For The Journal.

Our National Curse.

BY REV. ALFRED TAYLOR.

The putting down of drunkenness, and the reforming of drunkards, is a work which should have the aid of every Christian.

How can we help on with the work?

LET EVERY MAN SET AN EXAMPLE OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE FROM STRONG DRINK.

There is no occasion for a healthy man to use liquor at all. It does not strengthen the arm; it does not clear the head; it does not brighten the eye; it does not make the footsteps firmer; it does not make the man who uses it more industrious, more useful, more lovely, or a more worthy member of society. It does not make him more of a gentleman.

To drink liquor is dangerous. To abstain from it, in spite of temptation to use it, is noble. The temptation is presented everywhere. In the restaurant where we eat our dinner, the cut-glass decanters of fiery poison face us like batteries posted for our destruction; in the social gathering, the mixture of alcohol and logwood, which bears the high-sounding name of some celebrated wine, is thrust upon us under the guise of hospitality and good cheer; at the wedding, some intoxicating mixture is set before us, and we are told that we are guilty of rudeness if we do not partake of it; in the family closet, the jug of brandy, or the bottle of vile "bitters" invites to the private pursuit of a course which proves, in the end, even as bitter as gall and wormwood.

If by abstaining you can prevent one friend or brother from becoming a drunkard, the sacrifice, on your part, of the pleasure of pouring filthy stimulants down your throat will not be in vain.

DEAL VERY GENTLY WITH THE DRUNKARD.

There is a general disposition to kick the poor fellow, to speak harshly to him, or, at best, to let him alone, as a degraded specimen of humanity. This is wrong. The drunkard, fallen though he be, is our brother. We can not get rid of our responsibility by saying "Am I my brother's keeper?" It is our business to do all we can to reform and restore him to decency and to Christianity, and what we do must be done in the spirit of our Master.

HELP DOWN WITH THE RUM TRADE.

The slave trade was bad. The slave nations were horrible. The dealer in human flesh was voted to be a low wretch, who could not gain admission into decent society.

The liquor trade, is, if possible, worse. The bartering of a man's soul across a bar-counter, for glass after glass of mean whiskey, is fully as vile as to sell his body by auction. As the slave dealer was held accursed, so let society frown on the maker and seller, wholesale or retail, by the hogshead or by the small, of distilled perdition, until every vender of the poison shall, by force of public opinion, if not by law, be driven out of a life of crime and dishonesty into some decent business in which he can consistently ask the blessing of God. To this end we must

AWAKEN THE PEOPLE TO ACTION.

Present indications show that the people are beginning to think on this matter as they have not thought for years. People listen to addresses and lectures on the subject as they have not listened to them, and will crowd to temperance meetings as they have not before crowded. We dare not neglect such a favorable time for following up the work as this points the present to be.

WHAT, THEN, IS OUR DUTY?

To use every possible individual effort, in personal example, in writing, speaking, and laboring for the reform of drunkards and the suppression of drunkenness.

Open your halls and churches. Call the people together. Get your best speakers—ministers, lawyers, statesmen, merchants, clerks—anybody who has heart and brains to speak and voice to command the peoples attention. Persuade the men and women that there is a mighty work to be done, and show them how to do it.

Slavery and slave-dealing are *dead*.—God hastened their death in ways which his people hardly dared to expect.—Persistent warfare, and brave continuance in God's strength, may bring this tenfold more pernicious curse of drunkenness to a like complete defeat. Let us never cease to pray and labor for this end, till such a degree of public enthusiasm is aroused, and such wholesome laws are enacted and executed, as shall tumble this relic of barbarism, this blot on civilization into the same ditch in which the lately deceased "moral evil" found its final resting place.

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

A YEAR'S WORK OF RUM-SELLING.—Carefully compiled statistics show that sixty thousand lives are annually destroyed by intemperance in the United States.

One hundred thousand men and women are yearly sent to prison in consequence of strong drink.

Twenty thousand children are yearly sent to the poor-house for the same reason.

Three hundred murders are another of the yearly fruits of intemperance.

Four hundred suicides follow these fearful catalogues of miseries.

Two hundred thousand orphans are bequeathed each year to private and public charity.

Two hundred million dollars are yearly expended to produce this shocking amount of crime and misery, and as much more is lost from the same cause.

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The subscriber has just received a full assortment of

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S. A. MILLETT

Manchester, Sept. 22, 1865.

Western Vermont Rail Road.

On and after MONDAY, JULY 9th, trains on this road will run as follows:

MOVING SOUTH.

Accommodation train leaves Rutland at 5.45 A.M., Danby 6.01, East Dorset 6.51, Manchester 7.20, connecting at Hoosic Junction with trains to Williamstown, North Adams, Pittsfield and Springfield; arrive in Troy at 8.30, connecting with Hudson River trains to New York and with trains to Saratoga and the West.

Mail train leaves Rutland at 2.15 P.M., Danby 2.66, East Dorset 3.15, Manchester at 3.52, connecting at Hoosic Junction with trains for Williamstown and North Adams, arrive in Troy at 5.50, connecting with People's Line Steamers to New York, and with trains for Buffalo and the West.

MOVING NORTH.

Mail train leaves Troy at 8.15 A.M., North Bennington 9.35, Arlington 10.03, Manchester 10.30, East Dorset 10.43 arriving in Rutland at 11.45, connecting with train to Bellows Falls, Keene, Fitchburg and Boston, also with trains to Burlington, Montpelier, St. Albans, Ogdensburg and Montreal, same day.

Accommodation train leaves Troy at 4.45 P.M., North Bennington 6.10, Arlington 6.42, Manchester 7.05, East Dorset 7.17, arriving in Rutland at 8.20.

For tickets and all necessary information inquire at the offices on the line.

F. C. WHITE, Supt.

Bennington, July 9, 1866.

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