

Lafayette Courier.

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THE COURIER

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY,
AT
LAFAYETTE,

YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON.

BY
J. H. UPTON,
PUBLISHER AND EDITOR.

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A REVOLTING PICTURE!

We copy the following picture of revolting depravity from the San Francisco *Examiner*. Hideous as the picture may appear in its details, it but faintly portrays the actual state of things at present existing, not only in San Francisco, but in all of the great centres of "fashionable life." Like the "fashions," this social vice will gradually radiate until, if not checked by prompt action on the part of the virtuous in districts and parts yet uncontaminated, permeate the mass of society. War in the old world was regarded as the great generator of vice, recklessness, prodigality and lasciviousness, and he must be dull indeed who, with all the accumulated evidence before him considers America an exception to the rule.

"There is a modern vice which in the monstrous grasp of its conception almost defies all codes to imagine or to name it. It strikes at the foundation of the structure of social life—it saps the base of enlightened humanity—it subverts the law of God. It is the nadir of human virtue—the zenith of human crimes. Its consequences are immeasurable, and irreparable. It may almost be deemed 'the sin against the Holy Ghost.' If any of the moral delinquencies of which our fallen nature may be guilty, can fail to obtain forgiveness in the great day of judgment from the mercy of an indulgent God, it will be that unpardonable transgression to which we allude. The wretched unforgiven will be *female drunkards*.

Drunkenness in a man is the most deplorable manifestation of a weak moral nature. It is the nethermost depth into which an inborn recklessness or an unwise carelessness can lead him. It often proves the Rubicon of ruin which once passed, there is no re-crossing. "All excess is ill; but drunkenness is the worst sort. It spoils health, dismounts the mind, and unmans man. It reveals secrets, is quarrelsome, lascivious, impudent, dangerous, mad. He that is drunk is not a man, because he is, for so long, void of reason that distinguishes a man from a beast." There is an old, and we doubt not, a true story in its moral, that the devil once proposed to a monk to commit murder, perpetrate a robbery, or take a drink. Being, according to the narrative, in the power of his Satanic Majesty and compelled to choose, he preferred to take a drink; and subsequently was guilty of robbery and murder.

So much for the man who "puts an enemy into his mouth to steal away his brains;" but what shall be said of women who bestialize themselves? The imagination is appalled at the picture conjured from its realms, when a bevy of female drunkards is demanded. The purloins of the mystic region, which all orthodox Christians geographically locate as far beneath us, cannot furnish such scene of horror as would be presented to any civilized man, by the bodily presence of a drunken mother, wife, sister or daughter! And yet we have to apprehend that such fearful visitations may hereafter, in the growing immorality of the day, be the dreadful punishment inflicted upon many of the good and worthy of our fellowmen.

That we do not indulge in unfounded apprehensions, we are prepared to prove. A respectable public journal in one of the Eastern States, not long ago asserted, and it has never since been contradicted, that "at a temperance convention at Saratoga, thirteen hundred rich men's daughters, in New York, were applicants for admission to the asylum as inebriates, at Binghamton." What a narrative of horror is this! What a palpable and damning proof of the moral tendencies of the age? what a terrible panorama of so-

cial degradation and ruin is represented to the affrighted vision, when looking towards the future!

But we do not need to go abroad for evidences of this wide-spread and rapidly growing evil. In yesterday's *EXAMINER*, perhaps unobserved by many of our readers, appeared the following painfully significant paragraph. We reproduce it, because its revolting facts cannot be brought too conspicuously before an intelligent public:

DRUNKEN WOMEN.—Linn C. Doley writing from San Francisco to the Stockton Herald, says: The prevalence of drunkenness among women is alarming: case after case is Chief Burke called upon to "hush up" for the sake of the family. The secrets that J. M. Burke holds would undo half our best citizens were they told; for family broils are not confined to the poorer and middle classes of the population; in upper tendon riotous conduct is making rapid strides. We saw six drunken women in one night; four came

from a respectable mansion; two went staggering to their homes the block they had to walk, while the other two were bundled into the carriage by the coachman and driven to their luxurious homes in a besotted condition;

the other two of the six, one was a street walker, and the other a respectable young girl, who cried most pitifully at her condition when accosted by a Samaritan. The last of all on earth that should be seen drunk, or get drunk is, a woman. In the name of coming generations, women, let the men be the only humans that make beasts of themselves.

We have not had an opportunity to ascertain whether the above statement is entirely correct or not, but that the gravamen of the accusation is well laid against many of the respectable females of San Francisco, is well known to every man who混gues in society.

Lunch, dinner parties and balls can all attest to the copious imbibitions of the gentler sex, who in a swiftly approaching future will clothe themselves in sack cloth and ashes because they have looked upon "the wine when it is red, and upon the wine cup when it sparkles."

For it can be asserted without fear of successful contradiction, that female intoxication breaks down the last barrier to female virtue. Once drunk, and there is no violation of the decalogue of which a woman may not be guilty. Intoxication is the hideous parent of all other crimes.

And what is the origin of this rapidly accumulating feminine infamy, as well as all the other alarmingly augmenting social vices of the present?

What occasions this depraved condition of society? We hold it to be one of the legitimate products of the political prostitution pervading the land.

We regard it as the lineal descendant of that procreative and filthy beast Abolitionism, operating upon the natural passions of the human race. We look upon as the undeniable offspring of an offensive moral and social sentimentiality, which seeks the overthrow of all political and social conservatism,

assays to regenerate our species upon the basis of strong minded women and negro-worshiping men. With these views we can hope for no abatement of female drunkenness in our midst, until the political atmosphere is renovated by the dispersion of all the clouds of *ism*, which have so long obscured the heaven of political truth and decency. We await with impatience, but not without hope, the dawn of that auspicious day.

THE legislature of Georgia has passed a law ordering that marriages between colored people shall be solemnized in the same way as marriages between whites. The act also provides a heavy penalty against the marriage of a white person and one of African descent.

That Affidavit.

After the publication of the affidavit of Mr. Lynch the radicals were sore troubled for something tangible to present to counteract the current of thought and action created by the same. They failed in all their efforts to make a respectable showing in the premises, and were finally reduced to the necessity of digging up the "affidavit" of John L. Baker, the depraved whelp who they hired to cut the flag, to the effect that said Baker never told *any* person that Adams or Woods knew anything about the cutting of said flag.

He would have signed an affidavit just as readily that George Washington was the man who violated the flag, and that he saw him do it. He is not regarded, so we are informed by republicans who know him, as being above the digger Indian in point of veracity or anything else that makes the man. He is a fit instrument however for the men and party that use him.

A counter affidavit can be obtained from him to-morrow on the same subject, and well they know it. There is nothing too low, base, vile, wicked and contemptible for a wretch to do who

will be hired to lower the flag of his country and trail it in the dust for so base a purpose as that for which he did this, at the instance of George L. Woods. These remarks are intended to apply equally to and describe the man or men who did, and do, procure his services. We know wherof we write, and deliberately hurl defiance in the face of any who propose to help themselves. The great majority of the republicans are decent people, and should not be held responsible for the acts of their would-be leaders who are so lost to all honor and fairness and manhood as are those who, after having procured the services of a low beast in human shape to perpetuate a fiendish outrage, and then peddle his affidavit over the country as evidence of their innocence. We believe they will repudiate all such at the polls.

Have Lost their Grip.

During the excitement of the late rebellion, demagogues of all shades and grades had a good theme on which to harp, the tendency of which was to coerce men into the support of the so-called "Union" party. The war is over, and they have lost that thing. Thousands of honest and upright voters are deserting the rotten, radical, disunited and destructive party every week, and no amount of sophistry, intimidation or threats can avail aught toward reclaiming them. They have been deceived long enough, and are becoming bolder every day in their declarations on this point. We will suppose that Yamhill County may be taken as a fair criterion by which to judge of the changes that have taken and are still taking place in other counties of Oregon. This is a reasonable basis and fair conclusion.

We can count by dozens, voters who rank among the best and most substantial citizens of this county, who formerly voted with the "union" party, and who now publicly declare their intention to vote the whole Democratic ticket, while many others of them are actively engaged in canvassing in its behalf. There are others who will vote more or less of the ticket, while others there are, who will not vote at all.

Democratic

STATE PLATFORM.

ADOPTED IN CONVENTION AT

Portland,

APRIL 5,

1866:

1. Resolved, That we affirm as the creed of our political faith and practice, our steadfast devotion to the following principles, viz: Equal and exact justice to all men of whatever state, party or sect; the support of the state Governments in all their rights, and of the Federal Government in all its vigor; a jealous care of the elective franchise; the supremacy of the civil over the military authority; opposition to the centralization of power; economy in all public expenditures; the general diffusion of education; the encouragement of morality and the highest civilization; the right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of the person under the protection of the habeas corpus.

2. Resolved, That the action of the majority in Congress in refusing to admit the Representatives of eleven States, is an unwarranted assumption of power upon the part of Congress, revolutionary in its tendency, and dangerous to the liberties of the people; that we do and will sustain President Johnson in his determination and efforts for the complete restoration of all the constitutional rights of all the states, and we unreservedly approve his veto of the Freedmen's Bureau and Civil Rights bills, and all his constitutional efforts to prevent the fanatical majority in Congress from changing or destroying our cherished form of Government.

3. Resolved, That the position assumed by President Johnson, that the Representatives from the Southern States ought to be at once admitted to seats in Congress, and that legislation affecting such States while they are unrepresented as unconstitutional, meets with our hearty approval.

4. Resolved, That the assumption of the opposition that the Democratic party is in favor of repudiating the public debt, and that it is in favor of nullification and secession, is slanderous and false.

5. Resolved, That we endorse the sentiment of Senator Douglas; that this Government was made on a white basis for the benefit of the white man, and we are opposed to extending the right of suffrage to any other than white men.

6. Resolved, That the exemption of United States bonds from taxation is substantially the exemption of rich men from taxation because they are rich, and the taxation of poor men because they are poor, and we are in favor of taxing those bonds for county, State and municipal purposes.

7. Resolved; That strict and impartial justice demands that the expenses of the General Government, as well as of the State Governments, should be borne by the people according to their ability, and not according to their necessities, and hence that we condemn now in the part, a protective tariff that tends, necessarily, to oppress the masses for the benefit of the rich.

8. Resolved, That in a Democratic Government the real sovereignty rests in the people and all efforts tending to wrest power from the people is a war upon them, revolutionary and dangerous; and that the existence of national banks after the experience we have had with and without them, especially in times of peace, is a subject of just alarm.

6. Resolved, That the unlawful and shameful squandering of the people's money by our present State officials meets with our emphatic condemnation.

10. Resolved, That we will ever hold in grateful memory those through whose patriotic, not mercenary or partisan services, the dignity of the Republic and the integrity of the Union were preserved; and we denounce as a base insult to the gallant living and heroic dead, the present efforts of the Radicals to convert their victory into a partisan triumph, hoping to make the late war one of conquest, instead of the suppression of the rebellion—for subjugation instead of restoring the Union—for the negro instead of the white man.

11. Resolved, that the miners should be encouraged and protected in the free use of the mines.