EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature well or ill-conducted, is the Great [illegible] RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the [illegible] Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown."

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TERMS

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ADVERTISEMENTS

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Among the favors recently received from Ireland through the medium of the Secretary of the New York City Temperance Society, we find the following tract, written as we suppose by PROFESSOR EDGAR of Belfast. We hope it will be read with attention.

THE TEMPERATE MAN'S SEVEN REASONS FOR DRINKING NO DISTILLED SPIRITS.

1. Though useful in a very few cases as a strong and dangerous medicine in the hands of a Temperate Doctor, a man in health has no more need of them than of arsenic or laudanum. In all circumstances, and under all circumstances, and under all changes of weather, a man in health is much better without them.—More work can be done and better done, in all climates and in all seasons, with water as the only drink. This is proved by the experience not only of tens of thousands in America and in Europe, who from principle abstain, but of multitudes every where whom poverty binds to the severest labor and privation without any assistance from strong drink.—All rations of spirits have been withdrawn by the English Government from soldiers on foreign stations, because spirits both in cold and warm countries do harm instead of good. Far be it from me, then, to continue the use of a mere luxury which as a customary drink does me no manner of good, but which causes every where around me incalculable [illegible]

2. Because distilled spirits are wholly disqualified by their properties from being used at all except as a dangerous medicine, under the guardianship of a Temperate Doctor. In their own nature they are calculated to lead on to drunkenness. They are too strong, too tempting, too treacherous, too violently intoxicating, to be allowed a place any where but on the apothecary's shelves. Throughout a country they cannot be used in moderation. So soon as they come into common use in any country, that country becomes drunken. All attempts at restraining their ruinous influence by restricting licences, and laying on heavy duties, are miserably ineffectual shifts to atone for the fatal error which has been committed in allowing them to be used at all except as medicine. If distilled spirits be good and wholesome and necessary, especially for the poor, why, in the name of common justice, prevent the free use of them more than of bread! The solemn truth is, that all use of distilled spirits, except a very restricted use in medicine, is dangerous and fatal abuse.

3. Distilled spirits are the most fatal present that art ever made to the human race. The first physicians in the world, in America, England, and Ireland have pronounced them to be in their own nature 'NOXIOUS,' calculated, even in their moderate use, to do many injuries to the human frame. The most moderate regular use of them is inconsistent with the enjoyment of sound health. Fifty of the first medical men in the kingdom have published their opinion that *no cause* would be calculated so much to improve the health of the community as an entire disuse of ardent spirits. Doctors say too that multitudes die of the effects of drinking spirits who were never suspected of intemperance. Since I trust the doctors in other cases, I am bound not only by their superior opportunities of judging, but by consistency to believe them, when they thus speak against their own interests; for one half of all their practice arises from distilled spirits I have too much regard for my own health, and life, and happiness, to have any thing to do with distilled spirits.

4. Distilled spirits have done in time past, they are doing now, and they will continue to do in time to come, infinitely more harm than they are even supposed to do good; and therefore I will use my best exertions to banish them from all ordinary use. Suppose that all the advantages conceived to be derived from the ordinary use of spirits were true, as they are most infamously false; yet all these would not be a drop in the ocean in comparison with the indescribable curses with which they scourge the world. It is only fifty years since the first distillery was established in Glasgow: and then there were only four distilleries in Scotland.—Now, the Scotch are drinking yearly five gallons of spirits a man; Glasgow has 1800 places for the sale of spirits, sends 9600 cases of drunkenness to the Police Offices every year, and on a very moderate calculation has 900 drunken men every day of every year staggering to and fro through her streets. Only a few centuries ago, and there were no distilled spirits in Ireland at all; now the money paid for spirits in Ireland every year would afford seventeen pounds a year to five hundred thousand families of her starving population. It is an unquestionable fact, that the use of distilled spirits in these countries is the cause of three fourths of all beggary and crime, one half of all madness, one half of all sudden deaths, and one fourth of all deaths in persons above twenty years of age. Four out of five of all men in gaol throughout the United Kingdom have been led onward and hardened in crime by spirituous liquors. All murders, robberies and other horrible crimes throughout our land are planned under the inspiration of spirituous liquors and perpetrated under their madness. For my country's good then, as well as my own, my motto respecting distilled spirits is,—'Touch not, taste not, handle not.' Does my country call for all my efforts, and shall I not give up for her sake one little glass of poison?

5. The temperate are the chief promoters of drunkenness. The drunkard is a warning against drunkenness, the moderate spirit drinker is a temptation to it. Who have introduced so strong a poison as distilled spirits into common use? The temperate. Who have clothed them in all their fictitious excellencies? The temperate. Who have befooled the world with notions that they are useful in a multitude of cases where they are positively injurious? The temperate. Who give support and respectability to the whole system of treating with spirits, at baptisms, and marriages, and wakes, and funerals, and auctions, and bargains, and all social meetings? Not drunkards surely. Did drunken masters alone bribe their workmen and servants with spirits, what temperate man would follow so infamous an example? Did drunkards alone *treat*, would treating be respectable, did drunkards alone present distilled spirits on their tables, would any man that valued his character, imitate their example?—Were there drunken footings in the manufactories and workshops of drunkards only, who would countenance such abominations? The chief apology for drunkenness is the moderate drinking of the temperate. The chief cause of drunkenness is the keeping of distilled spirits as a necessary or luxury in those families, which abhor the sin of drunkenness.

Lest therefore, I should be a partaker in other men's sins, I avoid all connexion with these falsehoods and tempting customs, which constitute the school of drunkenness. I neither use spirits myself, lest I should sanction the use of so pernicious a drug, and teach practical lessons of falsehood; nor do I give them to others, for thus I would be putting temptation in my brother's way; and oh! how could I bear the thought of having any part in the training to drunkenness a few fellow immortals, when I know that "drunkards shall not inherit the kingdom of God!" Were I in any degree accessary to the drunkard's crime, how could I escape partaking in the drunkard's doom?

6. It is completely in the power of the Temperate to banish distilled spirits with all the nameless ills to which they give birth. They have only to withdraw their support, and the whole system of manufacturing, selling, and drinking distilled spirits, will be a wreck. If the Temperate abstain, drinking will become discreditable; the manufacturer and seller will cease to minister to the ruin of their country; for without the support of the temperate, the trade could not continue to exist. If all the temperate, abstain, the use of spirituous liquors will be confined to drunkards; and it will perish with drunkards as they sink into unhonoured graves. What a country would ours be were spirituous liquors banished. Let the temperate unite in abstaining, and the work is done. Let them shut up the school of drunkenness; let them stop the sources of drunkenness, so that no new victims may arise, and all the miseries with which spirtuous liquors have plagued the world, may lie buried in the grave of the last drunkard. WHAT OUGHT TO BE DONE CAN BE DONE.

7. By the abstinence of the temperate, drunkards are encouraged to reform; and a refuge is opened for them, when resolved on reformation from those tyrannical customs and courtesies which train drunkards, and which close against the wretched man who has set out on the road to drunkenness, every avenue of return. Heretofore the reformation of the drunkard was considered hopeless and his resolutions of amendment were allowed to rise and sink unheeded [illegible] wave in its own world of troubled [illegible]s. The time is gone now, and gone [illegible] ever.—Heretofore it was counted not [illegible] unmanly and niggardly, but dangerou[illegible] suspicious to refuge spirits. [illegible]key was considered so good a thing, [illegible] no man, it was conceived, could [illegible], unless sworn against it. Every soc[illegible] meeting was a drinking meeting, & the [illegible]culation of the bottle was connected wi[illegible] enjoyment. In the midst of such [illegible]ions and practices who dare abstain? Who dare lift up his voice or his solita[illegible] practice against so cruel a tyranny!

By means of Temperance Societies the scene has been compl[illegible] changed. Over the whole face of [illegible] country, respectable men and women, who never were suspected of intempe[illegible]ce, have united in societies for the pur[illegible]se of asserting for themselves and oth[illegible]s the right to abstain from that poison [illegible]ich is depopulating the country; and [illegible]en these societies have good evidence [illegible] the drunkard's sincere desire of refor[illegible], they admit him into their number[illegible] and protect, and encourage, and strengt[illegible]n him in his new habits. Cities of [illegible]fuge have been opened every where [illegible] the poor drunkard, from the murderous [illegible]habit that pursues him. Many have [illegible]ready fled to them and found safety.

All these reasons have been fully established by experience in the United States of America. Three years ago and the Americans were drinking annually 8 gallons of distilled spirits a man; and among 12 millions of people, between thirty and forty thousand drunkards were every year going down to untimely graves. Spirituous liquors were not only extremely cheap, but were considered absolutely essential to health, and the endurance of labor. Farmers, mechanics, sailors, men of all ranks and classes used them; and imagined that they could not do without them. In such unpromising and deplorable circumstances, Temperance Societies commenced the work of reform; they appealed to all doctors of eminence, and all doctors were unanimous in declaring, not only that ardent spirits are wholly unnecessary for men in health, but positively injurious; they put the matter to the test in their own persons, and were soon convinced, that under all circumstances they were much better without ardent spirits. They united together to banish from all common use this pernicious luxury,—benevolent patriotic men of all religious persuasions united on the ground of a common pratice in abstaining from distilled spirits and discountenancing intemperance. Their success is one of the most astonishing events in the whole history of the world. In three years such has been the change produced in America, that *twelve hundred drunkards have been reformed; and the consumption of all intoxicating liquors has been diminished three fourths even in some of the largest towns.*

The effects of Temperance Societies have been equally glorious in the United Kingdom. Only a year has passed since the subject of Temperance Societies was heard of in the Old World, and there are in Scotland and Ireland alone eighteen thousand members of Temperance Societies, acting with safety and happiness on the principle of abstinence from distilled spirits, and discountenancing the causes and practice of intemperance. The happy change produced by them is acknowledged by all. Multitudes are rejoicing in the liberty from tyrannical customs and habit, which Temperance Societies have given them, schools are filling with children that were formerly in nakedness, families a short time since in starvation are now thanking God each Sabbath in the house of worship for the blessings which Temperance Societies have brought them, and such a zeal has been kindled every where that the active friends of the cause are unable to attend to the numerous calls from all parts of the country for the establishment of Temperance Societies.

Rise, then, temperate Irishmen, as you value your own souls, the souls of your brethren and the religion of your God, rise as one man, against the accursed curse. 'There hath not been ever the like, neither shall there be any more after it even to the years of many generations. A fire devoureth before them, and behind them a flame burneth; the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.'

POPULATION.—The new census will show an increase of population by a greater ratio than that exhibited by any preceding census. We have now the population of all the states except two, and if we make an allowance for the probable increase in these two states, the whole population will exceed thirteen millions. This will make the ratio of increase over thirty per cent. The increase between 1810 and 1820 was in a ratio less than 33 per cent.

A SCENE AT SING-SING.

A few mornings since a tall and rather goodlooking man, in the garb of a sailor, was noticed sauntering about the place where the prisoners at Sing-sing were pursuing their avocations. He was dressed in a rough round-about jacket, loose trowsers & tarpaulin hat, and as he strolled around, noticing the industry and skill of the prisoners in hewing and chisselling the blocks of marble on which they were employed, his countenance wore an expression of approval of their labours very different from that which one of our New York stone cutters & anti-monopoly men would have exhibited in the same circumstances. It was early in the morning, and as the sentinels walked to and fro on their posts, their well-cleaned musket barrels glittering in the rising sun, they now and then cast a sidelong glance to the stranger, to see that he held no communication with the convicts over whom it was their duty to keep a vigilant guard. The stranger seemed little disposed to enter into conversation with the compulsory lapidaries; but walked deliberately around from one part of the grounds to another, with the air of one who merely desired to gratify his curiosity as to the details of the far-famed prison discipline of Sing-Sing.

While he was thus engaged, a sloop which had been lying at a wharf not far off, shoved out into the stream, its jib and mainsail were run up, & swelled out by the breeze, and a boat belonging to the vessel, which had been detained at the dock, apparently waiting for some one seemed on the point of leaving it, and pulling off to the sloop. At this moment the stranger turned, and seeing at a glance the situation of affairs, an expression of anxiety passed over his countenance.

"My stars," exclaimed he, "there goes the sloop, and the jolly-boat is going to shove off! I shall be left to a dead certainty.' As he spoke thus, he stepped quickly towards the shore at a point where one of the sentries was walking to and fro.

"Stand there!" said the sentinel,—"you cannot pass this way."

"But, my dear fellow, there goes the sloop, and I shall be left behind, unless you suffer me to pass. I have just returned from an India voyage, and am taking a bit of round turn up the river, to see the old ones, before I'm off to sea again. Prav let me pass.'

"It is contrary to orders," said the soldier, dropping his musket to a horizontal position, and bidding the sailor stand off. You must go out yonder, where you came in. No one is allowed to pass here."

The stranger thus repulsed, turned and walked hastily to another part of the grounds, where he met with an equally prompt refusal from another sentinel.—In this dilemma nothing, was left for him but to turn, and pass through the usual place of egress and entrance. As he approached this place, one of the deputy keepers, who accidentally happened to be on the spot, was noticed to cast sundry doubtful glances upon the stranger, and as he drew near and was darting rapidly through, he called out—

"Here—stop—stay, my friend—who are you, and where are you going?"

"For heaven's sake don't stop me, cried the tar, "the sloop's off, and if I don't bear a hand I shall fall astern of the lighter."

The keeper, supposing him really a sailor, who had been passing the time that the sloop had been detained at the wharf in examining the prison and the surrounding works, was about to let him proceed, when another glance seemed to awake fresh suspicions.

"Hold, my friend," said he, laying his hand on the sailor's collar, "all may be fair and above board, but I must look a little closer into this." As he said this, he raised the tarpaulin hat from the stranger's head, and casting a searching and scrutinizing glance upon his face, suddenly exclaimed, "By Jove it is the villain Jackson!"

The exclamation brought several bye standers to the spot, and a little further scrutiny left no doubt of the fact that the stranger was indeed no other than the convict Jackson, who our readers will remember, was a short time since sentenced to hard labor in the Sing-Sing prison for fifteen years being five years on each of three several indictments.—The sketch which was then furnished by our Reporter of his career of crime, must have convinced the reader that he is a person of singular address and ingenuity; and this last effort to escape shows a degree of skill and daring fully equal to any of his former feats. How he possessed himself of the sailor's suit is not known. It is supposed that he made a portion of it of the bed clothing with which his cell was furnished as only a few small remnants of those articles were left.—

His hat, it is thought, he found means to tar or blacken with materials secreted whilst he was employed in one of the shops connected with the prison. On being taken out of the prison on the morning in question, he probably found means unsuspected to carry out with him, in the bucket with which each cell is supplied, the dress which he afterwards assumed; and the change of apparel was effected behind a rock that sheltered him from observation for a few moments, and in which place his prison dress was afterwards found.

We have this story of the ingenious rogue's defeated attempt to escape from an undoubted source, and in all its main particulars it may be relied upon as correct.—*N. Y. Post.*

From the American Farmer.

PREMIUM AGRICULTURAL ESSAYS.

A country so essentially agricultural in its interests, and posses ing a population so intelligent, as the U. States, ought to produce more original matter for the press, on subjects connected with husbandry. The political, and scientific press, teems with fresh matter weekly and daily; while the agricultural is very much neglected. The cause to which we attribute this want of agricultural writers may be inferred from the remedy we are about to propose. No one, it is presumed, will attribute it to a want of subjects, or ability on the part of our farmers—there is no country on earth where more abundant materials exist for agricultural essays, and none possessing a greater proportion of intelligent writers among its agriculturists. Without, therefore, attempting an elucidation of the evil caused by this dearth of agricultural matter, and believing that its existence is sufficiently apparent, we proceed to the remedy, or such a one as we think will be at least partially effectual.

We propose to award premiums for original Essays on the three great divisions of the agricultural interest, to wit:—

1st. For the best Essay on any subject strictly Agricultural, a perpetual free subscription to the American Farmer, to begin with the 13th volume.

2nd. For the second best Essay, of the same character, five years' subscription, to the American Farmer, beginning with the 13th volume.

3d. For the third best Essay of the same character, one of the previous volumes of the Farmer handsomely bound.

4th. For the best Essay on any subject strictly Horticultural, a perpetual free subscription to the American Farmer, to begin with the 13th volume.

5th. For the second best Essay of the same character, 5 years' subscription to the Farmer, beginning with the 13th volume.

6th. For the third best Essay of the same character, one of the previous volumes of the Farmer handsomely bound.

7th. For the best Essay on any subject of Rural Economy, a perpetual free subscription to the American Farmer, to begin with the 13th volume.

8th. For the second best Essay of the same character, five years' subscription to the *Farmer* beginning with the 13th volume.

9th. For the third best Essay of the same character, one of the previous volumes of the Farmer.

The Essays offered for the above premiums will be submitted to a committee of respectable, intelligent, and practical agriculturists; and to secure to the successful competitors the premiums for the best essays in the three departments, their names will be regularly entered on the books of the office as subscribers for life, charged one hundred dollars therefor, and credited by premium Essay in full, which will bind as well our successors as ourselves to a faithful performance of the contract.

In judging of the merits of the Essays, all things else being equal, a preference will be given to practical over theoretical treatises; but no deficiency of style, inelegance or errors of composition, will be allowed to militate against the success of an Essay, the matter of which in a more comely dress would have obtained a premium. (The Editor will take pleasure in supplying such deficiencies.) The particular subjects for the Essays in the three departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy, are left entirely to the suggestion of the writers themselves; as are also the length of the Essays and the propriety of accompanying their publication with the proper names of the writers, though we always prefer proper signatures.

Essays for the above premiums will be received until the 1st day of June, at which time all that may have come to hand will be submitted to the judges, whose award, with the first prize essay, will be published in the first number of the American Farmer after the decision. Those who do not wish their names published may accompany their Essays with a sealed paper containing their names, and which will not be opened unless it obtains the premium, and then only to enable us to award it.

Publishers of papers in all parts of the United States are particularly requested to give the above an insertion, as it is believed it may be the means of doing much good to the Agricultural interest.

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