

intemperate. "Reports from every State, county and municipal prison in Connecticut, made in 1871, show that more than 90 per cent. had been in habits of drink by their own admission." These statistics relate to those who have been guilty of the more serious offences, not mere everyday arrests for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and are culled from a number of others of a like tenor.

These figures prove, if they prove anything that of the taxes paid by the people of this country for the maintenance of prisons, for the support of the police service, and the payment of judges and other judicial officers, from eighty to ninety cents on every dollar is wrong from our unwilling pockets through the curse of strong drink, or to put it in another form, if there was no liquor made, bought or sold, our criminal population would be so reduced as to only cost us from ten to twenty cents, where it now costs one hundred.

Add the cost of taxation to the loss of production, and we have even then only a partial idea of what, in dollars and cents, the drunkard costs the country.

X.

The Saloon, the School, and the Prison.

SALT LAKE CITY,
16th January, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Seeing that the economic side of the "liquor question," has been presented to your numerous readers, permit me who loves temperance to say a few words on the vastly more important branch of this vexed subject, namely, its moral aspect.

It may be true, as stated, that from 80 to 90 per cent. of the police expenses of the nation are the result of intemperance, but this gives but a very faint idea of the evil, the misery, the destitution, the disease, the death arising from this cause. Misery, disease and death not only to the insane votaries of the worship of Bacchus, but too often to entirely innocent victims. Take this as an instance. It was officially reported that in the one city of Philadelphia, in the year 1869, there had been thirty four murders, "each one of which was traceable to intemperance, and one hundred and twenty-one assaults for murder proceeding from the same cause." Again, in 1872, Judge Allison, speaking in that same city, said, "In our criminal courts we can trace four-fifths of the crimes that are committed to the influence of rum. There is not one case in twenty where a man is tried for his life in which rum is not the direct or indirect cause of murder." Yet in the face of facts like these which are not disputed the spirit of modern legislation throughout Christendom is to make money by taxation out of the dealer in this "liquid damnation" and to give him the strength of a semi-official support in the shape of a license to deal out murder and rapine, theft and arson, misery and degradation, insanity and idiocy, to all who are foolish enough to purchase. The liquor dealer becomes, in fact, the petted child of the public, for whose support prisons are erected and police employed, while the sober man who will not barter his health and means for poison is also compelled by law to help with his taxes to sustain the iniquity his soul abhors.

We believe not only that vice and ignorance walk hand in hand, but also that the ranks of the criminal classes are largely recruited from the masses of the ignorant and in their turn the armies of crime fill our land with a vast population of ignorance. As an example of the truth of this idea, we have not to leave the Keystone State, from which our former examples have been drawn, for it is stated on the best authority that in that proud state ninety-nine hundredths of the children who do not go to school at all are the sons and daughters of the intemperate.

As a further argument that the saloon keeper, with his confreres, is a petted child, we will refer to the cost of the two systems of education in this same State, whose condition it will be admitted is not discreditable in comparison with the country at large. It is authoritatively estimated that the cost per annum in Pennsylvania for schools, colleges, and all other educational purposes is \$8,400,000, and the direct cost of liquors in the same State for the same period is \$80,000,000, or nine times as much

money spent to destroy as there is to try and save posterity; and as a result within the last twenty years the teachers in the State have increased from 25 to 30 per cent., the pupils attending school more than 50 per cent., and crime has increased more than 60 per cent., which is a bad lookout for the rising generation.

As in Pennsylvania so throughout the country, and as with us so with the rest of the civilized world. Together the world is working out a problem the only answer to which is death. The arithmetician can calculate from these figures how many generations it will be before our entire population becomes criminal, if previous to that day it does not become so entirely besotted with the effects of strong drink as to bring chaos again, or have to give way to a purer, stronger, nobler race, who will fill the places we now occupy, and introduce another and a healthier civilization.

Probably alcohol has its uses. It may be valuable in the arts and occasionally as a medicine. But it is also armed with a fatal capacity to destroy. "In its peculiarly fatal form, that of distillation, which is a concentrated death, it was unknown for fifty-five centuries of the world's history, and mankind were the better for their ignorance. The fruit of the tree of knowledge has been death. During the last three centuries, what is known as ardent spirits, and the immense and dreadful curses which grow out of their use, have gradually arisen. They have the power of perverting their natural instincts and tastes of both body and mind, and to recreate man into the slave of perverted appetites, having insatiable, consuming, uncontrollable and devilish power. The image of God becomes dangerous to society as well as to himself, whether as a maniac or as a criminal, and it is this consequence of the use of intoxicating liquors which the laws have constantly but imperfectly undertaken to control for many years; nothing more." How imperfectly, we in this city are to-day witnesses. Is there not wisdom enough in Israel to abate the evil, save the inexperienced, reclaim the fallen and injure no man? We hope so, we believe so, but the force of the law alone will not thoroughly effect the object desired. It must have the co-operation and united assistance of all our people who love temperance, truth, and righteousness.

South Willow Creek—Big Cottonwood—Bee-keeping—American Fork—Alpine—Sickness—Smith's Works—Pleasant Grove—Schools, etc.

AMERICAN FORK,
Jan. 15th, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

On the evening of the 10th inst. Elder W. F. Smith and myself held a full meeting, got up on short notice, at South Willow Creek. The people of this place have an eye to storing up wheat. The Relief Society have about one hundred bushels laid up for the time of need.

We passed a bee-keeper on Big Cottonwood, who exhibits twenty-six hives of bees from a start of thirteen hives in the Spring, and has taken 1,200 lbs. of honey this season, and from one double or two-story hive 147 lbs.

Thursday 11. We held meeting at American Fork in the evening, and on the following evening at Alpine. The sleighing from American Fork to Alpine is excellent, but yesterday at Willow Creek the ground was bare and muddy. We were very sorry to find several cases of malignant scarlatina, and in some cases coupled with diphtheria, three cases having proved fatal. Alpine is a small and very healthy place, and hopes of the recovery of these dear little ones are anxiously entertained. We were pleased to visit the blacksmith and harness tackle works of Wm. Devey & Son, who furnish Z. C. M. I. with harness tackle, cable chain, miners' picks, strap hinges, &c., competing with eastern trade. One of their dies, weighing over 600 pounds, was manufactured by themselves principally, which speaks well for little Alpine.

Saturday evening, 13th. Pleasant Grove furnished us a full meeting, and on Sabbath a crowded house. In the afternoon we attended the Sabbath school, which is in good running order. The interior of the Meeting-house is very comfortably finished.

At 6 p.m. we attended a very good and full meeting at American Fork, and rested under the kind hospitality of Bishop Harrington and family. American Fork supports four day schools of 450 pupils out of a population of 1,500. The school are supported by a tax of one-half of one per cent. About 9,000 gallons of sorghum molasses have been manufactured at that place. The citizens sent a heavy petition to the city council, praying for deliverance from the sale of spirituous beverages; not a single saloon is the result, with satisfaction to the petitioners.

Respectfully,
EDWARD STEVENSON.

Snow—Children's Jubilee—New Water Ditch—Sprained Ankle—Preaching—Improvements—Mails—Etc.

ST. GEORGE, Jan. 13th, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

The first time this winter we have a stormy day. There is now about two inches of snow on the ground and still falling. The sight of the beautiful white flakes falling seems to delight the little children, who seldom see such a sight in our warm climate. Farmers are rejoicing at the prospect, and hope the snow will fall deep in the Pine Valley Mountains, that they may have water for their crops next summer.

Yesterday, Friday, 12th, the children of St. George, Washington, and Santa Clara met in the Tabernacle and joined in a jubilee, under the direction of Mr. P. Romney, County Superintendent, H. Pickett, Wm. Atkins, Joseph Orton, Thos. Cottam, S. Gould and Bro. Keller, ward superintendents. The St. George brass band was stationed in the Tabernacle, and discoursed music, while the children marched in procession, with their banners, to the Tabernacle. They were comfortably seated at 10 a.m., at which time the exercises of the day promptly began, and I must say I never heard small children sing and recite better than on this occasion, there being a decided improvement in all who took part, and all present seemed to feel well, happy, and well repaid for their visit.

In the afternoon the assembly was addressed by Pres. John W. Young, who is here on a visit. His remarks were principally to the young, encouraging them to persevere in their studies, that they might become great in the kingdom of God. He referred to his unavoidable absence from St. George, but hoped to be with them oftener in the future, and expressed delight at meeting again with our citizens. His remarks were well timed and instructive.

Pres. Snow spoke a few words of fatherly encouragement and blessed the children with an apostle's blessing. Taken all together we may pronounce the jubilee a success, and creditable to the children, their teachers, and superintendents.

The County Superintendent reports the schools in a good condition in this county, and as far as I am capable of judging his report is correct.

The St. George choir, as usual, assisted to make the jubilee a success, and they, under the leadership of our pleasant, genial friend, John M. Macfarlane, are always ready and willing to help on all jubilee occasions, and should be appreciated. Also our band, led by Professor Thompson.

Messrs. Macdonald, Adams, Cox, and Morris started yesterday to make a preliminary survey of a water ditch to carry the waters of the Rio Virgen into waste lands in the vicinity of Washington and St. George, which will, if successful, make this a desirable land to live in, and make room for the hundreds of worthy young men of these southern settlements to make homes, which is impossible under existing limited water privileges. About \$6,000 is subscribed for this laudable enterprise.

Bro. Wm. Rossiter, of the President's party, has been confined most of the winter with a badly sprained ankle, but he begins to cast his shadow on the walks again, though somewhat lame.

President Young's health is much improved, and still continues to improve.

Elder W. Woodruff and B. Young, Junr., are energetic in preaching good things to the people, as well as many other brethren. Brother Woodruff addressed the members of the Young People's Mutual last Thursday night.

Doctor Dunford's house is now

ready for the roof, and we observe David Rogers busy covering it.

The mail from Leeds here seems to be in a mixed condition. It arrives at all times of day and night, and such a miserable state of things makes it uncomfortable for our worthy postmaster, John Pym, as well as for our worthy populace. Somebody should regulate this matter.

AMRAM.

Hard Winter—Surplus Women—Renewed Interest—Death—Emigration—Political and Religious Strife, etc.

HAYWOOD CHURCH, Georgia,
January, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

With the thermometer at eleven below zero, and fourteen inches of snow on the level, this seems more like the Arctic regions than the land of the "Sunny South." The pines are bowed almost to the earth by the feathery loads of snow heaped and piled upon their crested tops, the mountain sides resemble more the snow clad peaks of the Oquirrh or Wasatch than the gentle slopes of "Dixie land," while the oldest inhabitant solemnly avers that never in the history of Georgia was the like known. New Year's Eve was the climax to a long spell of cold, frozen weather, and the New Year was ushered in with a white winding sheet, that stretched o'er hill and dale, while all the day long feathery fleeces floated in the still air, rendering more complete the mantle that covered the breast of mother earth, and a sore time of trial it must be to the many poor of the surrounding country, who are but scantily prepared for even moderate weather, let alone the bitter cold of such weather as this. More especially does it bear hard upon the widow and the orphan, who, deprived of their natural protectors, are left in the cold charities of a selfish world, which, in their present state of absolute anarchy and confusion seems to have lost every feeling of sensibility or desire to assist the unfortunate around.

In this state there are 26,199 more females of a marriageable age than males, and my mind is often led to reflect how completely they fulfil the prophecy of Paul, as recorded in I. Timothy, 4th chapter—"Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils. Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared as with a hot iron, forbidding to marry." And these 26,199 women are "forbidden to marry" by an (illegal) enactment of a so-called Christian people, whose hireling priesthood preach for hire and divine for money, speaking lies in hypocrisy, and teaching the doctrine of devils.

To-morrow being fast day our little branch of the Church of Jesus Christ, in this valley, will as usual

keep it as a day of fasting and prayer, and bestow upon the poor out-fast day offerings. Our numbers continue to increase and several are now ready for baptism as soon as we can get to the water, which is impossible, owing to the depth of the snow. A feeling of investigation appears to have recently taken hold upon the hearts of many who have shown but little interest so far, while some, who at first listened, and by the influence of the evil one were deterred from investigating, are now examining the principles of the gospel with renewed interest, and the prospects before me are flattering, if I only had a little help in the shape of two or three Elders from Zion, which I trust will soon be the case, as we hear that some are to be sent to this State.

Death has invaded our ranks and one of our number has passed behind the veil, bearing a testimony with his last words of the truth of the latter-day work. Brother Caleb Jennings, a Virginian by birth, but long a citizen of Georgia, after a long and tedious illness, having been baptized in a chair, being unable to walk, fell asleep to await the resurrection.

This branch desire to emigrate the coming season in a body, and will in all probability be able to do so. We are so far united in our movements, and trust that the spirit of unity of action will continue, so that we may be able to gather to Zion and stand in safe places during the perilous times now coming upon this nation and the nations of the earth, in fulfillment of the prophecies of all the holy prophets since the days of Adam down until to-day.

The Southern States are torn and rent by political and religious strife from centre to circumference, and the people stand in momentary expectation of mighty events that seem to them to be in the near future, but so great is the power of darkness that they seem more like animals caught in the snare, than intelligent beings, with the capacity to understand and comprehend the truth. The very air seems filled with the shadows of coming events, and the people feel and see it, but it seems impossible to convince them of the feasibility of the plan of escape.

Trusting that I have the prayers of the Saints, I am very truly your brother in the gospel.

J. MORGAN.

—It is said that the Inman Steamship Company has filed a bill in the Circuit Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York, in equity, to compel the return of over \$1,000,000, which was paid for emigration head money by that company during the years before the acts were declared to be unconstitutional. If every one had his rights, would not that million dollars belong to the emigrants?

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