

## Moral Reforms.

### Wendell Phillips' Apt Reply.

A number of years ago Frances E. Willard made a temperance address in Boston. During her stay in the city, a young man happened to call upon Wendell Phillips, who entertained him until late in the night telling of the old abolitionist days, and showing him relics of their struggle. As the young man rose to depart, he said to Mr. Phillips:

"Mr. Phillips, I think if I had lived in your time I would have been heroic, too."

Mr. Phillips, who had gone to the door with his caller, pointed to the saloons down the street, and his voice was keen with indignation.

"Young man," he said, "you are living in my time, and God's time Did you hear Frances Willard last? Be assured that no man could have been heroic then who is not heroic now. Good-night."—Selected.

### Concerning Temperance.

The protracted and often bitter discussion of the questions which associate themselves with the temperance reform has sometimes tended to obscure the real issue. People are drawn into hostile parties occupying each an uncompromising and self-confident attitude on all the matters involved in the controversy. It would be much better if all who love their country and their fellow-men should unite on two or three of the vital issues, agreeing at the same time to ignore and sink the adventitious questions that hitherto have had so large a part in originating controversy and drawing party lines. And, after all, when the appeal is made in a matter-of-fact way, and on the basis of the fundamentals, most people are agreed.

All we alike believe, for example, in the principle of temperance as concerns the individual which is neither more nor less than self-control. There are various physical indulgences that if not watched will become habits, and having become habits will dispute with conscience and will take the place of sovereign in man's life. Chief of these is the repeated use of nerve stimulants. Alcoholic liquors have been made a special point of attack because their ascendancy over the nervous system comes to pass very insidiously and is exceptionally disastrous. But they are not alone in either respect; for there are other articles of drink which please the palate till they have usurped a mastery over the stimulated nerves. And certainly there are other articles in the *materia medica* which while perhaps not so palatable as some forms of alcohol, are both quite as assiduous in their gradual mastery of the will, and as disastrous in their after effects.

Both Christian and pagan morality

agree that there is no virtue without self-mastery. We ought to be humiliated and aroused to fierce resistance when we discover that any habit, however innocent in the seeming, is getting to the point where our control of it is doubtful. Nerve stimulants of whatever sort, sedatives for pain or insomnia, "eye-openers" to help us through hard tasks, narcotics to soothe us in the rough passages of life—none of them should be taken habitually and most of them not at all except under the advice of a physician; for they have a fashion of befooling men and women, of making them a spectacle before God and men. The hopeless slave of tobacco Or of coffee is not quite so much a spectacle as the slave of whiskey or of opium, because he has not so hard a master; but why should he allow anything to be the master of a man?

When it comes to the civic aspect of the temperance question, our agreement is not quite so easy or so unanimous as concerns its personal phase. Yet even here one conclusion bids fair soon to become universal: The saloon is a public nuisance and should no longer be tolerated. Somewhat can be said in its favor as a place of social meeting where there is freedom and good cheer, but when that is said, all is said. And so heavy is the price which both society and the individual pay for this small benefit that it is time to inquire whether the exchange is not rather robbery. To recount the price which society pays would require a volume. Virtually all the crimes that mar our civic life originate in the saloon or are helped by the liquor sold there. Where there are no saloons the jails stand empty and the police are idle. Only the other day word came that one of the Tennessee towns that had recently abolished the saloon found it necessary to reduce its police force by exactly half. The demoralization of young men who otherwise promised well, the wasting of the time and money of the wage earners, the multiplication of paupers, inebriates, and insane—these and a hundred other counts are in society's indictment of the saloon.

As for the individual, he enters the saloon an innocent, sober, industrious boy. In a few years he is a drunken, gambling, broken-down, disreputable man. No influence more calamitous can come into his life. This is a tragedy which has been enacted before our eyes a thousand times. And the man is not the only, often not the chief, sufferer. A mother's gray hairs are brought in forrow to the grave. A wife and her innocent children taste again and again the bitterness of death. Only one or two ghastlier chapters are ever enacted, in the grim drama of human sin and human suffering.

In view of such considerations, does it not seem idle that men should wrangle and grow heated concerning the details of temperance reform, instead of standing fast united for its great principles? Once we unanimously decide that the sa-


loon must go, a way will be found. In more than one section of our country tried and effective plans are already in operation. Let us have done with controversy except with the enemies of temperance and the friends of the saloon, and let us, united in the great essential of destruction to those dens of temptation to our youth, pronounce their final and irrevocable doom.—Nashville Advocate.

### When You Are All Bound Up

and are suffering from indigestion, lack of appetite, foul breath, headache, dyspepsia, catarrh of the stomach, kidney and liver complaints you need a tonic laxative, something that will move the bowels quickly, easily and without leaving hurtful effects behind. Never use a purgative or cathartic. They weaken the bowels and system and make the disease worse. Use instead Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine. It tones, builds up, gives new strength and vigor, not alone to the bowels but to the whole being. Only one small dose a day will cure any case, from the lightest to the worst. That means cure, not simply relief only. Most obstinate cases yield gently and easily and the cure is permanent. Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine is not a patent medicine. A list of ingredients is in every package with explanation of their action. Write us for a free sample bottle. Vernal Remedy Co., 167 Seneca Building, Buffalo, N. Y.

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