

BY E. B. MURRAY & CO.

ANDERSON, S. C., THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 12, 1861.

VOLUME XVI.—NO. 44.

Should a State Prohibit the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors?

(CONCLUDED.)

In our last article we advanced the position that government did not have the inherent right to pass a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors—that such a law would transcend the proper functions of government, and violate the rights of property. We now further take the ground that such a law would be impracticable, and therefore worse than useless, even when passed.

We will not here enter into detail as to the many and various ways in which laws restraining and prohibiting the liquor traffic are evaded and violated. We will not do this, in the first place, because our remarks might be construed into personalities, and we assert that we have no personal feeling in the matter. In the second place, this would be useless, as all are aware that such laws are evaded and violated, and they further know the ways in which this is done.

"Well," says some one, "if it is thus that you argue, by analogous reasoning you can say that the State should not prohibit murder and arson, for laws against these are sometimes violated." No, No! my friends, you are wrong; the cases are not analogous at all. In the cases of murder and arson the crimes are exceptional cases—are committed in spite of the law, and with the full knowledge that they will be punished.

"Al," some one replies, "though public opinion may not have been sufficiently strong up to this time, yet it will be after this. People are thoroughly aroused on the subject, not only in this State, but all over the country, and several States are discussing prohibition." In reply, we would say that a great deal of this apparent excitement is not really in favor of prohibition. A few years ago, at a municipal election in this State, the people were voting as to whether they would allow a bar-room in the place or not. Towards the close of the day some one approached a prominent citizen and asked him how he had voted. Said he, "I voted the dry ticket; I always vote the dry, but I drink the wet."

These men are not so very much to blame for acting as they do; they feel that they have a right to drink if they choose, but yielding to the great pressure of public sentiment against a man who will oppose prohibition, they thus act with a duplicity which, under any other circumstances, would be almost unpardonable.

Gen. John S. Preston.

General John S. Preston died at his residence in Columbia on Sunday morning, a few minutes before 10 o'clock of cholera of the liver. His health had been declining for months, his symptoms being much aggravated by recent domestic afflictions. He did not quit his business, however, until Tuesday, the 19th of April, from which time he was confined to his home. The following sketch of his life and labors is taken from the *News and Courier*:

The twelve years which saw the rise and fall of the Southern Confederacy, the enfranchisement of the slaves, and the crown and combination of governmental debauchery in South Carolina were crowded with sharp and striking contrasts. In none of these, was the irony of fate more poignantly manifested than when the stately mansion of Columbia which had been the sweet home of courtly John S. Preston became the scene of the revels of Franklin J. Moses.

What Columbia had been John S. Preston called it "How beautiful the dear old town was with its quiet, deep shaded streets, its comfortable, cheery looking houses surrounded by gardens bright with evergreens, and gorgeous with flowers redolent of Nature's sweetest incense. The copper was so many, and busy in honest and noble ways. We all knew each other and every one trusted his neighbor, and gentle Charity waved her wand and sceptre over us."

A woeful change there was when John S. Preston was elected to the State on one March morning in 1855. He was going for a morsel of food for his wife and children, I lost my way among the smoldering and still smoking ruins, and was sickened by the stench of decay and death. The copper was in the Capitol there, and in that temple he was shelterless. Like Sylla, at Athens, he did not come here to learn our past history, but to punish rebels, and of course, he found the ruins of the temple, the site of the dead.

John S. Preston, brother of Senator Wm. C. Preston, was born near Abingdon, Va., in April, 1809, and came to South Carolina before he was of age. In 1831 he married Caroline, the daughter of Senator Wade Hampton, and celebrated his golden wedding this spring. Mr. Preston's own fortune was not large, but his wife owned sugar estates in Louisiana, and were realized, before the war, at a million dollars. The price the property was sold, but on account of the war, the payments, we believe, were not completed. Mr. Preston's political career was confined to representing the South in the United States Senate for several years before the war the eloquence which soon became conspicuous was first displayed in a speech against the reduction of the appropriation for the State Lunatic Asylum.

Let it be understood, once for all, that we hold to these views through no selfish motives or personal interest. We oppose it now as a matter of expediency and practicality; but should the State, through the wisdom of her law-makers, decide in favor of prohibition, there will be found no more ardent supporter of the measure than the humble writer of these articles. Should it ever become a law, we, for one, will be in favor of seeing that law enforced to its full extent. We speak the day when, by whatever means accomplished, intemperance and drunkenness shall be banished from our land, and temperance, order and sobriety reign throughout our borders.

Some Valuable Suggestions from a Planter.

I have been experimenting for four or five years with cotton rows three and four feet wide, and the result is that three feet wide make as large a yield as those three feet wide. Three feet rows and under are adhered to by the farmers in this part of the country almost traditionally.

Now to enlarge the operation, take a one hundred acre field and a seventy-five acre field, and divide the one hundred acre field into four rows, one in each field, running off to one side. All one hundred acres four feet wide, the seventy five feet three. Each would finish at the same time. The same in distributing the guano, laying off to plant, sowing the seed, covering and boarding off if that be done. In plowing, what is called running around the cotton, the one hundred acres will be finished as quick as the seventy-five. The one hundred acres will be hoed in the same time, and so on through the cultivation, except when the whole row is plowed out in last plowing, then it will take a fourth longer on the one hundred acres. It can be seen at once that there is not a very great difference in cultivating one hun-

dered acres and seventy-five in that manner. I do not suppose there is any experienced cotton planter in this part of the country (I am only alluding to cotton planting in this part of the country) that would for a moment conclude that the one hundred, if it were planted in the same manner, would yield as much as the one hundred. It is very strange! Oh it is very strange! Human example, human logic fail to remove the veil from this mystery. There is but one solution, and that is, the one hundred acres, if planted in the same manner, would yield as much as the one hundred. It is very strange! Oh it is very strange! Human example, human logic fail to remove the veil from this mystery.

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The Battle of Cowpens.

The occasion of South Carolina was truly lamentable in the latter part of the year 1780. In the southern part of the State there was no organized force of Americans. The followers of Marion and Sumter would come from their homes on some day, and make an assault on some of the British posts, or a detachment of the enemy. They kept them harassed and uneasy. Camden and Ninety Six were the strong places of the British from which they sent out marching parties. The Tories, now thinking of the forage, were here and there, became very bold and cruel. Cornwallis had moved to Winoboro, where his headquarters were for a time. His object was to finish up the subjection of the State, and then move into North Carolina, driving the British before him.

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The Humor of Smallpox.

Generally speaking, there is nothing execrably funny about smallpox; but the doctors who are called to prescribe for it, are occasionally run into something that tickles them, and they say something that is called to be a man at one of the hotels, who lived in Iowa. The man was sick as a horse, and the doctor had his suspicions about what ailed him, but could not find out. He gave him something to quiet him, and told the friend who was with him that he would call in the morning. The friend said he thought as much of the sick man as he could of a brother, and he would see to it that he was not in the way.

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UNREASON IN MARRIAGE.

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Charles Stokely, of Batavia, New York, shot his employer because he refused to let him marry his daughter. A railroad train, twenty years ago, good from Burns to Hornellsville, on the Erie, was recently offered and accepted for a ride. The new Capitol at Albany, New York, has cost the State thirteen millions of dollars, and two million dollars is yet needed to complete it. Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York Tribune, was married last week to Elizabeth Mills, daughter of the California millionaire. The New York Legislature proposes to fix the rate at which telegraph messages may be sent in that State at fifteen words for twenty cents. The loss of property by the recent floods in the Missouri valley and tributaries between Sioux City and Bismarck is estimated at \$2,500,000. The North Carolina Prohibition Convention met at Raleigh last week. Four hundred and fifty delegates were present, representing every county in the State. The Sibley Manufacturing Company, of Augusta, Ga., has increased its capital stock from \$600,000 to \$1,000,000. It will have an increased of 23,000 spindles, as at first intended. The New York Elevated Railroad Companies are said to be losing money. Last year the Manhattan Company lost \$500,000, and the present deficiency is estimated at not less than \$350,000. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is building ten large passenger engines, which will be able to make a mile in less than a minute. The driving wheels of these engines measure six and a half feet in diameter, higher than a tall man with a silk hat. A resident of Nicholas county, Ky., who had an eye put out by an overhanging thorn while riding at night on a turnpike, has had the turnpike company or \$25,000 damages. The man, however, had not exercised reasonable diligence in not having the thorn-remover trimmed. The Springfield Republican says that the Maine prohibitory law, even if it has not stopped drinking, has at least brought considerable money into the public treasury, 31 residents of Portland having paid in nearly \$69,000 in fines since it went into force. Of these two brothers paid \$11,000. In Oregon no man is allowed to take a drink at a public bar without taking out a license, and the newspapers publish interesting lists from time to time of the men who have obtained licenses. An attempt was made to evict some tenants at New Pallas, Ireland, last week, but the men, who numbered five thousand persons resided in the town, refused to go, and threatened the life of the bailiff, who became frightened and refused to point out the houses of the defaulting tenants. Illinois gives the women a vote on "probation" cases, in all local elections, and at Rockford, one of the most important places at which women exercise this right, the temperance women organized last week, had carriages to take voters to the polls and made a hot canvass for the cause. The license was carried by about 1,000 majority. A Chicago clergyman explained to the committee of deacons that the widow was so pretty no man could help flirting with her, and each of the committee quietly called round to see if he told the truth, and that not one of them dared to rise up in meeting, with her present, and say the clergyman was right. By sharp management, even a jury of deacons can be handled. Of the nine hundred orange groves in Putnam county, Fla., at least 75 per cent. are now owned by Northern men, the most of whom went to Florida with little if any money to aid them in starting the "business." Most of these groves are now in a flourishing condition, very few of them, however, not to exceed twenty—having a mortgage or any pecuniary claim upon them. Bishop Borgas, of the Catholic diocese of Michigan, forbids all Catholics in his diocese from originating or participating in any public picnic excursions on the 1st of May, or on any day, or on a holy day, or any other day of the week. He also forbids the holding of fairs for the benefit of churches, schools or charitable institutions, without first submitting to his approval the reasons therefor in writing. Dr. Lyon Playfair, perhaps the greatest living English authority on food, said in the debate in the House of Commons on oleomargarine that, as it contained the same fats as those obtained from the cow—milk, the oleomargarine which curiously enough produced rancidity in bad butter—he thought the sooner it supplanted bad butter the better. He believed that it would do that, but he did not think it would supplant good butter. It is stated, apparently by authority, that ex-President Hayes intends to put himself at the head of the Temperance party of Ohio and go actively into the politics of that State during the coming fall. There are some things about President Hayes cannot do, but in all probability he would make an admirable temperance leader if he would apply himself to a work of that kind. As nobody has yet proposed a subscription to provide means for supporting him in the proper dignity of a former Chief Magistrate he will probably have to take care of himself, and there is no reason why he should not earn an honest and an modest living in the temperance business. According to his own statement he is a recent convert, and new converts are always possessed of a remarkable zeal. Let the ex-President take of this case, and clean out the ruts of Ohio; he may thereby make a reputation for himself.

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