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BY G. W. CALLAHAN.

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TERMS:

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THE DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS OF SPIRIT-DRINKING.

The following remarks are extracted from "Lectures on the Means of Promoting and Preserving Health, delivered at the Mechanics' Institute, Spitalfields, by T. Hodgkin, M. D., London, 1835." Dr. Hodgkin is a member of the Society of friends.

"The fatal influence of intemperance in drink is occasionally seen a little beyond the middle period of life, at which time persons are not unfrequently subject to what is called climacteric decline. Some are favored to recover from its attack; but to the spirit drinker it almost always proves fatal. Premature old age is another result of spirit drinking. I have often noticed, with surprise, in the course of my practice, that when I had suspicion of the habits of a patient, I have inquired his age, that, with all the marks of age and decrepitude upon him, he was some years my junior. The habit of spirit drinking unfits its victims to bear the wounds, fractures and accidents of various kinds to which all are liable; and the skill of the surgeon is often baffled or foiled by the ill condition of his patient, who, by a long course of spirit drinking, has destroyed the powers of his constitution. It is also worthy of remark, that the spirit drinker is peculiarly susceptible of disease of all kinds, and, consequently, is likely to fall the first victim to fevers, or other epidemic distempers. The ravages of the cholera have confirmed this by unnumbered proofs.

The heart and blood-vessels do not escape the injurious effects of ardent spirits. The former is subjected to great varieties of excitement, and the palpitations so produced may lead the way to permanent disease. Ossification of the valves and thickening of the lining membrane, are the probable results. The arteries, both large and small, are very liable to become ossified; and, when this effect is produced, the individual is very liable to apoplexy and gangrene. In a former part of this lecture, I have hinted at the injurious effects which improper drinks may produce on the lungs. There is, perhaps, no error of this kind by which this effect is so strikingly produced as when ardent spirits are taken. Besides the obvious effect which they must have in promoting and aggravating inflammation of the lungs, whenever these parts suffer from irritation, at a time when the system is under the influence of spirits, there are two other modes in which mischief is produced, affecting these organs which are less obvious. First, it has been ascertained by experiment that a greater exercise of respiration is required when the system is excited by spirits hence, *divers* cannot remain so long under water after they have been taking spirits, as they can at other times. *Runners*, also, find their wind shortened after drinking spirits. Now, those who take spirits in sufficient quantity to affect the system, and then, under the excitement which they have produced, apply themselves to some laborious or active exertion, must expose the lungs, or organs of respiration, to the chance of very serious injury.

"The other effect to which I allude may seem, at first, to be at variance with what I have just related, as well as opposed to the vulgar or common opinion respecting the effect of spirits. It is generally supposed that they promote the warmth of the body; on which account they are frequently taken by persons who have no inclination to intemperance, when they are peculiarly exposed to the cold. This is a very fallacious practice. A transient glow may indeed be produced by the quickened circulation which, for a short time, succeeds the swallowing of the dram; but this afterwards becomes proportionally more languid; in consequence of which, the surface, and more especially the extremities, become pale and cold, whilst the internal parts are both stimulated by the spirit and loaded with the blood which has left the surface of the body. The object of maintaining and equalizing the warmth of the body is completely lost; whilst the internal organs are exposed to the danger of inflammation. This effect of ardent spirits is seen carried to its greatest and most serious extent in Russia, and other countries where extreme cold prevails. The inhabitants of these countries are apt to give way to overpowering intoxication. If, in this state, they expose themselves to the cold air, or are driven out of dram shops and turned into it, the combined influence of the benumbing cold, and the liquor they have taken, porduces a profound degree of torpor. Breathing, which is closely and necessarily connected with the production of animal heat, is almost suspended, and the individual, unless rescued from his dangerous situation, is soon frozen to death.

"The deleterious effect of spirit on the skin is seen in the production of what is usually called grog blossoms. Spirits likewise promote attacks of erysipelas, which are often severe, and even fatal, in persons whose constitutions are shattered by the use of spirits.

"The worst effects of spirits, as connected with bodily health, are those which it produces on the nervous system; by which I mean the brain, and nerves. The first effect of a large dose of spirits on the system is almost immediate, and quite notorious, causing swimming of the head, confusion of ideas, and staggering gait. The late Dr. Spurzheim, who is almost universally known, in consequence of the long continued and close attention which he paid to the brain, declared that he had found brains peculiarly hard in this country, (England,) which he attributed to the general abuse of spirits. A striking, and often immediate, effect of intoxication upon the brain is *Apoplexy*.—Where this is not immediately fatal, palsy is almost sure to remain. *Epilepsy* is another very serious disease of the brain, which, when not produced, may be greatly aggravated, by the influence of spirits. In females, they greatly promote a tendency to *Hysterics*.

"One of the most serious diseases of the brain, brought on by the use of spirits, is called *delerium tremens*. Persons whose age might induce one to suppose that they were in prime of life, are sometimes carried off in a few hours by this dreadful malady. Those are the most liable to die from this affection who have kept up an almost incessant state of excitement by means of ardent spirits. It is not necessary that the quantity taken should have been such as to produce an extreme degree of intoxication; the individual may even have been able, in some degree, to attend to the various concerns in which he might happen to be placed; when, after the sudden removal of the stimulus, or the abstraction of blood, or some powerful influence on the mind, or something without any assignable cause, a state approaching to madness, and often marked with tremors, muttering, and prostration of strength, suddenly comes on, and, if not pretty promptly relieved, by well directed medical aid, is very apt to prove speedily fatal."

SPANISH ROBBERIES.

During my stay of a fortnight in the capital, I heard of three robberies in the streets. One of them was conducted in the most singular manner. The victim was returning from a party at the French ambassador's, when he was accosted by several men and ordered to give up his money; which, being alone and unarmed, he did; the robbers then handed him a piece of paper, which, without looking at it, he put in his pocket. This happened near the foot of the Alcala; and when he arrived at the top of the street, he was again stopped and asked whether he had not a piece of paper. He produced the paper he had received at the foot of the street, which was a certificate of his being robbed, and he was allowed to pass unmolested. The Spaniards are certainly *ladrones de garbo*, as the newspaper editor has it; for they gave one the option of either fighting or paying; whereas, an Italian would first shoot you from behind a hedge, and then rob you afterwards.

The most singular instance of the coolness and intrepidity of the Spanish character occurred not long ago at Seville. My informant was an English traveller who resided in the town at the time. A countryman was proceeding to market with his mule, when he was accosted not far from the town by a man armed with a musket, who ordered him to give up his property. The peasant replied that he would do no such thing, because he had a knife, and if his opponent's gun missed fire, he would have the advantage. The robber expostulated, but to no purpose; he at length took deliberate aim at his intended victim, drew the trigger, and his piece missed fire; the peasant instantly attacked and despatched him with his knife, threw the dead body across his mule, and entered Seville in triumph, carrying as a trophy the arms of his enemy. This wild species of justice is certainly excusable in a country where no other is to be obtained.—*A Summer in Spain.*

From the Boston Courier.

GAMING HOUSES IN FRANCE.

The recent law of France for the suppression of Gaming-Houses, however adroitly it may be evaded, evinces the sobriety and correct tone of the public mind on this subject. It is but a few years since that such a proposition would have been scouted with derision and scorn, but the moral sense of this nation, so long bewildered or trampled upon, seems to be collecting its energies and sharpening its vision for a vigorous discriminating exercise of its powers. No pen can paint the tragic sorrows of which the gaming tables of Paris have been the source. There is scarcely a wealthy family in Europe, that has not felt, in some of its members, the disastrous effects. The parent has every where trembled for his son, while in the French capital, and the wife has prepared herself, as well as she could, to meet a returning husband who left her in affluence, and is coming back in abject poverty—if, indeed, as is often the case, he has not already ended his misery and disgrace in the act of suicide.

When in Paris, I went to one of these tables, not for the purpose of playing, but merely as a matter of curiosity. Near me stood an Englishman, who lost in the course of the evening forty thousand pounds; distracted and despairing, he hastened to his hotel, and ended the scene with a sweep of his razor, leaving at home a confiding wife and young family, to mourn and weep in bitterness and want. On the opposite side of the table stood a young Frenchman, who commenced his play in moderate sums, but losing, till at last, desperate, he threw down ten thousand francs—it was evident that this was his all. Never shall I forget the agony of suspense his features betrayed at this moment; or the blanched, death-like hue of that face, as he discovered his last loss! He rushed from the room, and in a few moments the report of a pistol in the court below told the quick story of his rash end. Now, if the history of a single table, in one evening, can furnish two such tragedies as these, what a world of guilt and woe must be embraced in the annals of these frightfully extended establishments! Every friend of humanity must rejoice that the French government have determined to put them down; and if the most efficient police in Europe be any pledge of success their object will be substantially effected.

A TRAVELLER.

THE TREASURY OF PHARAOH.

It was in consonance with the usual turn of their minds, after having examined in vain all the coffins of the funeral monuments, to search for the place where Pharaoh, the founder of such costly edifices, had buried his wealth. They found the depository, as they conceived, at last, in the urn which is seen surmounting the Khasne. Here, thought they, all the riches of the sovereign must be preserved. Unhappily, being out of their reach, it served only the more to kindle their desires. Hence, whenever they pass through the ravine. they stop for a moment, charge their guns, aim at the urn, and endeavor, by firing at it, to break off some fragments, with a view to demolish it altogether, and get at the treasure which it is supposed to contain. The urn, however, resists all their attacks; and when they have discharged all their pieces in vain, they go away murmuring against the giant king, who had the cunning to place his treasure at a distance of a hundred and twenty feet above their heads.—This monument is sculptured out of an enormous and compact block of freestone, slightly tinged with oxyde of iron. Its preservation is due to the protection which the adjacent rocks and upper vault afford it against the winds and rains. The statues and the bases of the columns alone exhibit signs of deterioration, caused by humidity, which corrodes the parts that are most in relief, or are nearest to the earth. It is to this influence we are to attribute the fall of one of the columns, which was attached to the pediment; it would have drawn down with it the whole monument if it had been built and not hollowed out from the rock. Hence, only a void has been occasioned, which does not impair the general effect. The prostrate fragments were rather useful to us in their fallen state, inasmuch as they enabled us, by the dimensions of the shaft and capital, to ascertain the probable height of the column, which we could not have otherwise fixed with any precision.—*Laborde's Journey through Arabia Petræa.*

THE ISLES OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.

I think there is not, within the knowledge of the 'all beholding sun,' a spot so singularly and exquisitely beautiful. Between the Mississippi and the Cimmerian Bosphorus, I *know* there is not, for I have picknicked from the Symplegades westward. The thousand isles of the St. Lawrence are as imprinted on my mind as the stars of heaven; I could forget them as soon.

The river here is as wide as a lake, while the channel just permits the passage of a steamer. The islands, more than a thousand in number, are a singular rock, split, as it were, by regular mathematical fissures, and overflowed nearly to the tops, which are loaded with a most luxuriant vegetation. They vary in size, but the generality of them would about accommodate a tea party of six. The water is deep enough to float a large steamer directly at the edge, and an active deer would leap across from one to the other in any direction. What is very singular, these little rocky platforms are covered with a rich loam, and carpeted with moss and flowers, while immense trees take root in the clefts, and interlace their branches with those of the neighboring islets, shadowing the water with the unsunned dimness of the wilderness. It is a very odd thing to glide through in a steamer. The luxuriant leaves sweep the deep, and the black funnel, parts the drooping sprays as it keeps its way, and you may pluck the blossoms of the acacia, or the rich chesnut flowers, sitting on the taffrail; and really, a magic passage in a witch's steamer, beneath the tree tops of an untrodden forest could not be more novel and startling. Then the solitude and silence of the dim and still waters are continually broken by the plunge and leap of the wild deer springing or swimming from one island to another; and the swift and shadowy canoe of the Indian glides out from some unseen channel, and, with a single stroke of his broad paddle, he vanishes and is lost again, even to the ear.—*Willis' Inklings.*

MEXICO.

How deeply to be regretted is the internal situation of this most beautiful part of the habitable globe. Constantly torn and distracted by her intestine commotions and civil wars, her inhabitants may be looked upon as retroceding, instead of being on the march toward the full fruition of civilization. This country, on the arrival of the Spaniards in 1519, composed a powerful and civilized empire; but the origin of the inhabitants still remains in great obscurity. The conquest of Mexico by Fernando Cortez, is one of the most interesting portions of the history of this continent. Cortez discovered the country in 1519, when he landed on the eastern coast, and founded the city of Vera Cruz, after which he penetrated into the interior, and finally in 1531, after the death of Montezuma, the Spaniards took the city of Mexico, and the whole empire fell into their hands. Cortez continued to govern the country as captain general under the King of Spain, until 1536, when a Spanish Viceroy was appointed in his place.

For nearly three centuries that this earthly paradise was held by the Spaniards, scenes of oppressive rapine and blood shed, which beggar pescription were constantly enacted; there was neither government or justice—the creoles and patriots felt the indignities and cruelties of the royalists bearing so strong upon them that in 1810 an insurrection broke out against the government, and Mexico after many bloody battles and engagements was declared independent by a congress, which assembled in 1818.—From this declaration of independence until 1824, the whole country was but one continued scene of civil commotion. The long civil war in Mexico has exhausted the resources of the government. A republican form of Government was adopted in 1824, and in 1825 the first congress convened, and the government was for a short period administered on republican principles; at last, the priests continued to mind the things that appertained to their office, but when they stepped beyond their cloisters to mingle in the polical affairs of government, then began disturbances and minor revolutions, which increase and spread wider from time to time; the former influence that the priests had enjoyed during the twelve years of civil war prior to the first session of congress, began to revive and spread through a majority of the states, and when they conceived themselves strong enough, the constitution of 1824 was declared not adapted to either the wishes or wants of the Mexican people. the municipality of Taluca being more immediately under the power of the priests, was the first to make this declaration,—a change in the constitution was proposed and carried; to this change many of the states did not agree—Texas among the number.—The consequence was that they called down upon their heads the vengeance of the priests in the shape of force to drive them into subjection. Texas was the last province against which this force was directed, the result is still in the womb of time.—*N. O. Bee.*

From the United States Gazette.

The question is frequently asked, why are not our young men as robust and healthy now as young men were a half century ago And what is the reason that so many die young, and so few live to old age, or even to middle life? We will endeavor to answer these queries agreeably to our own observations. In the first place, young men a half a century ago were brought up and educated to more industrious, economical, and temperate habits. They were then under tutors and compelled to be obedient to their parents and masters. They were made to retire to bed early, and to exercise themselves at some kind of manual labor previous to attending to their studies, if they were students; if they were not students, they more obliged to earn their breakfast (at some kind of work) before they ate it. Their food then was much coarser and plainer, and therefore more healthy. If the same kind of conduct and living were pursued now toward our boys and young men, they would be as healthy and robust now as their predecessors were, and live to as great an age, and so would our young women. But manners, customs, and living have all changed. Now our children are masters; they turn night into day, and day into night. They sit up until midnight, and all the beautiful atmosphere of the morning has passed away before they are up! It is really so! and instead of being early put to some useful labor and exercise, they are permitted to loiter and idle away their precious time, and to eat and drink the hard earnings of others! No wonder that there are fifty paupers now were there was but one then.

Many of the young men of the present day who find an early grave are guilty of suicide! They actually kill themselves by intemperance in meats and drinks and dissipation. They live five years in one: i. e., they eat and drink as much in one year as would serve a healthy and temperate liver five! not to enlarge upon the alarming dissipation of our young people, which sweeps away millions to an early grave every year. If there should not be a speedy reformation in the conduct of young people, a man of fifty or sixty (should there be such an one) will be looked upon in a few years with admiration and astonishment!

Extract from an address delivered by General Harrison, before the Hamilton County Agricultural Society, June 16th, 1831.

"The encouragement of agriculture, gentlemen, would be praiseworthy in any country; in our own it is peculiarly so. Not only to multiply the means and enjoyment of life, but as giving greater stability and security to our political institutions. In all ages and in all countries, it has been observed, that the cultivators of the soil, are those *who are least willing to part with their rights, and submit themselves to the will of a master.* I have no doubt also, that a taste for agricultural pursuits, is the best means of disciplining the ambition of those daring spirits, who occasionally spring up in the world, for good or for evil, to defend or destroy the liberties of their fellow-men, as the principles received from education or circumstances may tend. *As long as the leaders of the Roman armies were taken from the plough, to the plough they were willing to return.* Never in the character of General, forgetting the duties of the citizen, and ever ready to exchange the sword and the triumphal purple, for the homely vestments of the husbandman.

"The history of that far-famed republic is full of instances of this kind; but none more remarkable than our own age and country have produced. The fascinations of power and the trappings of command, were as much despised, and the enjoyment of rural scenes, and rural employments as highly prized by Our Washington, as by Cincinnatus or Regulus. At the close of his glorious military career, he says, 'I am preparing to return to that domestic retirement which it is well known I left with the deepest regret, and for which I have not ceased to sigh through a long and painful absence.'

"Your efforts, gentlemen, to diffuse a taste for agriculture amongst men of all descriptions and professions, may produce results more important even than increasing the means of subsistence, and the enjoyments of life. It may cause some future conqueror for his country, to end his career,

"*Guiltless of his country's blood.*"

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ARTIFICIAL WATER WORKS.

A correspondent of the Boston Times, in a letter from Haddon Hall, England, gives the following account of the water works, at the residence of the Duke of Devonshire.

"The water works are beautiful. There is one pond with a jet in the centre, throwing water to the height of sixty feet. The water tree is quite a curiosity, and I understand the Duke takes great pleasure in soaking his friends under it. It is a tall tree, the trunk, branches and leaves of which are made entirely of copper, and painted to imitate nature. "His Grace" then invites a party of ladies, for instance, to examine this singular plant, and as soon as they are close to it, at a given signal, every leaf becomes a water spout, and at the same instant, numberless streams issue from the ground and hedges around, and before persons can escape, they are completely drenched. Of course the victims must appear pleased with this ungracious act of His Grace. The gardener attempted to catch your humble servant in this way, but I smelt the rat, and told him I could "see as well a little farther off."—The most beautiful part of the work is the great Cascade. By opening a valve, a vast quantity of water rushes violently from the roof of a beautiful temple and from the mouths of lions, dolphins, sea nymphs, &c,—its ornaments—and falling into a basin in front of it, from which also several fountains issue, it is thence discharged over a series of stone steps down a distance of 250 yards, and having reached the bottom sinks into the ground immediately at your feet, and disappears as if by magic. These works are supplied by a reservoir, which is said to cover fourteen acres of ground."

A correspondent of the Nashville Republican furnishes the following interesting information respecting the names and numbers of the Indian tribes on the Western frontier, and of those yet remaining within the limits of the several States. It is said to be derived from official sources:

The names and numbers of the Indians who have *emigrated* to the West of the Mississippi, are—

Choctaws,	15,002
Appalachicolas,	265
Cherokees,	5,000
Creeks,	2,459
Senacas and Shawanees,	211
Senecas (from Sandusky),	231
Potawattomies,	141
Peorias and Kaskaskias,	132
Pienkeshaws,	162
Wees,	222
Ottowas,	262
Kickapoos,	470
Shawanees,	1,250
Delawares,	825

The names and numbers of the Indian tribes *residing* west of the Mississippi, are—

Ioways,	1,200
Sacs (of the Missouri),	500
Omahas,	1,400
Ottoes and Missourias,	1,600
Pawnees,	10,000
Comanchees,	7,000
Mandons,	15,000
Mineterees,	15,600
Assinaboins,	800
Crees,	3,000
Crosventres,	3,000
Crows,	45,000
Sioux,	27,500
Quapaws,	450
Caddoes,	800
Poncas,	800
Osages,	5,120
Konsas,	1,471
Sacks,	4,800
Arickaras,	3,000
Chazenes,	2,000
Blackfeet,	30,000
Foxes,	1,600
Arepehas and Creawas,	1,400

And there are yet remaining East of the river in the Southern States, a considerable number: the five principal tribes are the Seminoles, Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws and Chickasaws.

Seminoles (yet remaining east),			2,420
Choctaws,	"	"	3,500
Chickasaws,	"	"	5,429
Cherokees,	"	"	10,000
Creeks,	"	"	22,668

Those stated as Western tribes extend along the whole Western frontier. And taking as true the opinion of the department, the average number of an Indian family as *four*, it may be seen what number of warriors, by possibility, might be brought into the field, and what number on the other hand might be required to keep them in check.

The lowness of the prices of Tobacco, one of the staple products of Maryand, has for several years excited murmurs on the part of the growers of that article. Some of the producers refer the smallness of the prices to the existence of State warehouses and the necessity of incurring the expense of transporting the commodity from the tobacco growing counties to be inspected at the warehouses in this city. With this view of the case, meetings have been called in some of the counties for the purpose of getting up memorials to the legislature, praying that body to pass a law dispensing with the inspection in the city, and permitting the planters to dispose of their crops without restriction, wherever they can find the best market. A writer in the National Intelligencer admits the existence of the evil complained of, and thinks the present warehousing system objectionable, but not a sufficient reason for the great depression in prices. He regards the heavy impositions laid upon the article in foreign countries, in the form of duties, and the consequent limited consumption of the article, as the only adequate causes of the mischief, and suggests that it be made the subject of negociation between our General Government and those nations with which we have friendly commercial relations. In the event of not succeeding in these negotiations, the writer thinks that Congress might take up the matter and pass such discriminating duties on certain products of foreign industry as will give our country a countervailing advantage until the duties on our tobacco shall be reduced. By way of illustration, the writer in the Intelligencer adverts to the treaty stipulations with regard to cotton, in return for the reduction of the duty on which, the duties on articles of foreign growth have been abolished. In the course of his remarks he states that our exports of tobacco have averaged six millions of dollars per annum, an amount greater than we had supposed, and certainly constituting a branch of our outward trade well worthy of the attention of the government. In the event of the immense duties at present levied on the article abroad being taken off or reduced, its consumption would be increassed and consequently a great advantage accrue to the producer. It is stated that the duty in England is twelve hundred per cent.—an enormous disadvantage against which the American grower has to contend.—*Balt. Amer.*

Lampas of Horses.—The Gennessee Farmer very justly and decidedly condemns the barbarous and inhuman practice, still in use in many sections of the country, of burning out the lampas from the mouths of young horses. The writer remarks, that the idea of the spongy enlargement of that part of the horse's mouth being a disease, has long been exploded by all veterinary surgeons. All horses are subject to it between the ages of three and five, more or less; and, if left to the operations of nature, it will disappear and leave the mouth in a healthy state.