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THE EVILS OF INTOXICATION.

THE immoderate use of intoxicating drinks is one of the greatest evils known among what are called civilized nations; and habits of intoxication are the source of frightful evils to all classes who are addicted to them, but especially to the poor. Wealthy tipplers may indulge their appetites for bibulous indulgence without incurring the risk of pecuniary distress and the evils of poverty; in all cases, however, suffering the results of the violation of the laws of their physical and mental organizations, which are, in fact, the most serious and most irreparable evils human beings can sustain. But it is among the poor that the evils of intemperance are most palpable in the increase of their poverty and wickedness. In Europe, and especially in the British Islands, habits of intemperance are perhaps the great bar to the emancipation of the masses from all the social ills they have to endure. There is a great outcry in that nation for parliamentary reform, and against the injustice of the capitalists; and these evils are bad enough, and unless remedied, will sooner or later result in trouble. But the evils which the laboring classes endure, whether proceeding from these or other sources, are increased and augmented by the habits of intoxication which are almost general among them; and parliamentary and other reforms will fail to produce the changes desired unless these habits are corrected. It is estimated that a hundred million dollars a year are spent in intoxicating drinks in that land; and, but the other day, one of the leading London magistrates declared, while sitting in court, that drunkenness was the cause of all the evils in society. This was rather exaggerated, but it certainly is one of the great causes of the evils with which society there is troubled. And that country, unfortunately, is no exception; in France and other countries on the continent the same habits prevail, among the working classes to an almost equal extent. Four-fifths of the crime, poverty, pauperism and starvation existing can probably be traced to this source.

Who, among the people of Utah, who has emigrated from those old settled countries that has not seen countless instances of the effects of intoxication? Who has not seen legions of women and children, ragged, ill-fed, often half famished, and carrying about their persons the marks of violence and ill-usage, all the effects of the worse than beastly habit of intoxication indulged in by them to whom they look as their natural protectors and whose first great duty it is to love, honor and protect them? Who can not recollect instances of men with brilliant talents, who, but for habits of drunkenness, might have been honored and respected by their fellows, and have filled lucrative and responsible positions in society; but through this cursed habit have gradually fallen from one degree of degradation to another, until, finally unknown and uncared for, they have filled the early and dishonored grave of the drunkard?

This is no fancy sketch; such instances may be seen on every hand in nearly every so-called Christianized or civilized community. It is true of this country as of Europe, though perhaps not to the same extent. But in this country, statistics fully prove that the use of ardent spirits and intoxicating beverages of various kinds, is on the increase; and it is no romance to say that if the means thus shamefully wasted were used for human improvement instead of human degradation, school houses and colleges might soon be as numerous as drinking saloons; and poverty and distress be banished from every nook and corner of the land.

In Utah Territory this evil is but little known; and in many sections of the Territory the traveler may go on his way, day after day, and never see a place

where the "ardent" can be purchased; and even in our large cities, where transients "most do congregate," such institutions are very rare, when compared with places of their size in any other portion of the country. Among the Latter-day Saints a tippler is a rarity; in fact, no man amongst them who has any respect for his calling or the principles of his holy religion will ever give way to such a practice. Still, among such a heterogeneous multitude, thousands and thousands of whom have been gathered from abroad, and who, in many instances were formerly addicted to such habits, it can not be expected that all will be faithful and true, and refrain from indulging altogether. In some instances such individuals are very apt, and doubtless do, exert an influence over the young and inexperienced who have been raised here, and initiate them into the practice of this baneful habit. It is for the benefit of the latter class especially, that we write. We are proud to know that their numbers are very few; but few as they are we would fain see them abandon such debasing practices. They may be far from deserving the appellation of "drunkard," and would scorn the imputation that they would ever become so; but the advances of this foe are insidious and fascinating, and unless such habits are forsaken completely the infatuated devotee may find himself irretrievably engulfed.

The very few young men in our midst who may at all be given to the "social glass" if they will look back for a few years, will recollect instances of men, bright, talented, brilliant and young, who have died in shame and disgrace through tippling. This should act as a powerful incentive to all who may be in the least inclined to indulge, to "touch not, taste not handle not." The latter course is always safe, and may be the stepping stone to honor and respect; while an opposite course is never safe, and very often leads to poverty, disgrace, degradation and shame.

THE CHURCH CONTEST IN GREAT BRITAIN.

THE contest now pending between the Liberal and Conservative members of the British House of Commons in relation to the disestablishment of the Protestant church in Ireland, possesses far more than ordinary interest to the people of this country, from the fact that it involves the separation of Church and State in the whole of Great Britain, and ultimately the triumph of Republican institutions in that nation. Revolutions, it is said, never go backwards, and the present revolution in Great Britain, will never cease until it has accomplished the total extinction of aristocracy, class privilege and the last remnant of feudalism.

On the 24th ult., after four nights' debate in the Commons, the bill for the disestablishment of the Irish Church, as it is misnamed, though the opposition was determined and vigorous, passed its second reading with a tremendous majority. The 15th instant was the time set for the House to go into a Committee on the final reading of the bill. Since the last named date various amendments have been introduced by the friends of the Church party, having in view the weakening or defeat of the bill, but they have been defeated by overwhelming majorities, and the most sanguine supporters of Disraeli, and the Established Church in Ireland are now aware that all their efforts to prevent the passage of the bill will prove utterly futile.

It is very rare that any question has excited such interest among the members of the Commons, as the number of votes cast, show. The full complement of the members of the House of Commons is about six hundred and fifty; and on one or two occasions considerably over six hundred votes have been cast on motions in relation to this bill, each time the majority in favor of the government being over a hundred. In fact it was for the passage of this bill that the Gladstone Ministry was formed and the present House of Commons elected, and they dare not so far prove recreant to the trust reposed in them by their constituents as to neglect its performance.

The opposition to the bill in the upper House, and among the "Lord's spiritual and temporal," is sure to be strong, and they would never pass it if they could help themselves; but "the light of other days has faded" with that august body, and their power is little more than nominal, when urged in opposition to any measure upon which the national will has been so emphatically expressed as it has in relation to the bill for the disestablishment of the Protestant

Church in Ireland. Republican ideas and principles have advanced at a tremendous rate during the last twenty years in Great Britain, and the right of the aristocracy to lord it over the masses of the people, and to usurp every privilege, will soon be as obsolete as the once popular theory of the "divine right of Kings." The fact is, the revolution now working its way in Britain, promises to be as complete, and far more permanent than the revolution of '89 in France, without being disgraced with the scenes of sanguinary atrocity that marked the latter.

However, the bill for disestablishment can only suffer a temporary defeat in the Lords; for should they throw it out, the life peerage scheme, a bill for which was introduced in the House of Lords by Earl Russell in the early part of the present month, would most likely be promptly acted on. Then, nothing could possibly hinder the passage of the bill, for none would be chosen for such distinction but those who are staunch supporters of the government; hence, if the bill should meet with a defeat in the Lords, it will only be temporary. The victory is already virtually decided in favor of the Liberal cause in that country, and the day is near, when the enormous abuse of making five millions of people, the present population of Ireland, contribute heavily for the support of a church, the total number of whose communicants in their midst is not much more than a hundred thousand, will soon have been wiped out of existence.

This task once accomplished in Ireland the separation of Church and State in England will speedily follow. Public opinion and feeling demand it, and will not be satisfied with that, nor with anything short of the abolition of royalty and aristocracy, and ultimately the establishment of a Republican form of government.

WOOLEN MANUFACTURING INTERESTS IN THE WEST.

IT is very little more than a quarter of a century since the first attempt was made in the western States to manufacture fabrics from cotton, or wool, or both combined. But since then this interest has grown from very small beginnings to be one of great magnitude, until there are now in those States about eight hundred manufactories, aiding to enrich the country in retaining the important staple of wool in the section where it is grown; stimulating its production and perfection; and in every way developing that portion of our country. Lately a systematic effort has been made to organize the gentlemen connected with this industry for mutual benefit and protection which has resulted in the organization of the "Woolen Manufacturers' Association of the North west," and an exposition of wool and woolen goods by the same, took place at Chicago in the August of last year. This exposition is said to have been truly marvelous "when it is considered that the first woolen mill in the West was erected no later than 1842." The goods exhibited were of every class, including flannels, from the coarsest grades to the finest opera goods; jeans, beavers, doeskins, casimeres, satinetts, tweeds, meltons, lindseys, blankets, shawls, hose, gloves, scarfs, braids, trimmings, etc., in fact every description of woolen goods which American ingenuity has proved itself capable of manufacturing.

The Bulletin of the National Woolen Manufacturer's Association, speaking of this exhibition makes the following remarks, which we deem well worthy of the consideration of the people of Utah in the present condition of the woolen interest here: "The advantages legitimately claimed by the Western manufacturers are the saving of transportation of both raw material and fabrics, the facility of sending directly to customers—no commissions being paid to middlemen in the large cities—and the public sentiment of consumers in favor of the products of their own region, which is encouraged by the confidence that the goods are honestly made."

All of these reasons can be advanced with like truth in favor of home made woolen goods here in Utah. Indeed, when we take into consideration the vast amount that can be saved from the expenses of transportation for so many hundred miles from the factories, even in those same Western States or in California or Oregon, we find at once a tariff in favor of the home producer that should enable him to place goods in the market equal in quality and at a price not far in advance of that at which they can be laid down here from the States, and still admit of the manufacture be-

ing a profitable one. True, in times past, we have had difficulties to contend with, incidental to our peculiar location and surroundings, and at present our sheep are undoubtedly of a very inferior class as wool producing animals; still from the efforts of President Young, A. O. Smoot, Esq., and other gentlemen interested in woolen manufactures we fully expect to see this evil remedied and to have shortly a very improved class of wool producing animals filling the valleys and hill sides of this Territory.

The advantages of this exposition in Chicago were so marked that the merchants of Cincinnati solicited that the next one be held in their city. Their application to the Association was successful, and it is expected that the second exhibition will far exceed the first. This idea of exhibiting might also be valuable amongst us as an incentive to the gentlemen engaged in raising or manufacturing wool to do their very best to produce articles that in quality and finish would equal if not excel those imported from other parts.

The importance of this branch of industry in our Territory cannot well be over-estimated; its development is absolutely necessary to our well-being and prosperity as a community. The change now being introduced in the basis of our commercial transactions, will render the necessary diversion into other channels of much capital, hitherto solely employed in what are considered here, exclusively, mercantile pursuits. In no way can that capital be employed to greater profit for its owner and to greater advantage for the community than in the erection of woollen and cotton mills and the production and manufacture of the raw material into fabrics for home consumption and exportation.

To the extensive manufacture of wool and cotton Great Britain is mainly indebted for her commercial supremacy; the successful prosecution of the same branch of industry is enriching many of the States of the Union. California and Oregon are rising in wealth and importance by the same means. There is nothing to hinder Utah from following in their wake. She has all the needed facilities—artisans in abundance and all the power and wealth necessary to enable her to do so. The people need it, and there is wealth to be obtained in the doing of it.

FIRE IN HELENA CITY.

THE telegrams this morning bring an account of another terrible fire in the city of Helena, Montana Territory. This city seems to be peculiarly unfortunate. It is not yet three months since a fire broke out in the Assay office of Bohm & Molitor there, and before it could be extinguished, destroyed property valued at from seventy-five to a hundred thousand dollars. But that, bad as it was, was a mere speck compared to the present, for according to the telegram, ninety eight business houses, and forty private dwellings, with much of their contents, valued at not less than half a million of dollars, have been destroyed. This is a terrible misfortune to a young city like Helena, and is deeply to be deplored. Nothing is said about loss of life; but to be deprived at one swoop, in a few hours, of the fruits of years of labor and industry, as many no doubt have been in this case, is a loss, perhaps second only to loss of life. The details of the occurrence are not given, neither the origin of the fire.

After the disaster in February the Helena papers mentioned that a movement was immediately inaugurated by the leading business men for the adoption of measures to ensure the public safety and to prevent, as far as possible, a like casualty recurring again. It seems, however, very unfortunately, that no practical results were reached, or the probability is that the present loss would not have been sustained.

This event should prove very suggestive to the merchants and business men of every city in the Rocky Mountains. They are all more or less liable and exposed to such casualties and contingencies, yet very many are quite as unprepared to stay the progress of a fire as the citizens of Helena. In this city, for instance, the means already provided for such an emergency are very scanty; and in case of fire here in the business portions of the city, unless discovered instantly, great destruction of property would be almost sure to ensue. To render public safety at all certain in cases of fire in a city like this, with twenty or twenty-five thousand inhabitants, the most approved appliances and organizations should be in existence. We have