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A SEA-TOTTLER.

BY THOMAS MOON, ESQ.

"I'll tell you what it is," said the President of the Social Glasses, "at the same time mixing a fresh number of beer—rather stiffer than the last—for the subject of Temperance and Totalitarism had turned up, and he could not discuss it with dry lips. 'I tell you what it is,' Temperance is all very well, provided it's indulged in with moderation; but when a man smokes, and swears, and flings, carries, and tea-gardening, and dressing him up like a play actor, why he might as well have his mind unshaded with anything else.'

"That's very true," said the Vice-President—a gentleman with a remarkably full nose.

"I have many Temptation-Passions," continued the President, "and I don't hesitate to say that every man and woman amongst them, was more or less intemperate."

"What?" asked a member, hastily removing his cigar.

"Yes, intemperance, I say, with pride and vanity. What with the bands of music, and the banners, and the ribbons, and maybe, one of their topsaws, with his white wand, swaggering along at their head, and look quite convinced that because he hasn't made a peast of himself he must be a Beauty. Instead of which, to my mind, there can't be a more pitiful sight than a great bulked fellow, covered with medals and orders, like a Lord Nelson, for only taking care of his own present health, and trying to live long in the flesh, and particularly if he's got a sum stuck up, and a tail to boot."

"Why the Reg' of Human Society might just as well make a procession of all the people who don't drink water to excess, instead of these objects, that is, and with ribbons and music and banners, for the other day processions?"

"That's very true," said the Vice. "I've seen a Master Grand of a Totalitar with as many armaments about him as a foreign Prince!"

"Why I once stopped my cigar," continued the President, "more to make a noise, than my own accord, because I was a little queasy, and yet they never stuck even a strip of ribbon, or any tail to boot. But that's another matter now, as regular Temperance fellow would have put on a broad blue tail, as he was a Knight of the Bath, and had done it all instead of swimming in it."

"That's very true," repeated the Vice.

"Temperance is, indeed, a virtue," said the President, "but it is not the only one; though, to judge by some of their Traits and Passions, you would think that because a Totalitar drinks Adam's ale, and is as innocent as our first parents in Paradise, which, begging their pardon, is altogether an error, and no mistake. Sin and strong drink are not born together; though they often come together. The first murderer in the world was a water-drinker, who, when he killed his poor brother, was no more than a jester."

"It that wasn't true," exclaimed the red nosed Vice, "I'll prove it to you."

"It was intemperance, however, said the President, "that gave me war." It was in acting in exhibitions and tormented feelings against him, that I found out, we ought to be more like him, and less like Pledges, as much as against sporting reports. Not to mention the strong things that came out of people's mouths, and are quite as dangerous as any that go into them—for example, people swearing, and lying, and slandering, and bad language, and such, not to mention, weeding out by parties who did not look askance at Fine Old Temperance, or Cream of the Valley,

"That's correct, anyhow," said the Vice, and he reigned over his brother.

"To be sure, Temperance has its wonders in Ireland," continued the President, "but to my mind, better suited to a narrow country, especially the Old Union of Whiskey-and-Water, and which would have seemed a much tougher job than Cincinnati. However, Father Matthew has accomplished it, and instead of Parliament in College, we're, we are likely to see a stranger sight, and that's a whole county of Cork without a hotel to it."

"Humph!" ejaculated the Vice, and took a liberal draught of his mixture. "But they'll take to party spirit in here."

"Take enough," said the President, "for when we get accustomed to the strong stimulants, we find it hard to give without them, and they say, that many of those parties who have lost all figures, have taken to opium. But the greatest danger with new converts and proselytes, is of their running into another extreme—and that reminds me of a story to the point."

"Now then," said the Member with the cigar.

"It was last September," said the President, "when I owned the Rose in June, and a sweet pretty craft she was. I had bought a lot of lines, and a trawling net along with her; and besides crafting for pleasures we used now, and then to cast about for bit of fresh fish for my messes, or by way of present to a friend. Well, one day, just below Gravesend, we had fished all the morning, but with out any luck at all, except one poor little shadling by the dock, which lay at the bottom, and the old shad, a lump of coal or rotten dung, and an old shoe."

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