

How long, or in other words, how much longer, will the Legislature of this enlightened State permit such monstrous anomalies, such iniquitous enactments, to disgrace our laws, and shed light and mildew upon a suffering people?

Is it not a strange and shameful thing that vice should be enshrined and upheld by statute? That a governmental sanction should be given to that which is the principal instigator of crime, and which causes a daily and hourly infraction of laws? We raise legal mounds around each individual, for the security of person and property, and then, as if for the very purpose of defeating their object, we license that which causes them to be rent asunder. We pull down with one hand what we build up with the other. Protective laws are of no avail while that is encouraged by law which never fails to secure their violation. Of what use are laws against assaults, blows, theft, robberies, and murder, while we commission men to deal out that which makes ruffianism, thieves, robbers and murderers? What sense or reason is there in such legislation? All the purposes of good government and a well organized judiciary, are defeated by the liquor traffic; and so long as this traffic is sustained and not forbidden by law, so long shall we feel that we are deprived of the legal protection to person and property which the people have a right to claim of their rulers, and which it is the first duty of all governments to afford.

What would be thought of a Legislature that should construct a system of wise and wholesome laws for a people, and then cap the climax by the addition of a statute the direct and necessary effect of which would be to remove the nullification of the whole previous code? Their wisdom might be likened to that of a man who should build a fine house for himself and family, and then cause a crevice to be opened under the eaves, sufficiently large to allow the first blast of wind to roof it, and expose its wretched inmates to the pelting of every after storm that might chance to beat upon them. Our legislators, whatever may have been their motives, committed an act of equal folly when they framed our present license laws; and we shall be in the condition of a family inhabiting a roofless house, or a community without a government, until we obtain that first and most necessary provision for our safety—a law prohibiting the liquor traffic. Our whole criminal code is a splendid cheat, and our judiciary a solemn mockery.

We say this because we know we are dealing with a matter in which the innocent are forever doomed to suffer with the guilty, and we would call your special attention to the fact that the innocent are the greatest sufferers. The most frightful accidents and casualties are constantly happening from intoxication, horses are driven by persons inflamed by liquor through town and country, at the top of their speed, endangering the lives and property of all in their way; fire is carelessly handled by drunken men, and extensive conflagrations are the consequence. We have no security against such disasters so long as the law remains as it is. We cannot enter a stage coach, railroad car, steamboat, or packet ship, without putting our lives in jeopardy from the besotted heedlessness of drivers, engineers, pilots and captains. How many steamers loaded with human beings have been blown to atoms; how many ships freighted with uptold wealth have been foundered in the ocean; how many cities laid in ashes, through the direct and indirect agency of alcohol?

In the eloquent language of one of our navy officers: "Could the wave that has been the winding sheet of the sailor speak, could the lonely shore reveal the secrets of its frequent wounds, there would be voice on the ocean, and bones on its strand, to tell a tale of death more wild and dark than any that ever yet knelled its terrors through the most tragic dream. It is not the tempest casting the proud ship a naked hulk on the deep, nor the rock strewn with fragments of its perished strength, that has wrought this scene of desolation and filled so many hearts with unavailing sorrow—it is that cup of insidious poison mingled and mixed and still placed to his lips by the Government! Yes, by the Government!"

If those who indulge in debasing beverages were the only sufferers, we might be disposed to regard their degradation and misery as a righteous retribution, and submit to witness their just afflictions in silence; but society is so constituted that no human being can fall from respectability and usefulness without dragging down with him a greater or less number of guiltless victims; and all these, together with the erring one, are constantly exciting our pity and compassion. We cannot be happy and cheerful while they are so sad and miserable. But if we could become callous and indifferent to the woes of all such, who abstain from the drunkard's potations are not, ourselves, secure from his constant outrages. As a striking instance of this, we refer to the appalling and world astounding assassination of President Lincoln. Our great and good Chief Magistrate was a teetotaler, and has been one for twenty-five years; yet that did not save his honored head from the bullet of a drunken assassin. His murderer was a vile and brutal sot, and such had been his character for the last seven years. He was educated and fitted for the horrible deed in the grog shops of the country. No sober man that ever lived was ever bad enough for the commission of such a murder. A crime so heinous in atrocity, could not have been achieved without the aid of conscience-stifling alcohol. The natural or unnatural baseness of human nature, is inadequate to such an enormity. The instigations of the devil would have failed without the all potent assistance of the intoxicating glass. The evidence in the case shows that during the day of the murder, Booth kept himself just drunk enough to play the fiend, and that he hardened his heart and nerved his arm with an additional glass of brandy not ten minutes before the fatal shot was fired, which slew the savior of the Republic, and evoked a wail of

sorrow and lamentation throughout the civilized world. This is but one instance, though a signal one, in which alcohol smites and desolates those who abstain from its use. There can be no security for the sober, while drunkards are manufacturing the means of law, and permitted to prove by might and by day.

There is no safety for anyone in society, male or female, old or young, rich or poor, where intoxicating liquors are sold as a beverage. Whether at home or abroad, riding or walking, lying down or sitting up, the life, property and happiness of every human being, is endangered by the continuance of this horrible traffic. We ask to be protected from this traffic. We believe it is in your power to protect us. We believe it is in your power to prohibit the sale of such beverages, and we feel that we have a right to claim this much at your hands. It was for such protection as this that our Government was organized; it is for this that we pay our taxes and bear the public burdens.

We know that there are persons who pretend to doubt your constitutional power to banish such an outrage on all that man holds dear. Where, then, do you get the power to stop locomotion—to arrest a man's right to travel, because he is affected with certain ailments? The State has established a quarantine on the Delaware river, at which they forcibly detain all vessels having on board persons laboring under contagious or infectious diseases. Is not the right to establish such an institution derived from the law of self-defense? And will not the principle authorize society to protect itself from the consequences of a business more dreadful and blighting than the whole catalogue of the worst distempers that ever ravaged the world? If we may not invoke the power of the law for the suppression of this appalling and destructive business, then is the Constitution a nullity, and civil government a sham.

We know it is contended that taverns are necessary for the public accommodation, and that they cannot be kept without the privilege of selling liquor. We grant that public houses are needed, but deny that more are necessary than can live by supplying the real wants of the public. Are we bound to foster base appetites and depraved habits, in order to secure a sufficient number of taverns. As well might it be argued that we are bound to take medicine when we are not sick, in order that the public be accommodated with physicians and apothecaries when wanted. That the present number of taverns could not be supported if confined to the useful part of the business, is quite probable. Granting this, it follows that at this time there are more taverns than the public convenience and public good require. And what else does it show? Why, clearly that the whole excess over and above what is really required for the public accommodation, which, for aught we know may be one-half of the whole number, owe their existence to a traffic which neither promotes nor seeks to promote the public good—a traffic which is not only a waste of all the money it involves, but which is the source of nearly all the poverty, crime and suffering that exists in the State. The public want taverns, and must and will support so many and such as are needed, but they do not want dram-selling taverns. Better a thousand times would it be to have none at all, than to have such as produce infinitely more evil than good.

We are aware that the vendor pleads poverty as an excuse for continuing the traffic. He says he must sell liquor to support his family. This we deny. We do not believe that Providence has so ordered things that men cannot live without relying upon each other. Ninety-nine out of a hundred of our people live without the privilege, and think it no hardship. As well might we have everlasting war among the nations of the earth, for the mere purpose of giving steady employment and high wages to officers and soldiers; or as well might the makers of idols in heathen lands oppose the introduction of Christianity because it would spoil their trade. But if those engaged in the liquor business cannot support themselves and their families by some honest and useful vocation, then we say let the public support them. We would much rather see them engaged in the useful part of the business, and criminals which they are constantly throwing upon the public. We are willing to bear all necessary burdens, but we are tired of sustaining the oppressive load which is heaped upon us by a legalized vice.

We are also aware that it is contended that a prohibitory law could not be enforced. This we do not believe. We are confident that it would be more easy to enforce such a law than to prevent a violation of our present license laws. The sale of strong drinks can be prohibited and banished, but it cannot be regulated so long as it is approved by law. We look upon the legalized traffic as the parent of the illegal traffic; and we doubt not that so long as the former is permitted, the latter will prevail in spite of the most stringent enactments to the contrary. Give us the law, and we will see that it is executed. If after its adoption men are found ready to violate it, we shall not be surprised, nor shall we regard that as a reason for its repeal. The laws against fraud, theft and counterfeiting, are frequently broken, yet no one thinks of making such infraction a pretext for their repeal or an excuse for licensing the crimes which they are intended to prevent. If liquor is sold as a beverage, we wish it to be sold contrary to law. We think the effect of such sale under the ban of law, is much less pernicious than if otherwise would be. We maintain that our laws should be on the side of virtue and morality, whether they can be enforced or not, as it is better that men who will do wrong should act in the face of the law, than that the law should be made to sanction their wrong doing.

We hope you will see the justice and urgent necessity of granting the act we solicit, and we are confident that its fruits will be such that your names and deeds will be held in grateful remembrance by a happy and improving posterity.

Signed, by order of the Grand Lodge, and on behalf of seven thousand members of the Order of Good Templars in the State.

J. F. CROUCH,
G. W. C. T. of I. O. G. T. of Pa.
Lancaster, Pa.

L. E. WRIGHT, G. W. S.
Lancaster, Pa.

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SCRATCH! SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
Wheaton's Ointment
Will Cure the Itch in 48 Hours.
Also cures Salt Rheum, Ulcers, Chitblains, and all Eruptions of the Skin. Price 50 cts. For sale by all Druggists.

By sending 60 cents to WEEKS & POTTER, Sole Agents, 170 Washington street, Boston, Mass., it will be forwarded by mail, free of postage, to any part of the United States, Sept. 10.—Sp. Notice, 6 mos.

WARNING!
I hereby warn all persons against cutting wood on or taking logs from my land near Germania, or doing any damage whatever to said lands, as I shall prosecute all such offenders to the utmost extent of the Law.
CHAS. BUSHOR.
Dec. 20, 1865.

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HATS AND CAPS

Boots & Shoes!

READY-MADE CLOTHING!

at

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for

CASH!

AMONG OTHER THINGS ARE

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Ten Dollar Shawls for Seven Dollars

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The sale to commence MONDAY, the 29th day of January, and end the first of March. Come early if you want the first choice.

THE HOURS of the firm will be closed on the 27th January, and no credit given thereafter. Those who have accounts with the firm will please call and settle without delay, as the Books must be settled at once.

C. S. & E. A. JONES.

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Railroad through Potter county.

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Including Writing, Tissue, Perfected and Blotting Paper, Envelopes, Inks, Slates, Pencils, Crayons, Inkstands, Blank-Books of all kinds.

Writing BOOKS, Pocket DIARIES,

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Jan 15 65

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H. J. OLMSTED'S

STORE can always be found the best of

Cooking, Box and Parlor

STOVES

Also, TIN and SHEET IRON WARE, POTS, KETTLES, SPIDERS, SCOTCH BOWLS, FRYING-PANS, SAP-PANS, and CAULDRONS. Also,

Agricultural Implements,

such as PLOWS, SCRAPERS, CULTIVATORS, CORN-SHELLERS, HORSE-RAKES, DOG-POWERS, &c.

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is well made and the material good. Good and substantial EAVES-TROUGHS put up in any part of the County—Terms easy. Ready Pay of all kinds, including Cash, seldom refused.

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It is a sure preventive of all diseases incident to this animal, such as LUNG FEVER, GLANDERS, TER HEAVES, COUGHS, DISTEMPERS, COLIC, WOUNDS, YERS, FOUNDER, LOSS OF APPE- TITE AND VITAL ENERGY, &c. Its use improves the food, increases the appetite, gives a smooth and glossy skin, and transforms a miserable skeleton into a fine-looking and spirited horse.

To keepers of Cows this preparation is invaluable. It increases the quantity and improves the quality of the milk. It has been proven by actual experiment to increase the quantity of milk and cream twenty per cent and make the butter firm and sweet. In fattening cattle, it gives them an appetite, loosens their hide, and makes them thrive much faster.

In all diseases of Swine, such as Coughs, Ulcers in the Lungs, Liver, &c., this article acts as a specific. By putting from one-half a paper to a paper in a barrel of swill the above diseases will be eradicated or entirely prevented. If given in time, a certain percentage and cure for the Hog Cholera.

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