the further restriction of the liquor traffic, it was expedient to enlarge the scope of the Canada Temperance Act and perfect the provisions for its administration. After a good deal of discussion this amendment was adopted by a vote of 65 to 64.

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.

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Selected.

THE MOTHER'S MISTAKE.

It was in placid evening, and the seraphs might have smiled
As they saw that fair young mother bending o'er her lovely child,
Clasping hands she loved so fondly—teaching little lips to say,
"Our Father who art in Heaven," in his simple, child-like way.

"Lead me not into temptation," was the softly uttered prayer,
Watted up by whispering zephyrs through the tranquil evening air;
And the earnest, rapt expression, of the mother's upturned eye,
Seemed to tell her boy's petition should be answered from on high.

Shall it not? O, mother, tremble! you forget to warn your boy
Of the draught that gleams and sparkles but to madden and destroy;
Dreaming he could pass in safety over shoals where thousands sink,
Thinking he would still be scatheless, though on danger's very brink.

Could not cries of lost ones warn you there was death and ruin there?
Heard you not the moan of drunkards who are dying in despair?
Said you there was no temptation for the boy so good and true?
Ah! mistaken, mourning mother, were it so 'twere well for you.

While the prayer was often uttered, she had given her child the sip
Of the glass that just was taken from his loving mother's lip;
Till temptation, growing stronger, every virtue overcame,
And the boy so loved and cherished filled the drunkard's grave of shame.

O'er a grave there weeps a woman, drooping with the weight of care,
Streaks of silver prematurely mingled with her ebony hair.
"Ah, my son!" she utters wildly, "would that I had died instead,
Rather than thy youthful footsteps in temptation I had led."
—Amelia Beckwith.

RUM'S RECORD AND THE VOTER.

Some say that rum is harmless
As common "Adam's ale";
But put the rum inside a man
And we write another tale—

A tale of blighted manhood,
Of broken-hearted wives.
Of children "damned into the world,"
Of wrecked and ruined lives,

Of governments once mighty,
But now decadent, dead!
Of cities grand and brilliant,
Now desolate instead,

Of families once historic,
Extinct, or cursed with shame;
Of famous men who ruled the land,
They fell. Unsung their fame!

We see the railroad's holocaust,
The vessels lost at sea;
We hear the moaning victims,
The desolation see.

We note the scenes so tragic,
The horrors we rehearse;
It makes pathetic reading,
Inspires our tragic verse.

But why not rouse to action?
Why tell the tale of woe?
This awful curse will cease to be,
WHEN CHRISTAINS VOTE IT SO!
—William Wood, in Ram's Horn.

HIS DEFENDER.

A SKETCH FROM REAL LIFE IN THE SLUM DISTRICT.

There is much that is infinitely pathetic in the lives of the children of the slums. Those who are accustomed to working among them and to teaching them in mission Sunday schools or in industrial schools, or who are thrown into contact with them in any way, are often surprised and touched at many of

the things that come under their personal observation—things that prove that there is often a pathetic longing and sometimes a striving for better things in the lives of some of these little waifs of the street.

One of the institutional churches in a large eastern city last summer, opened a playground, sanatorium and open air gymnasium for the children in the tenement house district in which the church is located. Nearly 75 of the poor little tenement house waifs appeared the first day the playground was opened. Some of them were dirty beyond belief, and all wore ragged and forlorn looking. Among them was a dark-eyed, dirty-faced, unhappy and unhealthy-looking boy of about 12 years of age. He looked as if life had gone hard with him from the day of his birth, and no doubt it had. He was pathetically thin, and he had a careworn look that it is always sorrowful to see in the face of a child. He stood apart from the other and more active boys, and did not attempt to gain possession of the swing or of any of the gymnasium apparatus for which the other boys were contending. Presently a noisy boy, with the face and actions of a bully, called out derisively to the boy who was standing alone in a corner of the yard:

"Hey, there, Bill Loftus! What you mopin' for? 'Cause yer dad got full an' got run in las' night fer lickin' yer maw? Say, fellers, did you know that Billy Loftus' dad got run in las' night an' that his maw has a black eye this mornin'?"

The face of the miserable looking Billy Loftus paled and his lips quivered. No doubt his heart was quivering too. His big black eyes filled with tears. He was about to make some reply when a red-haired, scrawny-looking girl of about 12 years darted swiftly across the yard, her blue eyes aflame. Grasping the jeering bully by the coat collar, she shook him with wonderful vigor while she said in a thrill and cutting voice:

"Shame on you, Jack Sanders! Shame on you for twitting a boy just up from a sick bed for what he can't help! How would you like it if it was your mother that had the black eye? And if it was your father that did it? There isn't a boy but you in the yard that would be mean enough to say what you have said to Billy there! Ev'rybody shame 'im!"

She flung the dazed boy from her and drew back with one arm and finger outstretched, a hiss of shame and contempt coming from between her thin lips. Instantly the arm of nearly every boy and girl in the yard was outstretched and hisses were heard from all parts of the yard. Jack Sanders looked utterly abashed and rebuked. He stood still for a moment with a crimson face and then turned suddenly and fled from the yard, while Billy's defender went up to him and said, soothingly:

"I wouldn't mind what he said one bit if I were you, Billy." Then she added with sorrowful truthfulness: "You ain't the only boy in this yard whose father has acted like that, but there ain't none of us mean enough to say anything about it. I guess that your father will do better after this. You will do better when you get to be a man, anyhow, won't you?"

"If I didn't think that I would I'd never want to be a man," said the boy solemnly. God grant that he and every child in that wretched tenement house district in which evil runs rampant may live to be better men and better women than their parents are through the efforts of those who are working to bring such children as those out of the darkness of sin into the marvelous light of God.—J. T. Harbour, in Union Signal.

YOUNG MEN AND TEMPERANCE.

There is one kind of young man that is perfectly safe against all temptations spoken of here to-night—the mean young man, the stingy young man, the narrow-souled young man. He is safe. Satan does not want him. If he got him the man would soon dispute with him his realm of everlasting meanness. These young men who are empty of head, empty of heart, empty of health, are no prize, and consequently they are not in special temptation; but it is for the large-hearted young men that we must contend, and we invoke all good men and

philanthropists to come on our side. We pray that the armies of heaven may bear down on the foe, and that the Lord God Almighty with His thunderbolts may strike down and consume the influences that would destroy these young men for whom Christ died.

Now, my friends, how are these young men to be saved? We see a great many books warning young men how to keep out of peril, but how many books have you ever seen telling young men how to get back when they get astray—when shipwrecked, how to get ashore? And that is the tremendous question that we pastors have to meet.

Some time ago, perhaps a year and a half since, at the end of one of my services, I saw a man sitting near the pulpit. I went to him, for he seemed to be very much agitated. I said to him, "You seem to be in trouble; will you go into the side room and be talked to by serious people?" He said, "No, sir; you cannot do me any good. I came from the far West, I came to attend this service, but you cannot do me any good." "What do you mean?" I enquired. "I am a captive to strong drink. God knows how I want to be free, but you cannot help me. If I were to announce my name to you, you would know it. I got into high official circles, and have a beautiful wife and two children, but I am a victim to strong drink. Yesterday I was on a Hudson River railroad train; I had been trying to get along without drink, but a low, vulgar man pulled out a whisky bottle and asked me to drink. I said, 'No, sir;' but oh! how I wanted it. It seemed to me, sir, as if the liquor curled up its red tongue around the cork of the bottle, and said to me, 'Take me, take me.' I was seized upon with a paroxysm of thirst, so that I rushed out on the back platform, and I thought I would jump, but the car was going at the rate of thirty or forty miles an hour, and I did not dare to jump. I came back and sat down, and the paroxysm was gone. Oh, sir! you cannot do me any good."

We prayed with him that night. I walked up Fulton Avenue with him afterwards, and went into a drug store and said to the doctor, "Can you give this man something to help him? He is in a battle with thirst; give him something without alcohol in it." The physician prepared a bottle of medicine. "How long will that last?" I asked. "A week or two," was the reply of the physician. "Give him another bottle," I said. He had two bottles of medicine prepared and given to him, and then I said to the man, "My brother, put your trust in God, and He will see you through."

A few weeks after I got a letter from Boston in which was this language: "With to-day's mail I send you two newspapers, showing that every night I am preaching 'righteousness, temperance, and judgement to come.' Moreover, I do not have to use that medicine; and, moreover, God has put out the fire of thirst." I heard of him six months after that he was faithful; and, no doubt he will be faithful all the way through.

Oh! how to save men—that is the question that wears us out in all our different work for Christ. These men who are addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor have such a terrible contest to wage! Just as long as a man yields to this habit he seems to get along quite well if he is not positively prostrate; but let him resist, and then he is thrown in the track of the bone-breaking Juggernaut.—Dr. Talmage.

THE DEVIL'S CHAIN.

I have fancied that in a vision I could see the evil that overshadows the land embodied and personate! A demon spirit—colossal—a monster truly to make the whole world tremble!

Aloft upon his huge distended trunk behold the features, not of a smooth and laughing Bacchus as a poet and artist love to figure him, but of a brute, foul and fierce, presenting withal the features of a man. See the bloated, red, and pimpled face, the purpled cheeks, the hugh swelled lips which, opening, show the cankered teeth and feverish foulness of his unhealthy mouth; matted in rough locks over the slanting forehead; red flaming hair, crowned in mockery, with wreaths that have withered

at the touch of his burning brow. See the bloodshot eyes, small and cunning, rolling with cruel ecstasy as he urges fast and furious his fearful task. Cross-kneed he sits, malignant as Siva! his prodigious trunk swathed in a motley robe, the patchwork spoil of many victims.

His apparel is red with the blood of murder and crime, of rage and cruelty, of madness and sin. O, look here, Christian and civilised Britons! Look upon these garments, red and gory, and tell me what the frightful motley means? Turban and cloak of every fashion, velvet and ermine of king and emperor, livery of menial, rags of beggar, chasuble of priest, Geneva gown, satin and silk of noble dame, thin torn skirt of shivering milliner, gaudy potticoat of dancing colombine, peasant's corduroy, and foppish coat of city clerk, the navy's shirt, the soldier's uniform—ay! and if ye look well, ye may discern a judge's gown, and not far off a gore-stained patch, the very dress wherein the criminal he condemned to death had done his sinful deed. Mark ye this great garment well, for it is in itself a veritable calendar of death! Where hath he not gathered? What hath he not won of life, of health, of power or feebleness, of fame or shame? What is there of all the varieties of life unrepresented here? It is the register of his labors, and each mark presents the fate of a human soul!

Behold him—his gaunt arms sweeping into the abyss of his lap multitudes of trembling creatures, the materials of his work, for he is fashioning a chain. Draw nigh and examine it—long, living, endless it interweaves and enthralls society with a warp of death woven from out itself. His quick fingers—for the work is urgent and goes on night and day—string together the writhing forms, and as coil upon coil rolls out, you may see again how vast is the scope of his labors! Ay! no rank is free, no family circle, no happy range of friendship! From his high seat the demon scans the field, and, as the fingers swiftly ply, follows with greedy eyes the labors of his attendant imps. Far below him, you may see them gathering in that strange spoil. In spired and pillared city, in smoky manufacturing town, in valleys resounding with hum and clang of labor—labor blessed of God, cursed of this potent fiend!—neath peaceful eaves of pastoral homes, amid pretty woodbined hamlets, see those busy workers gathering in the demon's prey. Oh! how much falls to their snares, of the best of the life and hope and promise of a goodly land! What ministers! Widespread as society, active as angels of grace, pernicious as hell!

And as they scour the world in reckless energy, for his rewards are right generous and rich, he, the drink demon, sweeps into his lap their shrinking spoil, and twists the living victims one by one into a great chain of life and death. —Edward Jenkins.

MADE A DRUNKARD BY A MEDICAL PRESCRIPTION.

A funeral took place in Paterson, N. J., the other day of a young wife. The physician's certificate of death was "died of chronic alcoholism." The husband said:

"Our marriage had been a happy one until my wife was ordered to take whisky. I am not to blame for the scandal. Although I have been a temperance man for fifty-nine years I was forced to give my wife liquor at home or suffer scandal or disgrace." The story is a sad one.

On the death of her child about a year ago she was taken ill. In an evil moment the attending physician prescribed whisky for her. She continued to use it and almost before the husband knew it his young wife was a drunkard. The craving for liquor overmastered her.

For more than half a century her husband had been a total abstainer. He has a horror of liquor. He consented to its being administered to his wife because the doctor said it was necessary.

When he found that his wife had become a slave to liquor he tried to keep it from her. This was impossible, for if she could not get it at home she would go out for it. On that account the husband gave her all she demanded to prevent scandal.—National Advocate.

PLATFORM POINTERS.

PENCIL POINTS.

On which side of the argument are the facts?

Our people need to know of the evils resulting from the saloon and the dive. Enlightened Christians do not go on upholding evil.

It is the province of the ministry to instruct the church in the "mind of Christ."

It is all right to be loyal to God, church, country and family. Party, though a very necessary thing, does not belong in that high list.

Party should be used, not worshipped. The independent is the man whose vote is sought; whose wishes are consulted.

The absolutely loyal party man need not be consulted. He can be depended on by the managers.

Christian independence within party lines can make itself mightily felt for righteousness.

The saloon plans to live on the money it obtains from the people.

It is not particular to give quid pro quo.

Indeed, the less it gives out the greater the profits.

Nor is it always scrupulous to keep within the law in its efforts after funds.

The saloon in business:

- Creates unnatural appetite.
- Appeals to passion.
- Diverts revenues from other trade.
- Encourages loafing.
- Abets vice.

The saloon in politics—

- Is selfish; seeks its own only.
- Cares only for "our business."
- Is not interested in traffic reform.
- Does not stand for the good of the city.
- Is utterly unscrupulous.

The saloon in social life—

- Is brother to the brothel.
- Makes drunkards.
- Causes widowhood and grief.
- Starts orphan's tears.
- Antagonizes all good.

—E.G.S., in Minnesota Issue.

WEARY OF BEING A DRUNKARD.

"This is a great downfall for me, but I hope to regain myself again. Some day I may show people that I am not hopeless."

Edward W. Field, favorite son of Cyrus Field, the multi-millionaire "father" of the transatlantic cable, spoke thus in the alcoholic ward of Bellevue hospital after sobering up from a long debauch.

A millionaire once, he has become a tramp, and it is said that there is scarcely a city in the United States which he has visited where he has not been locked up for intoxication.

In 1892 the brokerage firm of Field, Lindley, Wiechers & Co., of which young Field was senior partner, failed for \$3,000,000; and he was indicted for larceny.

Before the trial he was adjudged insane and sent to an asylum in Buffalo. When he came out his father was dead of a broken heart.

"My affairs were tangled up beyond unraveling," he said. "Only death remained for me—or drink."

"I chose drink and became a wanderer, driven by restlessness from place to place."

"But I have had enough to drink now. I am going to fight this craving for liquor with all the strength that's left me."

"And I'll win out, I'm bound to win out. I want to be a respected man again and rich."

The attendants at Bellevue were skeptical about the man's statement that he was Edward W. Field, the son of the famous Cyrus Field, but Dr. Willard Parker, of No. 8 West Ninth street, who knows him well, says it is he.—N. Y. Witness.

ALCOHOL AND MATERNITY.

The number of inquests on victims of drink in Liverpool last year was two hundred and sixteen. In commenting upon this in his annual report, Dr. Hope, the medical officer of health for that city, says:—"The mischief is far more insidious and far more serious and widespread than the inquests indicate."

Dr. Sullivan publishes some interesting details of his observations on the influence of maternal inebriety alone upon infant mortality—that is, apart from incidental neglect and cruelty to the infants. His inquiries were made in respect to a series of female drunkards in the Liverpool prison, and his aim was to discover the effects of alcoholism alone. He found that out of six hundred children of inebriate mothers, 335, including stillborn, died below two years of age, only 265 living over that age. He noted also the progressive efforts of alcohol on the children in their order of birth; for instance, in one family the three first-born children were healthy, the fourth was of defective intelligence, the fifth an epileptic idiot, the sixth was dead-born, and the seventh pregnancy ended in an abortion. Extending his inquiries he ascertained that in a series of cases of children born of drunken mothers, 55.2 per cent. of the children died under two years of age, as against 23.9 per cent. dying amongst children born of sober mothers in similar circumstances of life. He also notes a greater likelihood of survival of the infants when the mother had been imprisoned during part of the pregnancy, and has consequently had the advantage of an enforced Temperance.—Alliance News.

TEETOTAL TOMMY.

While the accounts of these wonderful marches from Modder River to Bloemfontein and from Bloemfontein to Kroonstad are fresh in our minds it is very gratifying to learn upon the authority of the Field Marshal that these marvellous achievements were accomplished through the remarkable steadiness of the troops. At a meeting held recently at Bloemfontein Lord Roberts said "he was proud to be the leader of 'the best behaved army in the world.' They had fought splendidly, marched uncomplainingly, and endured all the hardships of the campaign. The whole army have been members of the Army Temperance Association. Modder River was all they had to drink and sometimes little of that." And again in a letter to the Hon. Conrad Dillon Lord Roberts has repeated his appreciation of the conduct of his troops, and stated that he believed "that nothing but good can result from so many soldiers from all parts of the Empire being brought together in an arduous campaign when they see how splendidly our temperance men have borne up against the many difficulties and dangers which they had to face."—Scottish Reformer.

CIVILIZATION?

Khama, the King of the Bamangwatos, had passed a law that no liquor should be sold in his territory, under heavy penalty, and also that no trader having liquor in his possession for sale should enter his kingdom, or even be permitted to pass through any portion of it. Along came an English trader, Mr. "X," who smuggled several cases of alcohol into the territory. Being detected, "X" was ordered out of the country. After trekking a short distance, he buried his alcohol, returned, "bled atrociously" to the king about it, and afterwards sold it to the king's subjects. His perfidy was discovered and he fled; but the king's soldiers hunted him down. "X" was fined £100 for breaking the law, and formally expelled from the territory as a dangerous character. What a pitiful spectacle is this, of an ignorant African savage struggling with intelligent European Christians (?) to save his people from the horrors of intemperance, a vice thrust upon him by civilization—Good Templars Watchword.

LOCK UP THE SALOON.

A poor woman stood near the magistrate who was hearing the case. "Drunk; third arrest," against her husband. It was quickly decided, but somehow the pathetic face of the woman touched the judge, and he said to her: "I am sorry but I must lock up your husband." She did not seem one who would be a deep thinker, but was there not deep wisdom in her sad and quick reply: "Your honor, wouldn't it be better for me and the children if you locked up the saloon and let my husband go to work?"—Temperance Cause.

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 100,000 voters begin to get in their work. 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.

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