

Reading Anti-Tobacco Society : organized in the interest of humanity, and especially for the benefit of the young, who are the hope of the Church and the world. 1887 / W. Wyatt.

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❖ READING ❖

ANTI-TOBACCO SOCIETY



Organized in the interest of
Humanity, and especially for the
benefit of the Young, who are the
hope of the Church and the World.

1887.

*(In the Memorable Year of the Celebration of Her
Majesty Queen Victoria's Jubilee.)*

“That the soul be without knowledge, it is not good.”
—PROV. xix, 2.

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.”
HOSEA iv, 6.

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READING ANTI-TOBACCO SOCIETY.

ORGANIZED IN THE INTEREST OF HUMANITY, AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE
BENEFIT OF THE YOUNG, WHO ARE THE HOPE OF THE CHURCH AND
THE WORLD.

INAUGURATED 1887.

A BRANCH of this Society was formed in Reading at a public meeting held at the Old Town Hall, on December 19th, 1887, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Payne, M.A., who gave an earnest address, and concluded by reading letters expressing sympathy with the cause from Messrs. Butterworth, (President of the Anti-Narcotic League, Manchester,) Martin Hope Sutton, Alfred Sutton, and other Gentlemen who were not able to be present. After which convincing and vigorous addresses were delivered on the subject by the following gentlemen—C. R. Drysdale, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., London, (Senior Physician to the Metropolitan Free Hospital); R. C. Shettle, Esq., M.D.; Rev. S. H. Soole, M.A.; Rev. R. Poynder; Rev. N. A. Ross, LL.D.; and Messrs. Brinson and Blackall; a report of which was published in all our local papers. Dr. Shettle, in the absence of Mr. Butterworth, moved the following resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. R. Poynder, supported by Dr. Drysdale, and carried unanimously:—

“That this meeting, having observed with regret the increasing habit of smoking among the young, to the injury of their health, calls upon all who are interested in their physical and moral welfare to warn them of the evils resulting from the use of Tobacco.”

The Rev. N. A. Ross, LL.D., then moved the following resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. S. H. Soole, M.A., and carried unanimously:—

“That as smoking has a tendency to create a thirst for intoxicating drinks, and has proved injurious to Sunday School and Band of Hope work, this meeting asks all true men and women to join the Anti-Tobacco Society, and discountenance the use of Tobacco both by example and precept.”

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows—*President*, R. C. Shettle, Esq., M.D.; *Vice-Presidents*, Rev. Canon Payne, M.A., Rev S. H. Soole, M.A., Rev. R. Poynder, Rev. N. A. Ross, LL.D., Rev. J. S. Wyard, Rev. C. A. Davis; *Executive Committee*, Messrs. R. Y. Bazett, Thos. Blackall, Joseph Milsom, Senior, A. Mobbs, A. W. Pollard, Thos. Thorp, T. H. White, and W. Wyatt; *Treasurer*, R. Y. Bazett, Esq.; *Hon. Secretaries*, William Wyatt, 8, Milman Road, Reading, and Theodore H. White, B.A., Castle Hill School, Reading.

As all persons should have and be able to give good reasons for their actions, the Committee desire to state the reasons which have led to the formation of this Society. As the same causes exist in other towns and villages which call for the formation of Anti-Tobacco Societies, if the statement of the following facts should lead to the establishment of them, the object and anticipations of the Committee in bringing them under the consideration of the public will be answered.

At a crisis in the History of Israel, David was sharply reproved by Eliab, his elder brother, for coming to the camp, and David replied—“What have I now done, is there not a cause?”

This Society has been formed to save the young, England's future men, from the strangely fascinating but injurious habit of Smoking. And we may ask all who observe the signs of the times, “Is there not a cause?”

God, whose works are perfect, gave to men two appetites for the preservation of the individual, (in common with the brute) hunger and thirst. In the sixteenth century, Smokers, without a divine warrant, added to their natural appetites by cultivating a spurious one for Tobacco, and this fostered appetite reigns supreme in some individuals, not merely over the natural appetite, but over the mind, and these devotees to the weed say they would rather go without their food than Tobacco.

Chemists tell us that the functions of the human body are injuriously affected by two energetic poisons contained in Tobacco, an essential oil and an alkaloid called Nicotine, which, acting in combination, attack the vital forces and simultaneously the whole animal machinery.

JAMES EDMUNDS, Esq., M.D., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., in a letter sent to the Committee and which was read at the public meeting, wrote thus—

“The smoking, chewing, or snuffing up the nose of Tobacco I look upon merely as a form of self-abuse that is most injurious to those who have been unfortunate enough to acquire the habit. From my observation as a physician, I am convinced that the use of Tobacco damages the keenness and accuracy of the vision and hearing. It also takes the tone out of all the rest of the nervous system; it takes the edge off the mental energy. Muscular tone and all the executive faculties are dulled and lowered in grade by its use. I have never seen a particle of good come from its use, but in many cases I have traced gross and palpable secessions to it.”

R. C. SHETTLE, Esq., M.D., says—

“Tobacco is one of the strongest Narcotics we possess, and owing to such property it has frequently caused death. Owing to its sedative influence it calms by diminishing natural power. The fact ought to be recognised that excitement is almost always due to an inability to cope with impressions made upon the nervous system, and the sedative is taken to diminish the effect of the impressions. This is an unscientific as well as injurious means to an end, for it gradually decreases the ability of the smoker to cope with a difficulty. As a medical man, I would earnestly intreat the young to avoid its use.”

A. F. HILL, Esq., in his popular Tract on Life, writes—

“Tobacco in all its forms is injurious. The almost universal craving for some nerve sedative is the natural result of a long course of nerve stimulation, whether by flesh eating or alcohol drinking, but it is not a sign of health. Nicotine, as is well-known, is a most powerful poison, and it is only nature's power of splitting up its essential oils in the lungs which prevents Tobacco from mowing down its victims like the plague. The analysed products of Tobacco-smoke are carbonic acid, sulphuretted hydrogen, prussic acid, pyridine and piccoline, thus covering the whole range of slow to active poisons. But though their most violent effects are staved off at the expense of nerve vitality, the end of slow poisoning is certain. Loss of health, irritability of the nervous system, and all the attendant evils, are the direct consequence, amongst other causes of Tobacco.”

ROBERT MARTIN, Esq., M.D., Manchester, addressing an Anti-Tobacco Meeting at Liverpool, arranged by the Y. M. C. A., said—

“Young men who smoke Tobacco might have delight in it, but it lessened their strength, brought on premature old age and hastened death, other things being equal this was scientifically beyond doubt. Surely such self-injury was dishonouring to our Maker and treachery to one's self. It would be possible to enumerate many poisonous and acid vapours in Tobacco smoke, but not one element of health and vigour. So far as it acted, it diminished bodily and mental strength, and lessened those possibilities of alert, intelligent and fruitful action which made life full and honourable.”

So long ago as 1606, a Medical writer said—

“Tobacco is not good for the young, and should be called youth’s bane.”

Another Physician writes—

“Tobacco has spoilt and utterly ruined thousands of boys, inducing a dangerous precocity, developing the passions, softening the brain, the bones, and greatly injuring the spinal marrow and the entire nervous system. A boy who early learns to smoke is rarely known to make a man of much energy of character, and generally lacks physical and muscular as well as mental energy. I would particularly warn boys who want to rise in the world to shun Tobacco and Cigars as a deadly poison.”

There is not a solitary Physician that can disprove the statement that young smokers are inflicting an irreparable injury upon their constitutions, are poisoning the very springs of life, and will transmit to their descendants weaker bodies and weaker brains.

The late SIR BENJAMIN BRODIE, BART., Sergeant-Surgeon to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, wrote—

“Boys get the habit of smoking because they think it manly to do so, not unfrequently because they have the example set them by their tutors, and partly because there is no friendly voice near to warn them as to the special ill consequences to which it might give rise when the process of growth is not yet complete, and the organs are not yet fully developed.”

Carefully conducted investigation in France and the United States has proved that scholars and students who smoke are demoralised by the indulgence, and reduced by it to the lowest position in the classes.

A completely matured organism may endure what is fatal to growing boys. [Dr. Richardson says: “Boys, while learning to smoke, are sometimes subject to terrible spasmodic seizures—there is a sensation of imminent death, the heart nearly ceases to beat, and short pains shoot through the chest.”] This is understood in Switzerland, and Tobacco smoking is forbidden till after the age of eighteen. Our own Admiralty have issued orders on the subject of smoking, one of which is to the effect that no officers or boys under the age of eighteen years are allowed to take up Tobacco or to smoke either on shore or afloat.

The Senate of Connecticut has passed a bill for the compulsory teaching in public schools of the evil effects of Alcohol and Tobacco, and other States are following their example.

TOBACCO AND INSANITY.

A considerable increase in the number of persons confined in lunatic asylums in France is attributed by DR. JOLLY, (*Association Française contre l'abus du tabac*) to the enormous amount of Tobacco smoked in that country—about three times as much as that consumed thirty years ago. The Tobacco smoked by the working classes in France is much the same as that used by our English working people, and is pernicious in the highest degree. It contains as much as seven or eight per cent. of nicotine, and this admittedly contributes to mental derangement, acting mainly on the nervous system. Many of our own medical men are of the same opinion as the French doctor. DR. JAMES COPELAND says that “smoking favours an imbecile state of mind,” and DR. GIBBONS declares that “Tobacco diminishes the vigour of the intellect.”

A blue book published in July, containing the Forty-first Report of the Commissioners in Lunacy gives some startling statistics. From these we find there has been an increase over last year of 735 persons of unsound mind in this country.

Extract from *The Christian Age*, February, 1888.—“An unusually large number of young men having been sent into the State Lunatic Asylum of Michigan, U.S.A., last year, the authorities have made enquiries, and have found that in nearly every instance the new comers had smoked cigarettes to excess. In many cases the doctors declared that insanity was absolutely the result of over-indulgence in Tobacco. The Report has been officially published accordingly.”

INSURANCE COMPANIES AND SMOKING.

DR. TOUNSON, a Physician to Insurance Companies, states that “nearly every one of those whom he had rejected for life policies had brought on an affection of the heart through excessive smoking.”

DR. HODGKINS, late of Bedford Square, London, writes—“I have rejected hundreds of applicants for life assurance, in consequence of a general depression of the system, feeble circulation and nervous irritability, brought on by the use of Tobacco.”

DR. TANNER says: "The man who attempts suicide by some summary process is liable to imprisonment, while he who slowly poisons himself may proceed to certain destruction with impunity."

"Shun smoking as you would shun self-destruction."—*The Lancet*.

DR. EDMUNDS, (before quoted) remarked—

"The longer a man has smoked, the more resolute he should be in breaking off the habit. The more difficult the case, the more urgent is the need for the individual to emancipate himself from such slavery."

The English Anti-Tobacco and Anti-Narcotic League of Manchester, to whom we are principally indebted for the information we give on this subject, announced in their *Monthly Letter* for December, 1886, "that the Emperor of Austria had been ordered to give up smoking by his doctors." And in their issue of August, 1887, they stated "that King Humbert of Italy was remarkable for his temperance in all things except that of smoking, but he indulged in this habit to such an extent that his nerves had begun to suffer. He had asthmatic turns, could sleep but little and then had to be propped up by plenty of pillows. Some weeks ago, his physician told him what was the matter, and King Humbert said 'from this day I will not smoke another cigar or anything in the shape of Tobacco.' His Majesty has kept his word, and the result has been a most noticeable improvement in his health. King Humbert is a man of iron will, and no one doubts that he will keep his self-made pledge."

It would be well if the direct injury caused by Tobacco was the end of it, but it is to be feared that its indirect influence and tendencies are more serious than the direct evils derived from its use.

REV. JOHN ANGELL JAMES wrote—

"The first cigar that a young man puts into his mouth is often his first step in a career of vice."

REV. C. GARRETT observed—

"I see, with great regret, the habit of smoking formed amongst the lads and young men. It is, to many of them, the first step on the wrong road."

The late SAMUEL MORLEY said—

"With smoking I class drinking, for they go hand-in-hand."

The same Gentleman, writing to the REV. CANON WILBERFORCE, just before he died, said—

“I am weary and broken-hearted with my work in regard to the enquiry as to the bitter cry of outcast London. More than three-fourths of the misery is due directly or indirectly to the spread of the liquor traffic in the midst of the people.”

There can be no doubt that this statement is as true of all parts of the United Kingdom (with few exceptions) as of London. This is often the expressed opinion of Her Majesty's Judges. In Ireland alone, upwards of two millions-and-a-quarter more than the entire rentals of property were spent in drink.

The Templar says: “Smoking is the greatest accessory to the temptation of drinking that surrounds British youth. It not only blights our Band of Hope and Sunday School work by leading the young into bad association, but it creates an unnatural thirst, impairs the sense of taste and so favours a desire for something pungent in taste, and also by its exhausting power induces recourse to a falsely supposed substitute, the drink, which is calculated to foster crime and dissipation. Thus two of the most debasing habits and vices to which human nature can be degraded are indulged in, to the injury of the individual thus addicted.”

By the Report recently issued of the Homes of Inebriates, we have been reminded of the connection between Alcohol and Tobacco. The report includes a tabular statement of the cases of one hundred and fifteen habitual drunkards who had been under treatment. Every one of these slaves of Alcohol was also a slave of Tobacco.

It has been said that science, if anything at all, should take into consideration the whole condition and tendency of things, in order to arrive at right conclusions. It was this comprehensive view which led the late DR. JAMES HAMILTON to say—

“Extinguish the pipes of London, and you will go far to shut up the public-houses.”

Some of those who use Narcotics, say they are God's good creatures. Why did He send them? As well may we ask why did He make the Crocodile and the Panther, the Viper and the Rattle Snake? We do not court or caress these because of their poisonous qualities; and we should also avoid Tobacco because of its poisonous quality. But

Alcohol is not a good creature of God, not even in the above sense. It is a manufactured article. DR. EDMUNDS, in his Jubilee Lecture on Temperance, writes—

“Alcohol never grows in the animal, vegetable, or mineral kingdom. A bottle of gin or a cask of wine is as much a work of art as a bayonet or cask of gun-powder.”

And we might add, it would be a blessing to this and other countries if it did no more harm.

Alcohol, the intoxicating ingredient in spirituous liquors, is not a product of nature. Analytical investigation tells us it is the fruit of vinous fermentation, and is generated by a process which takes place in certain vegetable substances after they are dead.

SIR WILLIAM GULL, F.R.S., Physician to Her Majesty:—

“I should say, from my experience, that alcohol is the most destructive agent that we are aware of in this country . . . I would like to say that a very large number of people in society are dying day by day, poisoned by alcohol, but not supposed to be poisoned by it.”

DR. NORMAN S. KERR, on Mortality:—

“The estimate of 40,500 dying every year in the United Kingdom from their own intemperance, and 79,500 dying from disease, violence, accident, or starvation—consequent on the intemperance of others has been submitted to several representative medical gatherings, and has, I regret to say, not been seriously disputed. In fact, it has been pronounced moderate, and far within the truth, by such competent authorities as the late DR. HARDWICKE, and many other coroners and medical officers of health.”

THE REV. CANON WILBERFORCE said—

“After considering all the arguments brought against it, he believed the cause of drunkenness was the apathy of the Christian churches.”

And may we not trace the unnecessary use and abuse of Tobacco to the same cause? It has been said that Tobacco is often the burglar who stealthily enters the dwelling and afterwards opens the door to its accomplice Strong Drink.

When Paul was at Athens, he said (Acts xvii, 23,) “Ye men of Athens, in all things I perceive that ye are somewhat superstitious, for as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. What therefore ye worship in ignorance, this set I forth unto you.”

Those who make an idol of intoxicating drink, cannot be said to worship an unknown idol, although many of its devotees often fall down prostrate in obedience to it, for light is come into the world, and professional men—guided by science—have traced its origin and unnatural birth to certain vegetable substances after they are dead. In alcohol we have the fruits of death in its beginning, in its progress, and often in the end.

The other idol, Tobacco, belongs to a very disreputable family, being akin to Belladonna, Henbane, &c. Like its kindred drug it cannot boast of its origin, but if it were conscious, it might boast of its patronage and success.

SIR B. BRODIE, has remarked—

“In the early part of the present century, Tobacco smoking was almost wholly confined to what was called the lower grade of society. It was only now and then that anyone who wished to be considered a gentleman was addicted to it.”

The fashion has greatly changed since the above date. There are many persons, especially among the young, who would not now consider that they looked like gentlemen without the appendage of their poisonous pet.

MR. SOLLY, Surgeon of St. Thomas's Hospital, writing to *The Lancet*, says—

“The profession has no idea of the ignorance of the public regarding the nature of Tobacco. Even intelligent, well-educated men stare in astonishment when you tell them that Tobacco is one of the most powerful poisons we possess.”

The Tobacco influence which is permeating society affects women as well as men. If they do not suffer so much directly from its use, they and their children suffer more indirectly in many cases; for many a man has smoked one, two or three hundred pounds worth of Tobacco during the best part of his life, and in return for his money simply gets breath of wretched fragrance, exuberant salivation, a damaged constitution, and a powerful desire for another smoke and drink.

“There is a way which seemeth right to a man, but the end thereof is the way of death.”—Prov. xiv, 12. The narcotics, as we have seen, have their origin in poison and death, and these impure fountains cannot send forth pure water. That which begins and which too often

ends in poison and death, cannot be right even if it seemeth to be, and no amount of patronage or testimony can make the use of those things expedient, if lawful, which savour of poison and death from beginning to end. Man's physical condition is, if right, beneficial to the mind: so if it be bad, it is injurious to the higher existence. On this account it is incumbent upon all men to pay due regard to all matters, however remote, affecting the body, its health, substance, comfort, longevity, &c., but at all times with reference and in subordination to the higher nature. If we are not honest in our search after truth, we are enemies to ourselves. "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself, but the simple pass on and are punished."—Prov. xxii, 3.

There is now a general concurrence of opinion among Christians that the use of Tobacco is a great obstacle to the spread of the gospel. It has been said that the smoker feels like a fish out of water without his pipe or cigar. If it be so, what time or inclination can he have for seeking after that kingdom which is not of this world, which must be entered at the straight gate? And while it hinders many from entering on the narrow path, it hinders those who have entered from making that progress in the divine life which they might otherwise make. Is it not disloyalty to Christ to neglect any duty in removing the hinderances which impede the spread of the gospel?

PROFESSOR NEWMAN says—

"The greatest wealth of every land is its people."

The late DR. RUDDOCK writes—

"For the sake of future generations we should abstain from Tobacco, for the injurious consequences do not end with the smoker, but are transmitted from parent to child, resulting in many instances in a puny, weak and unhealthy offspring."

DR. RICHARDSON writes—

"I do not hesitate to say that if a community of both sexes were to be trained to the early practice of smoking, and if marriage were confined to the smokers, an apparently new and physically inferior race of men and women would be bred up."

PROFESSOR AUGUSTINE GALOPIN has recently published a book on the evil effects of Tobacco in France. He states that the annual cost of Tobacco for the city of Paris amounts to 48,000,000 francs. Seven hundred million half-penny cigars are used every year in the French capital. A study of Professor Galopin's work will show that the

money is paid for the deterioration alike of health and morals. He first deals with the various forms of Tobacco poisoning, and shows that not only is injury done to those who smoke, but also to those who come in contact with the smoke emitted from the pipes and cigars of others. He then passes on to review the general and local effects of Tobacco poisoning, and makes an appeal to mothers to guard their daughters from those who transform home into a smoke-room, and make the cradles of their children beds of insomnia, where nervous disorders, convulsions, chorea, &c. fight for the little victims. He concludes his book with this solemn warning—"All the maladies caused by Tobacco and Alcohol are hereditary, and transmissible even to the third generation, and they increase little by little, when the causes are persistent, until the families in which they are found become extinct."

The late SIR B. BRODIE wrote—

"If the women as well as the men smoked, a nation would be soon wiped from the earth."

To prevent this possible collapse of our beloved country, and to meet a great necessity, indicated by the signs of the times and by science, which has been defined as the expression of God's will in the government of His work in the universe, we have formed this Society, which will enable us to commemorate the Health Exhibition and further its object—the health of the nation—by removing one of the chief causes of disease. It will also enable us to perpetuate the memory of Sir Isaac Newton, and give prominence to the maxim of that great philosopher, who, when he was asked to take Tobacco or Snuff, declined, remarking: "He would make no necessities to himself."

We hope and believe by the blessing of God that these Societies will care for the young, who are the hope of the Church and the world, and that they will prove arks of safety for them and for non-smokers, and also for those who abandon the use of Tobacco. As these Societies are established for the good of the whole race, and have for their special object the "saving of the young from the use of Tobacco," which has led so many of them into bad associations and into drinking habits which have been their ultimate ruin, we heartily invite all fathers and mothers to join them, and enrol all their children as members, as every child (male and female) can belong to these Societies from birth, and fathers or mothers can sign for their children, and guardians for orphans.

“When shall I begin the education of my child?” said a young woman once to a wise man, “It is four years old.” “Madam,” he replied, “You have lost three years already. From the first smile that gleams over an infant’s cheek, your opportunity begins.”

The great Napoleon, when asked what was the great want of France, exclaimed “France wants mothers.” And the Anti-Tobacco Society wants mothers as well as fathers to join, and do all they can to save their children, England’s future men and women, from the smoke-plague which is deteriorating (if not demoralising) our race.

MR. MUNDELLA, speaking in Clare Market, said—

“If we would rescue from intemperance, pauperism, and crime, large masses of the population, we must begin with them as children, and we cannot begin too early.”

As prevention is better than cure, and unity is strength, we would beg Ministers of the Gospel and Sunday School Teachers, and all who have the important charge of day-schools to establish Branch Societies in connection with every Church and School throughout the United Kingdom. “Opportunities to the Christian,” wrote Dr. Livingstone in almost the last letter he sent to England, “mean solemn responsibilities.”

THE HON. WILLIAM E. DODGE, of New York, speaking at the Temperance Convention at Boston, April 20, 1887, told the story of—

“A man who pledged himself to his mother when he was a child, that he would never use drink or tobacco until he was twenty years of age. That man said that he owed all that he was in life to that pledge; as his brothers grew up they took the same pledge, and one of them is now President of one of the Banks of St. Louis, and the other President of one of the largest Railroads running out of St. Louis.”

Signing the pledge has often saved the young from drink, and it will be the outward and visible sign, which will, we hope, save millions from the tobacco bondage.

As Gospel Temperance is now the assumed name of Temperance Societies, unless this is to be a fiction instead of a fact, we should carry out the principle involved in it, which, according to Professor Finney, “Implies the moderate use of necessary things, and total abstinence from those things that are pernicious, and utter denial of all artificial appetites of the body which are not natural to man.” Dr. Monroe, of Hull, writes: “I cannot but believe that a Teetotal Christianity,

which is consistent abstinence from all narcotics, is the special need of our age." It has been said "Save the young, you save all, for the beginning holds within it the end." Duty is sacred.—"If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; if thou sayest, Behold we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?"—Prov. xxiv, 11, 12. "They that are wise shall shine as the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."—Daniel xii, 3.

Pascal wrote: "The possession of the whole earth would not add to my greatness, man is greater than the universe."

"And David longed and said, oh, that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem which is by the gate! And the three mighty men broke through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the Lord. And he said, be it far from me, O Lord, that I should do this: is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives? Therefore he would not drink it."—

II Samuel xxiii, 15, 16, 17.

It is recorded in history: "When only seven young men (and these chosen by lot) were every year taken out of Athens to be devoured by the monster Minotaur, the whole city was in constant fright—children on their own account, and parents on account of their children." If Athens was in a constant fright because of the seven young men who were offered up in sacrifice every year to their God, and if Daniel and his companions did not deem it lawful or expedient to defile themselves with the King's meat, nor with the wine which he drank; and if David, who was a man of war, would not drink the water (which is a necessary of life) which the three mighty men had obtained at the risk of their lives; is it lawful, is it expedient, that the professed followers of the self-denying Jesus, near the eve of the twentieth century after Pentecost, should complacently quaff intoxicating drink and puff the poisonous weed, which not only jeopardise the lives of men, women, and children, but actually destroy more than the edge of the sword and the waves of the sea?

As the Committee desire to promote the object of the Society by circulating literature, and by holding meetings in different parts of the town and in the villages around, they would be glad if all persons (male or female) who sympathise with the cause would forward their names to either of the Secretaries. They would also be thankful to receive any donation, or the name of any person who desires to subscribe towards the expenses of the Society. All such donations and subscriptions which will be acknowledged in the first annual report.

APPENDIX.

NARCOTICS AS THEY AFFECT THE MORTALITY OF CHILDREN.

The Deputy Coroner for Manchester, after holding several inquests on children, said: "Two hundred such cases had been before him during the last twelve months." He added, "No doubt a great deal of infantine mortality was caused by neglect."

J. H. CROSSFIELD, Esq., presiding at a Band of Hope and Temperance Union Meeting, January 23rd, 1888, said in his opening address: "It was his conviction that in Manchester alone two thousand infants were murdered every year, and that ten thousand children of school age are being unfed, as the consequence, directly or indirectly, of the drinking customs of the public."—*Christian World*.

Thales thanked God that he was born a man and not a beast. If the lower animals were conscious, and knew what children had to suffer through poisonous narcotics, would they not be thankful they were born brutes and nothing more?

Children are the loveliest and most lovable of all creatures that are born into our world, and yet they are the most helpless, and their first

utterance is an unconscious appeal for love and sympathy, and God is in that cry which might be interpreted thus: "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages, for lo, children are an heritage of the Lord, (Psalms cxxvii, 6,) of the God of the spirits of all flesh." (Num. xvi, 22.)

All the lower creatures have a natural love and care for their young, and they manifest it in the face of danger.—"At a fire in London, the crowd was moved when they saw a cat plunge through the smoke and flame with a little kitten in her mouth. After placing it out of danger, this heroine (after her kind) returned and dashed through the increasing danger after the other member of her little family. The spectators watched in vain for her return, but she returned no more. After the fire, the charred remains of the cat were found by those of the kitten."—*Telegraph*.

"A correspondent tells us of an affray between a cat and some sparrows. The cat, which had seized a young bird, was instantly set upon by seven old sparrows, which by their noise and assaults compelled puss to drop the fledgeling and beat a retreat. The young sparrow immediately joined the feathered tribe."—*Christian World*. Here we have fraternity of feeling as well as natural love from instinct. These sparrows saw the danger of the captive, and bravely flew to the rescue, and saved the helpless one from the jaws of the would-be devourer at the risk of their lives, and they had their reward.

There are many examples to prove that those who are created in God's image are capable of exercising a far deeper love and sympathy than any other creatures.

The poor child, dying in a New York garret with the pathetic words, "I am glad I am going to die, because my brothers and sisters will have enough to eat." That poor outcast woman, out in the wild winter night, who wrapped her baby in her own scanty dress and shawl, and patiently lay down in the snow to die, saving her child's life at the cost of her own.

From a work written by Matthew Denton—"During a violent storm at sea, a ship held out signals of distress, and soon a boat was seen making up to it to rescue the crew. Among those on board was a

poor negro boy who had been intrusted with the care of two helpless orphans. The boat was nearly filled and room was only left for the negro or the two little ones. The enquiry now was who shall be left to perish? To the admiration of all present, the faithful guardian was willing to sacrifice his own life, and called out as he lowered the helpless infants into the boat, 'Tell my master that Coffin did his duty.'” Queen Charlotte requested Hannah More to compose a poetic memorial of this tragic event, but the gifted authoress replied that no art could embellish an action in itself so noble.

These and hundreds of other cases prove that irrational creatures, as well as the rational, have a natural innate love for their young. The latter lose many of their offspring through cruelty and neglect. Not so with the irrational, they live according to nature. The rational use narcotics which do not accord with nature, [refer to page 8.] and which lead persons to act in opposition to it, and even to forget their sucking children, who are laden with cargoes more valuable than gold or pearls.

“Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones, for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.”—Matthew xviii, 10.





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