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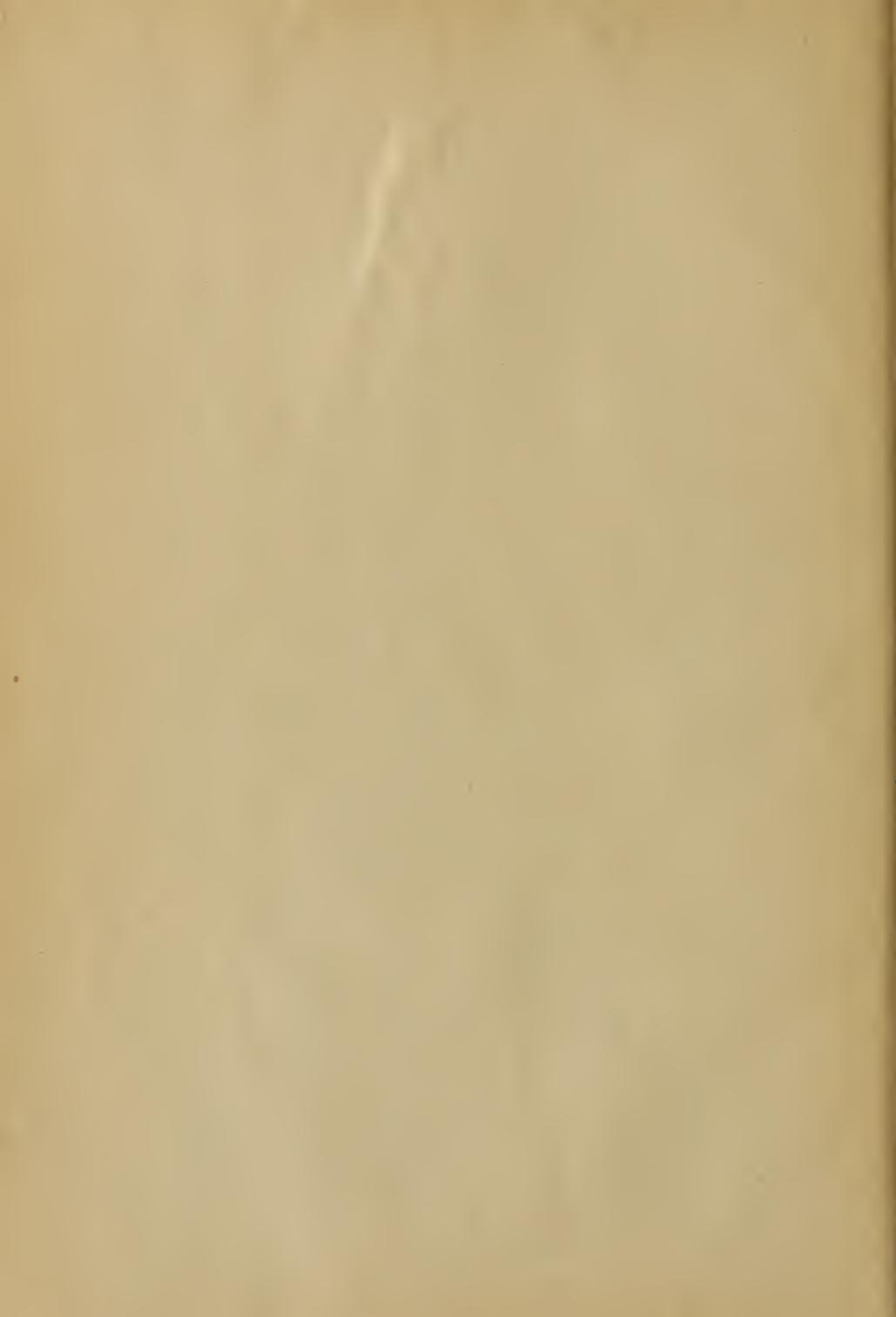
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA









A

# Temperance Pamphlet.

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I. ESSAY ON THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL UPON SOCIETY.

II. AN APPEAL TO YOUNG MEN.

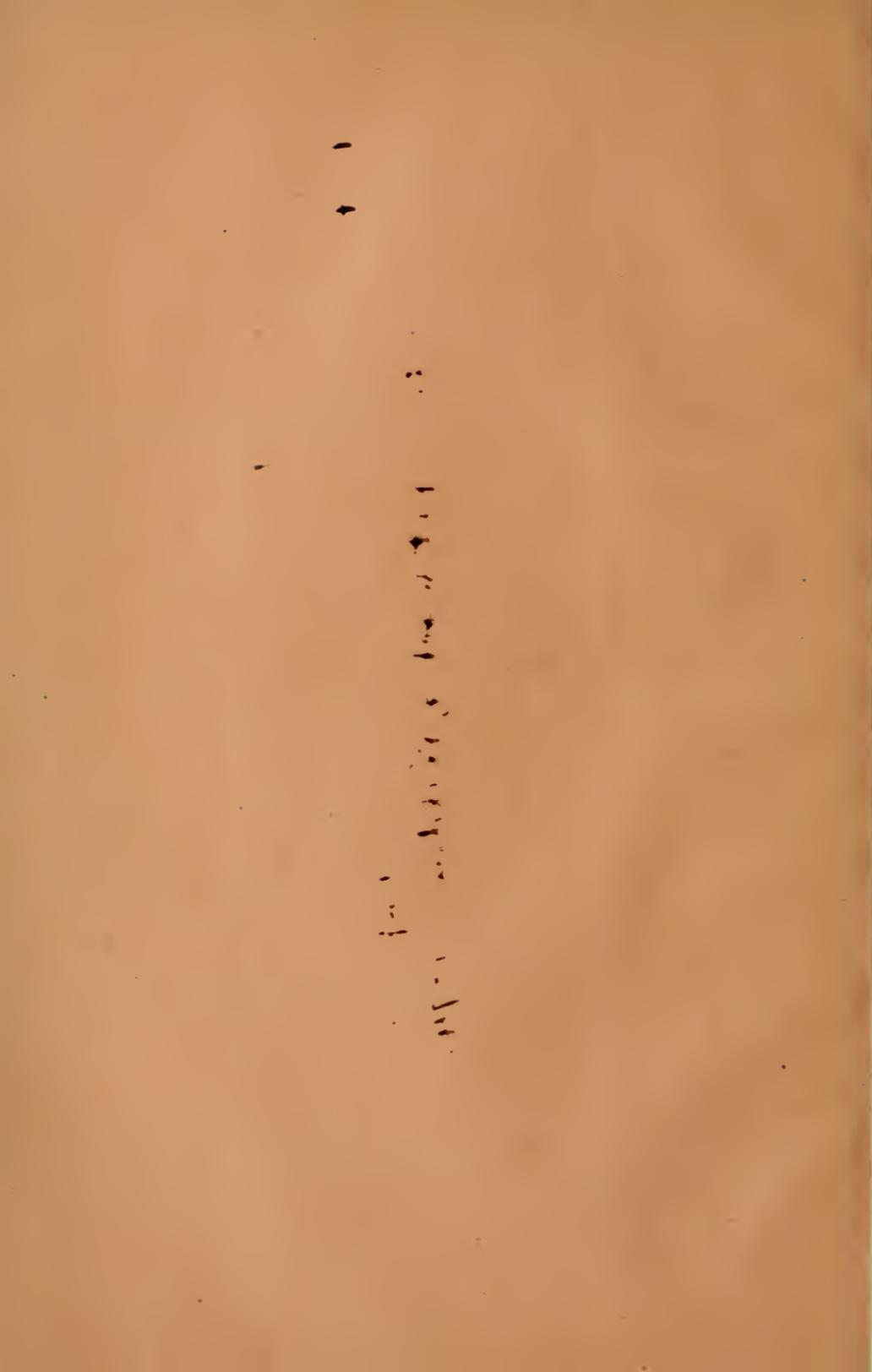
III. A FEW WORDS ON PROHIBITION.

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BY

EDWARD THOMSON, M. A.,

PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY IN BALDWIN UNIVERSITY.



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# TEMPERANCE PAMPHLET.

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# AN ESSAY

ON

## THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL UPON SOCIETY.

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WE are to consider an evil that has darkened the history of every age, and cursed the inhabitants of every land ; one that has blighted many a genius, and crushed many a noble spirit. It has robbed the family circle of its charms, and destroyed the social affections. It has deprived youth of beauty and vigor, and made dishonorable the gray hairs of age. It has entered the palaces of kings, and defiled legislative and judicial assemblies. It has made miserable the mansions of the rich, and fiendish the hovels of the poor.

Statesmen and philosophers, heroes and poets, have been cursed by its influence. Wherever it has prevailed, among any nation or community, it has had a tendency to produce physical degeneracy, mental imbecility, and moral degradation. And yet it stalks abroad through our own beloved land, unprevented, to any great extent, by the force of civil law, and undenounced, by the majority of the people.

With these general remarks, we shall proceed to trace out *the effects of alcohol upon society*. And, first, as a *physical* evil.

The eminent English scientist, Dr. Wm. B. Carpenter, President of the British Association, etc., has classified the diseases produced by alcohol as follows :

### I. DISEASES OF THE ALIMENTARY CANAL.

1. Irritation and inflammation of the mucous membrane of the stomach.
2. Inflammatory Gastric Dyspepsia.
3. Disorders of the intestinal mucous membrane.

## II. DISEASES OF THE LIVER.

1. Congestion.
2. Acute and chronic inflammation.

## III. DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS.

## IV. DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

## V. GENERAL DISORDERS OF NUTRITION.

1. Tendency to deposition of fat.
2. Diminished power of sustaining injuries.
3. Liability to epidemic diseases.
4. Gout and rheumatism.
5. Diseases of the heart and arteries.

## VI. ABRIDGMENT OF LIFE BY INTEMPERANCE.

Dr. Alfred S. Taylor, F. R. S., in his work on Toxicology, prepared with special reference to the medico-legal practice, calls habitual alcoholic intoxication *chronic poisoning*, and says :

“After death, morbid changes are discovered in various organs ; the liver is especially affected. This organ is commonly enlarged, and of a lighter color than natural. It is called the ‘nutmeg, or drunkard’s liver.’ It is not unusual to find the kidneys in a state of granular degeneration. . . . Alcohol is undoubtedly absorbed, and may be detected in the blood, urine, and tissues.”

Dr. N. S. Davis, President of the Chicago Medical College, recently instituted a series of sphygmographic observations on the effects of alcohol on the circulation. He thus sums up the results of his experiments in the *Chicago Medical Examiner*:

“1. Its presence in the blood directly interferes with the normal play of vital affinities and cell-action, in such a manner as to diminish the rapidity of nutrition and disintegration, and, consequently, to diminish the dependent functions of elimination, calorification, and innervation, thereby making a positive organic sedative instead of a diffusible stimulant, as is popularly supposed both in and out of the profession.

“2. Alcohol itself acts in the system exclusively as a foreign substance, incapable of assimilation or decomposition by the vital functions, and is ultimately excreted or eliminated without chemical change.”

This is the language of, perhaps, as high medical authority as there is in our land.

It is a fact in science, well-known to all who have studied physiology, that the organs of the human body are incapable of

digesting and receiving nourishment from any compounds other than those which are put up by processes of growth, or, as scientists usually term them, *ascending processes*. And when substances which are the result of a process of decay (and the fermentation process is a process of decay) are introduced into the system, they act merely as foreign substances, incapable of assimilation or decomposition by the vital functions.

The most *nourishing*, as many say, of *alcoholic tonics* (the light wines, ale, beer, porter, etc.) are not nourishing at all, for the simple reason that all the real nourishment—all the sugar that was in the fruit, and all the starch that was in the grain—has been lost in transformation, and all the substances which can be found, by the strictest chemical analysis, in any of the alcoholic liquors, are pure alcohol, carbonic-acid, and water: none of which can give any real strength to the human system.

I call your attention to another scientific fact, in this connection. The improper use of any organ weakens and debilitates, and finally destroys, its capacity for normal action.

So the habitual introduction into the digestive organs of a substance which they are incapable of decomposing and assimilating, produces constant irritation and inflammation of the mucous membrane, until finally the stomach and intestines are worn out by unnatural use. Thus, as the capacity for the digestion of ordinary food is diminished, there is a corresponding diminution of the natural appetite for such food, and a corresponding increase in the appetite for unnatural food. Thus, with a rapidly decreasing capacity for sustaining the constant waste of the system by the ordinary process of nutrition, the vitality of the system is rapidly diminished, and premature death ensues. Sixty thousand drunkards die annually in the United States. All these die prematurely; that is, in some cases, one, two, three, in others, five, ten, twenty, years before their physical nature would have been exhausted had they lived sober men. And therefore the country loses, by their deaths, just that many years of honorable labor; amounting in the aggregate, in our own land, to millions of dollars a year. So much for the effects of alcohol, in a physical way, upon the nation.

Let us next consider its injurious effects upon the *mental* part of society. Alcohol is classed, in all recent works on Toxicology, along with opium, prussic-acid, and chloroform, as a *brain poison*. Though it attacks other organs—the liver, the kidneys, and interferes with circulation and digestion—yet the great seat of its action is the brain. We have all of us seen *a priori* proof of this in the perverted vision and deranged reasoning of a drunken man, and it has been confirmed to men of science by *post-mortem* examinations.

Dr. Percy, in his prize essay, entitled "An Inquiry on Alcohol," speaks of having distilled *pure alcohol* from a deceased drunkard's brain. In a bound volume of the *London Medical Times and Gazette* of the year 1853, Dr. Albers gives an account of the examination of the body of a drunkard twenty-four hours after death. He says he found "the convolutions of the brain of a pale yellow hue, the cerebral substance unusually tough, the cerebral ganglia very small, the brain smelt like must, and half a drachm of rectified spirits was distilled from it." Now, if the organ which is the seat of the mind is diseased, disordered, the mind is prevented from natural, sane action. And so we find it. The drunken man can not think correctly or profoundly. The mental faculties are either numbed or crazed. But I may here be met with the idea that some of our greatest orators have been drunk when they made their greatest speeches. That may be so; but do not permit yourselves to think that the thoughts which then came forth were *born* in a poisoned, disordered brain. They were *created* at previous sober moments, when the brain was clear and free and active, and were only *recalled* at the time of speaking. And it is not unreasonable, holding the theory we have advanced, that men of *remarkable* memories should be enabled, even in a state of partial intoxication, to recall thoughts that had been produced with great effort, and deeply impressed on the mental perception. But we all know that, with the majority of men, when drunk, all the mental faculties, even including the memory, are sluggish, and almost blank. From this, may we not reasonably conclude that an habitual drunkard is not a

proper person with whom to intrust business of any kind? And this, I think, is the fact, as generally observed.

Thomas Jefferson, at the close of his second term, declared, that if he were President again, he would involve a fourth in regard to every applicant for office, in addition to the three with which he had started out; namely, "Is he honest? is he capable? and is he a friend of the Constitution?" and the additional one would be, Is he in the habit of using ardent spirits? "And," said Mr. Jefferson, "if I should find that the applicant were in that habit, I would never appoint him to any office whatever; for my sad experience and observation have taught me that such a man is not fit for public office."

But, further, habitual intoxication not only produces incapacity for business, but frequently leads to permanent insanity. Go to our lunatic asylums, and you will find hundreds of raving maniacs sent there for no other reason than that "alcohol," as Shakespeare has it, "had eaten out their brains." Dr. W. L. Peck, Superintendent of the Central Ohio Lunatic Asylum, says, in a letter to myself, that the books of that institution show that at least ten per cent of the patients treated there were made insane directly by the use of alcoholic liquors.

Lord Shaftsbury, in speaking from his own knowledge and experience, as Commissioner of Lunacy for the United Kingdom of Great Britain for twenty years, says, "Fully six-tenths of all the cases of insanity to be found in these realms arise from the habit of intemperance in which the people have indulged."

At a *Permissive Bill* meeting, held at Burdett Hall, in the city of London, the chair was occupied by Dr. Edward Moore, who stated, in his remarks on taking the chair, that at the last annual meeting of the Psychological Society of England, of which he was a member, he had made inquiries, of various gentlemen familiar with the statistics and treatment of insanity, as to the proportion of cases of that malady attributable to the use of intoxicating liquors, and all of them had given a very high percentage—some fifty, some seventy, and others even ninety per cent.

Having briefly considered the *physical* and *mental* effects of

alcohol upon society, we shall proceed to show its *moral effects*. As a man's body becomes diseased, by the frequent introduction of alcohol into the system, and the mind, on this account, ceases to perform its natural and noble functions, the baser and physical desires predominate over the higher and moral, and therefore we find associated with, and as a consequence of, intemperance, crime, lust, and loss of natural affection.

First, then, it is a cause of crime. Alcohol is a narcotizer; and, hence, the drunken man is very impressible. Every thing seems to him as in sleep, or under the influence of opium—in an unnatural, extravagant light. The most trifling provocation is the cause of a fight; a word is taken as an insult, the clench of a fist as a blow. Macbeth could not think of murdering the noble Duncan, his friend, his benefactor, his kinsman, until his wife had mixed his drink; and then, with brain all set on fire, with noiseless, stealthy tread, he staggered to the bed of the sleeping king, and plunged the dagger to his breast. And from that day to this, the murderers have been drunkards.

Nearly all the men who fill the jails, and swing from the gallows, were drunk when they committed the deed that sentenced them to prison or to death. Tuiller, hung in 1868, at Wilkesbarre, Penn., for murder in the first degree, said, in his speech upon the gallows: "I have only a few words to say to you, my friends; that is, *to warn you against the use of strong drink*. You that indulge in it, take warning from to-day." Andrew Price, hung at Ironton, in this State, on April 2, 1869, said: "Before I close, I wish to lift up my voice to warn young men of their dangers. Drinking-saloons and dens of infamy are multiplying in our land, and thousands are being ruined every year. O, young men, beware, beware! Whisky and bad company were the means of my ruin. If you are turning a deaf ear to the pulpit, will you not hear the gallows?" And with these words, he swung into eternity.

But let us now listen to the testimony of those who have had extensive observation in criminal statistics. Judge Cady, of New York, aged eighty-four, declares that "the greater portion of the trials for murder, and assault and battery, that had been

brought into court since his entrance upon the practice of law, originated in drunkenness." Judge Patterson, in addressing a grand jury, said, "If it were not for this *drinking*, you and I would have nothing to do." Judge Gurney once said, "Every crime has its origin, more or less, in drunkenness." Judge Coleridge, of England, says, "There is scarcely a crime that comes before me that is not caused, directly or indirectly, by strong drink." Judge Wightman, of the Queen's Bench, said, "I find, in every calendar that comes before me, one unfailing source, directly or indirectly, of most of the crimes committed—*intemperance*." Lord Acton, Supreme Judge of Rome, says, "Nearly all the crimes of Rome originate in wine." Mr. Wakely, Coroner of Liverpool, says, "Gin may be thought to be the best friend I have; for it causes me to hold at least one thousand more inquests annually than I would otherwise." The Rev. O. H. Newton, Chaplain of the Ohio Penitentiary, says that "sevenths of the men who come here for crime, are in the habit of using intoxicating drinks." The warden of the Massachusetts State-prison says, "During my eleven years' connection with this institution, twenty-one persons were imprisoned for killing their wives, two for killing their fathers, and one for killing his mother; and all these but one were habitual drunkards, and drunk when the crime was committed. These men," he adds, "were not bad men, except when under the influence of liquor." The Board of Metropolitan Police, Washington City, in a recent report to Congress, say, "We are fully impressed with the belief that the excessive use of intoxicating drink is the greatest evil to which communities are exposed; for to it may be traced nearly all the cases of poverty, disease, and crime, public disorder and moral degradation, which so afflict society." In the Twentieth Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the Prison Association of New York, it is said, "Of all the proximate sources of crime, the use of intoxicating liquors is the most prolific and most deadly; others slay their thousands, but this its tens of thousands."

To more fully illustrate this point—for I regard it as a very important one in the argument—let me give you some

statistics, to show the amount of crime annually committed in the country.

The Hon. E. D. Mansfield, several years ago, published some valuable statistics on this subject, so far as it concerned Ohio. He estimated that thirty per cent of all the crimes in this State are immediately due to intemperance. In 1867, out of 433 convictions for crimes of violence, 267 were committed under the influence of liquor. The percentage of crimes not appearing in judicial returns is not included in this estimate. If it was possible to get a full and fair computation, we would undoubtedly find that at least seventy-five per cent of all the crimes, outrages, and disorders of our State are traceable to intemperance and the drunkard-maker's traffic.

But let us widen our observation, so as to take in some of the great cities of the Union. The police of New York City make seventy thousand arrests in a year. In Philadelphia there are forty-one thousand arrests annually; and in Chicago twenty-five thousand. And the large majority of all these are caused by intemperance.

There are annually in the United States three hundred and eighty cases of suicide, seven hundred murders, one thousand three hundred and fifty rapes, four thousand robberies, four thousand cases of arson, one hundred thousand of larceny and theft, and nearly all these are committed by the slaves of King Alcohol.

It is scarcely necessary that I should state to you—for every one who reads these pages *knows*, from his own observation—that intemperance is the great cause of lust in our land. The men who commit the rapes and adulteries, who support the brothels of the land, are chiefly those whom alcohol fires with unnatural passions, and over whom sober reason has lost its sway.

But, further, *alcohol destroys the social affections*. It so bestializes the man as to kill all the finer feelings of his nature, and render him incapable of discharging the tender duties of the domestic relation—incapable of being a father or a husband. He generally ceases to be the supporter of his family, and, unless the mother, with untiring industry, provides, with

her own hands, for the necessities of the little ones, they all go down together to poverty and wretchedness.

I saw a lovely couple stand at the hymeneal altar ; and as the man, with noble and athletic form, with mind that could grapple with the great questions of the day, with a soul pure as the sunlight, with a heart full of love to her who stood beside him, took the little hand in his, and in a manly voice declared that "long as they should live, he would love, honor, support, and comfort her," you would have thought that they were bound together with a more than human tie. But he sought the poison-bowl, became a sot, forgot his vow, and dragged her who had buried her own name to take up his, who had deserted the home of father and mother to be the light and comfort of his,—with the blackened heart of a villain, he dragged her down to the lowest depths of earthly misery, *to be a drunkard's wife.*

When the shades of night come on, I see the little children standing at the gate, waiting for papa to come home from work ; and, when they catch the first glimpse of his smiling face, they run to meet him with the evening kiss. And, when he comes in the house, and takes them on his knee, and tells a pretty story, or sings some sweet lullaby, it seems as if an angel had come in. But see the same father, three months later, as, staggering with maddened frenzy, he comes in the house, while the same little children, with trembling fear, run for protection to their mother's arms. O, no, no ! he is not the same father ; for *alcohol has transformed him from a father to a tyrant, from a man to a beast.*

I once heard of a drunkard who, ceasing to work and thus obtain money to buy his liquor, sold off every article of household furniture, piece by piece, until nothing was left but a little table. About this time, his baby-child died in its mother's arms ; and when the neighbors came, they *laid out* the little corpse upon the table. But *the father*, when the devilish appetite came on, pushed off the beautiful little body on to the bare floor, and carried off the table to pawn it for liquor.

Some time ago, a man by the name of Weathers, near Louisville, Ky., coming home late at night, drunk, asked his little

boy, a four-year-old, to spell a word which it was impossible for the child to do. Enraged at what he imagined to be disobedience, he beat the child with a club till its whole body was lacerated with bleeding wounds, and then, not heeding the cries and screams of the little one, he held it over a hot fire, till the whole body was burned to a blister. And such things as these are tolerated in this land, and no law enacted that shall *prohibit* the traffic in this liquid fire of hell.

But this is not all. The effects of intemperance stop not with the drunkard; they also injure the coming generation. An appetite for strong drink is transmitted from parent to child. This has been known and observed since the times of Plutarch and Aristotle. Plutarch says, "One drunkard begets another." Aristotle observed, "Drunken women bring forth drunken children."

Dr. Elam, of London, in a work recently published, entitled "Physicians' Problems," discusses, incidentally, the subject of Oinomania. "I assert that this disease is almost as well and characteristically marked, in its psychological aspects, as small-pox is in its physical; that it is hereditary, and that its victims unjustly crowd our criminal assemblies. . . . The instincts of an oinomaniac seem to be as violent, and as little under control from the intellect or will, as that of a carnivorous animal when it tastes blood. The alcohol poison acts, as any careful observer must have noted, as rapidly upon the will as upon the blood and stomach."

Every authority upon the subject coincides in the opinion that the habit of *moderate drinking*, as well as excessive drunkenness, in the parent, manifests itself invariably in the child in oinomania, or in epileptic or insane tendencies. I have known of cases where the grandfather was living, a vigorous old *tansy-bitters* advocate, while the children and grandchildren, in spite of moral and religious training, had gone down to the drunkard's grave. "Moderate drinking," says an eminent authority on diseases of the brain, "sometimes produces, in one or more of the children of the person thus indulging, only a simple neuropathy, or a vicious and defective organization; but these, *when due to*

*such an origin*, are capable of giving rise, in the next or third generation, to affections of the mind of the gravest character."

The superintendent of the Ohio Lunatic Asylum recently said that "a citizen of this State married an intelligent lady, who bore him ten children. After the birth of the first three, the father became intemperate, and during his career as an inebriate four children were born to him ; he then reformed entirely, and had three others. The first three and last three were smart and intelligent, and became useful men and women ; of the four born during his inebriety, two have died in the lunatic asylum, one is there to-day, and the fourth is an idiot." In the idiotic asylums of England and Wales, there are two hundred inmates, and one hundred and forty-five of these had drunkards for their parents."

When we think of these things, we are not surprised that the people in the Principality of Waldeck, in Germany, should have passed a law refusing to grant license to marry to any man in the habit of getting drunk. And if a similar law were enacted by the Congress of these United States, thousands of women and children would be saved from lives of degradation and misery.

Permit me next to consider the *financial effects of alcohol upon society*.

Drunkeness is a producer of poverty. Let the father be a drunkard, and elegant homes are soon exchanged for hovels of misery, well-dressed and happy children soon go begging in rags. Ten years ago, Thomas C—— was an industrious and highly respected citizen of my native town, and worth, it was thought, about ten thousand dollars ; but *he drank it up*. To-day, *poor, half-blind, rheumatic*, he drives a dray through the streets of Delaware ; while the man who got his money, *fat, lazy, gouty*, draws the interest on his gold-bearing bonds.

It takes but a few years of intemperance for the intelligent rich man to change places with the ignorant rumseller. And while the *illiterate* rumseller may be sitting at ease in the costly mansion, the educated drunkard grooms the horses in the stable. And such a change of property is injurious to society. It is not a change of property gained by labor ; and *those which are*

*secured by labor are the only ones beneficial to the business of society.* In fact, there is no *labor* at all in this kind of a transaction. It is really a *cutter-off* of labor. One of the parties to the transaction—the drunkard—is made by it unfit, more or less, for real labor; while the other—the rumseller—is prevented by his patrons from engaging in any honorable manual or mental labor.

But these are not all the bad financial effects that we may discover in the transaction. The money is usually and primarily taken out of the hands of a man who, by mental capacity and moral education, is able to spend it properly, to speculate wisely, and donate beneficently, and put into the hands of a man who, by rudeness of education, by lack of mental and moral worth, and lack of sympathy with benevolent enterprises, is totally unfitted for its possession and distribution. And, according to the last report of Ex-Commissioner Wells, fifteen hundred millions of dollars change hands in this way in our own country every year.

The financial effects of alcohol upon the country are further to be seen in the fact that every-where the people are heavily taxed for the maintenance of lunatic asylums, idiotic asylums, prisons, penitentiaries, and poor-houses, of any of which we would have little need if we had no intemperance. That you may get an idea of the amount of taxation we often pay for such purposes, let me give you an item which I clipped, some time ago, from the South-Bend (Ind.) *Register*: "Some thirty years ago, Jonathan Beckwith, a young lawyer of decided promise, bought a pint of whisky, and, getting drunk, wandered out on the Terra Coupee Prairie, one cold Winter night, and was so badly frozen that he lost his reason and the use of his limbs, and has been ever since, until his death, two weeks ago, an inmate of the county poor-house, an insane cripple. His keeping during this time has cost the county no less than eight thousand dollars."

This is the startling amount that the people are frequently taxed to pay, in order that one man may pocket a few cents profit on a pint of whisky. Pennsylvania has a criminal and

pauper population of twenty-four thousand and four—nineteenths of these from intemperance, and maintained at a cost of two million two hundred and fifty-nine thousand nine hundred and ten dollars and sixty-six cents, or five dollars and eighty cents for every voter in the State. The State revenue for license is three hundred and seventeen thousand seven hundred and forty-two dollars and seventy-five cents ; while the cost for supporting intemperate criminals and paupers is two million two hundred and fifty-nine thousand nine hundred and ten dollars and sixty-six cents.

May I ask your attention to one more statement ? It has been estimated that two hundred thousand orphans of drunkards are annually bequeathed to the public charities of the people of the United States. This is the great host that the State is bound to maintain through infancy and childhood, because their drunken parents die prematurely, without having accumulated any property to leave for their maintenance.

Perhaps we have continued the argument to sufficient length. Let us now recapitulate. The use of alcoholic liquors is,—

First, a physical evil ; affecting the capacity for physical labor, and shortening the physical life.

Second, it is a mental evil ; affecting the capacity for mental labor, and often dethroning the reason itself.

Third, it is a moral evil ; producing a large proportion of the crimes of every land.

Fourth, it is a domestic evil ; so destroying the affections as to render one incapable of discharging the tender duties of the conjugal and parental relations.

Fifth, it is a propagating evil ; transmitting to coming generations an appetite for strong drink, and frequently entailing mental weakness and imbecility.

Sixth, it is an impoverishing evil ; affecting not only those who indulge in it, and their families, but also the State itself.

But if the argument I have made is correct, it is capable of being confirmed. Let me cite you to some instances where the sale of intoxicating liquors has been prohibited, and show you the result.

In the county of Tyrone, Ireland, are five town-lands under the agency of the vice-president of the Temperance League. Their united area is fifty-five square miles, and population nine thousand. Before the extinction of public houses where intoxicating liquors were sold, there were police-barracks, and the poor-rate was one shilling and four-pence in the pound; since their extinction, the police-barracks have been removed—for it was found there was no need of them—and the poor-rate has fallen to five-pence to six-pence in the pound, while it still remains at one shilling to one shilling six-pence in the pound in the adjoining town-lands of the same county. In the year in which the law was enacted closing the liquor-shops on Sabbath throughout Scotland, a bill was, at the same session of Parliament, passed in behalf of the municipal authorities of Edinburgh, to enable them to raise and charge on the inhabitants of that city the sum of twelve thousand pounds for enlarging the jail, which had been found greatly insufficient for the number of offenders in that locality. In a few weeks after the closing of the liquor-shops on Sunday, the number of criminals was reduced one-third, and the criminality of the people continued so perceptibly to diminish that the authorities finally gave up all idea of enlarging the jail; and to this day not a penny of the twelve thousand pounds has been raised, and no necessity has ever demanded a larger jail.

Some quarter of a century ago, a few citizens of New Braintree, Mass., determined that they would banish intoxicating drinks from their community. To make the enterprise sure, the citizens subscribed a sum of seven thousand dollars, built a temperance hotel, and employed a landlord to run it rent-free. A correspondent of the New York *Evening Post*, going to that quiet, thrifty town, not long ago, says that the stage-driver spoke to him as they passed the poor-house farm, and said:

“There is a funny place.”

“Why so?” asked the correspondent.

“Because it is the poor-house farm, and there is not a pauper in it; and I suppose the reason is, that some thirty years ago a temperance tavern was started here, no liquors have been sold

since, and there is no drinking nor drunkenness, and not a pauper in the town."

In the State of New Jersey, there is a city of ten thousand inhabitants, called Vineland, where no grog-shops or licensed liquor-saloons are tolerated. During the entire year, there has been but one indictment, and that a trifling case of assault and battery ; they have no city debt, and their taxes are only one per cent on the valuation ; their police expenses are seventy-five dollars a year, and poor expenses about ten dollars a year. This, remember, in a city of ten thousand inhabitants, and all this because there is no liquor there.

And I think we have every reason to believe that, if we should *abolish* alcohol from our land, our prisons and jails would soon be emptied, lunatic asylums, idiotic asylums, orphan asylums, poor-houses would be almost unknown, the rate of taxation would be greatly diminished, the pecuniary, the physical, the mental, the moral wealth of the community would be greatly augmented, and prosperity and happiness would reign in triumph over all.

## AN APPEAL TO YOUNG MEN.

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YOUNG GENTLEMEN,—You are the hope of future years. You are to be the pillars of both Church and State when the men who now bear the toils and cares of the nation lie silent in the grave. It is, therefore, your duty to mankind, to your country, and to God, to prepare yourselves as best you can for these great and responsible positions. Let me tell you that one of the best qualifications you can have is abstinence from intoxicating drink. I can think of no better way to impress you with this truth than to picture a drunkard's life, and thus show how uncalculated he is to discharge any important duty.

'T is a cold, dark Winter night. The moon is hid ; not a star is seen. A chilling blast is wailing ; all decent families are sleeping in their quiet homes ; but there goes the drunkard. He has just been put forth from a grog-shop, and he is now staggering his way homeward. He comes to the little cabin, lifts the latch, and enters. But what does he behold ? A well-ordered house, and happy family ? Ah, no ! There, in one corner of the cold room, upon a rough, wooden bench, sits his half-starved, half-frozen wife ; by her side is a rude cradle, and in it an infant cold in death. In another corner lies a little boy, clad in rags, upon whose face but yesterday there sparkled two bright, blue eyes, and on his cheeks did bloom the blush of youth ; but now all signs of life are gone.

The drunkard hears a voice—'tis his wife's : " Charles, behold what a drunkard's life has led you to ! You have killed your children, and almost murdered your wife."

When we look at this picture, we are constrained to cry, " Who hath woe, who hath sorrow," more than " they that tarry long at the wine?"

“O, when we swallow down  
 Intoxicating wine, we drink damnation.  
 Naked we stand, the sport of mocking fiends,  
 Who grin to see our noble nature vanquished,  
 Subdued to beasts.”

We see the drunkard again. Appetite calls ; he yields ; and, leaving his home, soon arrives at the grog-shop. Once more he drinks the intoxicating cup ; soon his eyes are inflamed, and his mind beclouded. In this state he insults a friend ; a contest comes on, in which the latter is master, and the former lies bleeding on the floor.

When we see this picture, we may exclaim, “Who hath contentions, who hath babbling, who hath wounds without cause, who hath redness of eyes,” more than “they that go to seek mixed wine ?”

“In the embattled plain,  
 Though death exults and claps his raven wings,  
 Yet reigns he not even there so absolute,  
 So merciless, as in yon frantic scenes  
 Of midnight revel and tumultuous mirth,  
 Where, in the intoxicating draught concealed,  
 He snares the simple youth, who, naught suspecting,  
 Means to be blest, but finds himself undone.”

We see the drunkard again. Now the *delirium tremens* is upon him ; there he lies, in terrible agonies of death. He sees vile forms of reptiles upon the wall, devils frown upon him as they walk about the room, serpents drag their slimy forms along his limbs, vipers fill his boots, adders sting his breast ; all the torments of hell are fastened on him. When we see this picture, we are compelled to say, “At last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.”

He dies ; but no angels come from heaven to bear his departing spirit to the bosom of his God. The *remains* are placed in a rude wooden box, and borne in a cart to the paupers' grave-yard. Near by are three new-made graves, and in them lie a starved and frozen family. Now his corpse is lowered to its final resting-place. No mourning family come to weep o'er the place ; no sorrowing nation pays him honor at

his burial ; no seraph voices chant sweet music at his funeral ; but he goes

“Down to the dust from which he sprung,  
Unwept, unhonored, and unsung.”

No lofty monument will be lifted ; no tall, green grass shall wave ; no weeping-willow bend her boughs ; no friendly hand shall plant a rose to bloom on the spot where he sleeps.

Twelve years ago, that man graduated from an Eastern university ; he stood first in his class. Two years later he was married to an accomplished young lady, was admitted to the bar, and for several years had great success as a lawyer. But when a student at college, he occasionally took a glass of wine with a friend ; thus he acquired an appetite for stronger drink. It grew upon him, until finally it dragged him, a victim, to the grave.

Young gentlemen, do you wish such to be your fate ? If you do not, hearken to the voice of inspiration, “*Look* not thou upon the wine when it is red : . . . for at last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.” Then vow to God in your minds, this hour, that *never*, as long as he shall give you life, will you *touch, taste, handle, or look upon the intoxicating cup*. Say, in the beautiful language of the poet :

“Thou sparkling bowl ! Thou sparkling bowl !  
Though bards thy brim may press,  
And eyes of beauty o'er thee roll,  
And song, and dance, thy power confess,  
I will not touch thee ; for there clings  
A scorpion at thy side that stings.”

Yes :

“Memory confused, interrupted thought,  
Death's harbingers, lie latent in the draught ;  
And in the flowers that wreath the sparkling bowl,  
Fell adders hiss, and poisonous serpents roll.”

## A FEW WORDS ON PROHIBITION.

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ALL of my readers will agree in the statement that intemperance is the greatest and most growing evil in our land and all will concede that some means should be devised to *stop* its onward and devastating progress ; but many of us differ as to whether the best and most appropriate way of securing this desirable end is by political action.

First, there are those who are radically opposed to any political action on the subject. They say we should seek to accomplish the needed temperance reform through the Church, the temperance organizations, and by the means of moral suasion. This is the old and original way of working in the cause of temperance, and it has been the source of much good. When a man is brought into the pale of the Church ; when there is thrown around him the influence and example of a Christian brotherhood ; when he attends with regularity upon all the means of grace ; when the Holy Spirit dwells in his heart, and the love of God prompts every action of his soul, he will undoubtedly be a temperance man.

When one is taken into a temperance organization, is made to take an oath to forever abstain from the manufacture, sale, and use of intoxicating liquors, if he has any sense of honor, he will be a temperance man. I do not seek to depreciate the good influence which the Church and the various temperance organizations have had in the temperance cause. *They have done great good ;* they have saved many a man from a criminal's cell and a drunkard's grave, and many a family from coming to poverty and want. I can scarcely conceive to what depths of degradation this land would have been sunk had it not been for these fountains of purity continually pouring forth their waters.

But, let me ask you, has there been any permanent decrease\* in the sale and use of intoxicating liquors since the time the first Church and first temperance organization were planted in America, taking into consideration, of course, the increase in population during that time? On the other hand, the facts show that the sale and use of intoxicating liquors has increased in a far greater ratio than the population of the land.

It is evident that something more *must* be done. Something external and material must be brought in, to act in conjunction with the spiritual arm of the Church, and with the persuasive arm of the temperance organizations; and what else shall it be unless the strong arm of the law? We get our law through our representatives in legislative bodies; we compel them to enact laws in accordance with the principles and ideas expressed in the platforms upon which they run. If we desire *temperance laws*, we must have *temperance platforms*.

Political action is the only kind of action in which *all* temperance men can unite, and it is only by united effort that the evil can be crushed. You can't get all the temperance men in a community to join the Church, or to connect themselves with temperance organizations; but when you put the matter into politics every man has a vote, a voice, and an interest.

Intemperance is not only a moral but eminently a *political* evil. It decreases the population of the land, by hurrying off to premature graves sixty thousand inhabitants annually; it diminishes the working power of the country, by making one hundred thousand new drunkards every year, who are incapacitated, more or less, thereby for physical and mental labor. It increases the crime of the country.† It increases the taxes, by

\* N. B. This women's war against alcohol—God bless the noble and brave Christian women!—is a glorious thing; and yet I fear the effects of it will not generally be permanent. I doubt if the majority of the reformed rumsellers remain out of their old occupations many months. The business is so profitable, requires so little work, and such a small capital, that they can't resist the temptation of entering it again, unless we say, *the law will not permit you* to engage in such a business, and it *will fine you* and take away your property if you do.

† See page 8, "Essay on the Effects of Alcohol Upon Society."

compelling the erection of prisons, hospitals, homes for the abandoned, inebriate, lunatic, idiotic asylums, etc. Such an evil is a *political evil*, and action should be taken by *the State* to suppress it.

What better temperance platform than that of *prohibition*? If your right-hand offends you, cut it off, and it will offend you no more. If intoxicating liquors injure the people, stop their manufacture and sale, and drunkenness will cease. Alcohol—the pure, rectified spirits—is necessary to the pharmacist, in preparing tinctures and extracts. We would not take it from the hands of the physician, if it is of any service in the practice of his profession; but we would totally and forever prohibit its manufacture and sale as an intoxicating beverage.

I have frequently heard it said by some of my excellent fellow-townsmen, "I do not deem such a movement necessary; the law of Ohio is good enough as it is." In reply I have to say, that the Liquor Law of Ohio, though it fines the drunkard, and, to some extent, restrains the sale of intoxicating liquors, is not calculated to diminish, in any considerable degree, the drinking and drunkenness of the State. It prohibits the sale of intoxicating liquors to be drunk on or about the premises where sold. And yet, under the term *intoxicating liquors*, it excepts *ale, beer, and wine* manufactured from the native grape. You can drink wine, ale, and beer in the dram-shop just as long as you please—the law won't touch you. And you can buy just as much whisky, rum, or brandy as you want at the liquor-saloon, provided you don't drink it at the place where you bought. You can drink it on the street, in the public eye, in your own parlor, before your children, at your place of business—anywhere but at the place where you bought it.

This law prohibits the sale of liquor to persons *in the habit of getting drunk*, and yet does not define how much, or how regularly, or how often a man must get drunk in order to be deemed an habitual drunkard. And many a shirk from justice has been made under this enactment. The Ohio law fines a man if he gets drunk, and yet permits him to drink as much as he wants if he don't get drunk, and thus encourages him to be a

drunkard. Such a law, carried out to its strictest letter, can never accomplish the end desired,—a moral reformation on the subject.

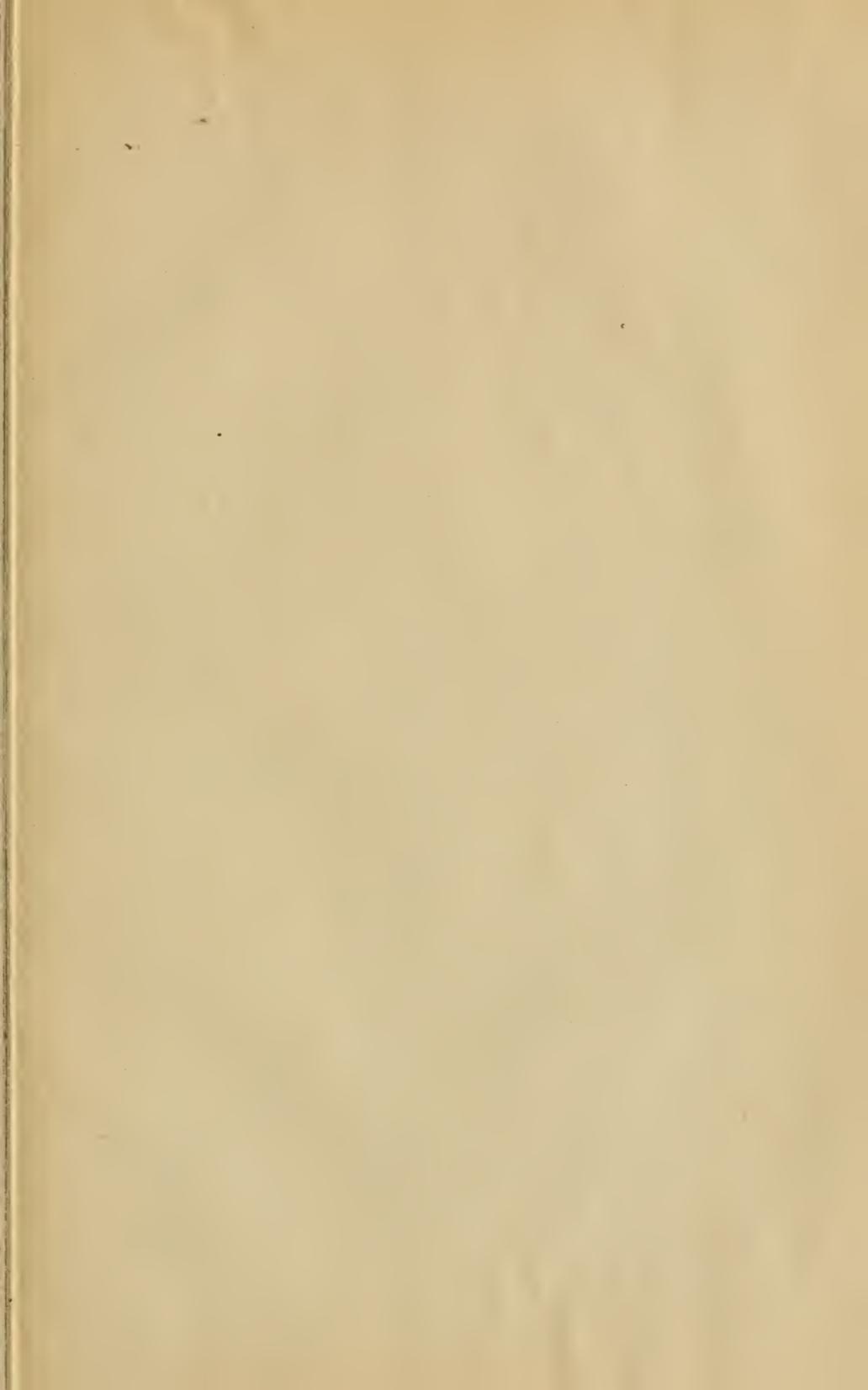
What we want in *this* and in *every* State of our Union, is a law that shall strike at the root of the evil, and prohibit the sale *altogether* of *every kind* of intoxicating liquors. And I sincerely hope the day is not far distant when one of the great political parties of the land shall espouse this cause, and, inscribing PROHIBITION on its banners, go forward to a glorious victory.

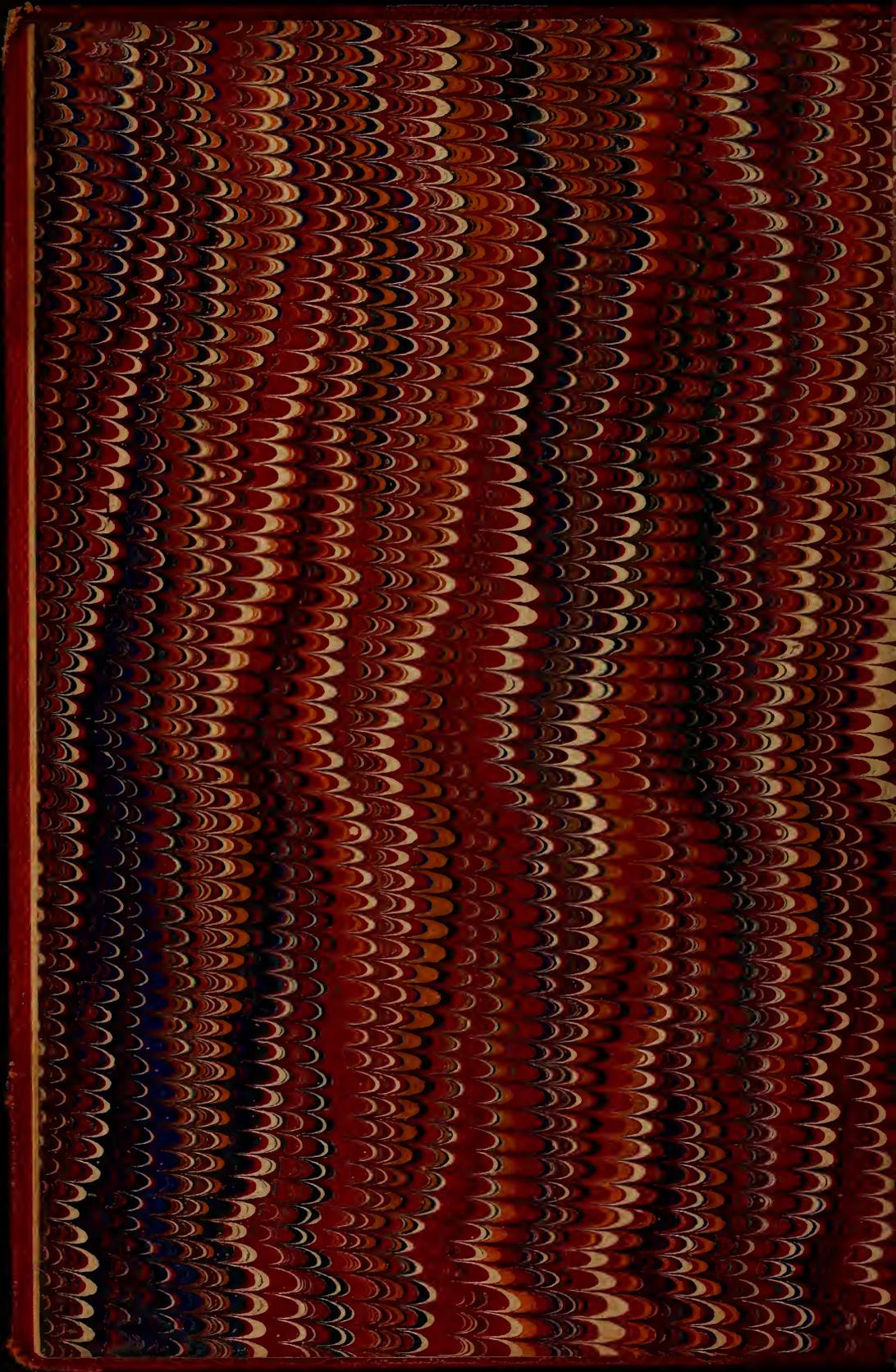














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