

THE SUSQUEHANNA REGISTER

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THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE IS THE LEGITIMATE SOURCE, AND THE HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE THE TRUE END OF GOVERNMENT

THE SUSQUEHANNA REGISTER

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advertisers.

The Main Liquor Law

Mr. BARNES.—You will confer a favor upon some of your subscribers by inserting the abstract of the report of the "Main Liquor Law" with the report of Mayor Dow. The subject is not well understood as it should be in this country. The Maine Law is looked upon with great terror by some persons, merely because they do not understand it. When they have carefully read and considered the law, I hope their terror will abate, and that they will not fear that society is to be dissolved by its enactment. That it will be enacted in Pennsylvania before long, I have little doubt. Its opponents may as well muster their forces and come up to the battle at once, even if certain defeat awaits them.

The Phenomena of Sleep

Dr. DICKSON, of South Carolina, has recently published a work on Life, Sleep, Pain and Death; which contains some curious facts and speculations. The facts are given in relation to sleep, which is described to be the repose of the mind in the various tribes, as well as in different individuals. The average proportion of time thus employed by our race, is estimated at one-third. Sir John Sinclair, who slept eight hours himself, says that in his researches upon the subject of longevity, he found long life under every circumstance and every course of habit—some old men being abstinent, others temperate, some active, and some indolent—but all had slept a good deal. Alfred the Great slept eight hours a day. Jeremy Taylor but three. Bonaparte, during the greater part of his active life, was content with four or five hours sleep. Old age and infancy sleep much.

Selected Miscellany

From the New York Evening Post.
The Capture of the Guerriere by the Constitution.
Messrs. Editors.—Having been an American prisoner on board the Guerriere during the famous battle the week that elapsed and the United States frigate Constitution, I propose giving you an account of that important action, which took place in June 1812.
About two weeks previous to the engagement I left Boston in an American ship, which was captured by the Guerriere some five days before she fell in the Constitution.

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Smith, the Razor Stop Man, occasionally broke off from the subject of the very superior quality of his strops, and gave his audience a lecture upon temperance in his own peculiar way. Here is an extract:
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Port's Corner

Dreams

From the Home Journal.
The Unicorn envelopes the pictures of the past, like an imperishable and imperishable record containing the purest and clearest truth.—*The Signs and Earth.*
The bright world of dreams, can science declare how its pictures are traced on the brain, or explain their beautiful colorings, there to relieve the dark shadows of pain?
The sailor's kind boat, that's drifting on the sea, with a single word of its own, with a message may rest from their barren shores.
The faintest cast their weariness down, to the beam of the Past, but how aged night, beams that the flavor of day.
It is more than our wisdom can say.
In our gossamer, the rose tree is never loath, in our minds, with summer's power, and though washed by winter, still it has left a something that tells us of youth.
It is this with life, though the willow may wither, on its path, and ne'er before be seen, on its path, as it is in its light, that is the thing which has been seen.
To behold you have read how the planets are set, to mirror, the firmament round, the world that has changed, or is passing yet, the sun's rays are reflected to be found.
The shades of all regenerate are seen, in our dream, they have been from their birth, and each outlines, from mountain to hill, the voice of a creature for a earth.
In this, in the miniature world of the brain, how some system of optics be found, while closes perpetuate sound.
Do we all know that mirrors never see bright as when on their surface are thrown the rays that exhibit life features, at night, glowing these to lighten our own.
Perhaps in the brain is a mystical glass, beyond that of the microscope apart, for which only such apparatus may pass as sensory calls from the heart.
And how may reflections, through long years of time, from the glass that is held up to-day, to remane now from the pure mirror graced by night, through their brilliant array.
There are they embodied in all the rich glow of life, feeling around them has cast, the shadow of the present their terror may be seen.

The Phenomena of Sleep

The public number of convictions before the grand jury, under this law for the first time, has been 191, and the amount of fines imposed for that offence is \$130.00, amount of fines for keeping the liquor \$350.00—amount of costs in cases of calling and keeping \$273.32—whole amount of fines and costs, \$804.32.
The whole number of seizures of intoxicating liquors has been about fifty—of the market value of the liquor seized has been not far from five thousand dollars.
There were committed to the watch house from June 1st, to Dec. 31st, 1850, 333 persons in the corresponding months of 1851, 152 persons; in October, November and December, 1850, respectively, 43, 44 and 42—133; in the same months of 1851, 23 and 11—55. This statement does not show the actual difference in the commitments of the two periods of 1850 and 1851, but in former years the number of the police and watch were allowed to get home, if they were able to accomplish it, and often such persons were aided by the watch; but during the corresponding periods of this year, the orders to the police and watch were to arrest and commit to the watch house, all persons who were manifestly under the influence of liquor—and the application of the same rule to the corresponding period of 1850, would have doubled the number of commitments, at least one-third of the persons committed to the Watch House for the last six months were foreigners who obtained the means of intoxication from low shops or cellars, kept with great secrecy by their countrymen.
I have since received from Mr. Mitchell, City Missionary, and from Mr. Hadley, Minister at Large, whose duties call them to visit the poorer part of the population. Mr. Mitchell has been in the City Missionary for many years and has under his supervision from six hundred and fifty to seven hundred families, and he adds that not one-twentieth of intemperate drinking can now be found, that existed when the Maine Law went into effect. In his constant walks about the city, he does not meet one intoxicated person; and he does not see one that has drunk himself into a fever, or that has drunk himself into a maniac, or that has drunk himself into a grave. He says that he has seen many more cases of this kind, which he knows where both husbands and wives drank to excess, they are reformed through the effects of the law and are living happily together.
Mr. Hadley says that his intercourse is chiefly with the poorest part of the population, and especially with the Alms House, and especially with the inmates of the Alms House, and he compares with the corresponding period ending December 31, 1850, the calls made upon him for assistance have been less than one-sixth, and the cases where just one-sixth as many as they were during the same months of 1850, and the amount of the Alms House for the corresponding period of 1850. These results he obtains from a careful examination of his books, and attributes the difference entirely to the favorable operation of this law upon the habits and domestic economy of the people.
These statements collected from various sources, all pointing significantly in one direction, cannot fail to satisfy the most cautious observer, that the operation of the Maine Law is a steady and successful sweep away of a large portion of the poverty, pauperism, crime and suffering with which we have been afflicted; the result of the traffic in strong drink. I consider the success of this law, of the highest importance to the interests of the city, and to the prosperity and happiness of the people—and I have not hesitated to exert for the accomplishment of that object, all the power conferred upon me by the City Charter and the City Council.
It seemed to me to be necessary to pursue such a course, because the Bill was drawn and passed under circumstances so peculiar, that the people of the State turned their eyes to this city, with common consent, to observe the manner in which it should be executed here. The law is so stringent in its provisions, and summary in its process, that many persons supposed some difficulty might be found in executing it, and a firm and energetic enforcement of it in this city, was necessary to encourage other firms and cities in the State to do the same thing, and to demonstrate to the people of other States, that such law would be effectual in extinguishing the traffic in intoxicating liquors, which all acknowledge to be an unmitigated curse in every community in which it is tolerated.
On the 12th of June the Council passed the following ordinance: "That the effect to the Act for the Suppression of Drinking Houses and Tippling Shops, recently enacted, and to procure the full benefit thereof to the city, as speedily as possible, the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized to draw his orders on the Treasurer, from time to time, and for such means as he may judge necessary and proper."
If the suppression of all our grog shops could have been effected at a cost to the Treasury of one-third of the amount, it would be regarded as a great financial saving, but the fact is, that the amount of the Treasury for the year ending June 30, 1851, for the suppression of the grog shops, was only \$12,000, and the amount of the Treasury for the year ending June 30, 1850, for the same purpose, was \$100,000.

The Razor Stop Man

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