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Prohibition

Of all God's creations man stands at the head; and being created in the image of his Maker, he alone possesses reason, by means of which he judges, draws conclusions, and makes distinctions. The will, guided by the reason – not always from pious and holy motives – springs into actions; and man performs deeds which will elevate and ennoble the race and make his name immortal; or, he will perpetrate crimes

which will degrade and dethrone that God given power, leaving an eternal stain upon his name. Man is a free moral agent; and can exercise his powers for good or for evil; in the right or wrong direction. But, sooner or later, he will be compelled to settle his accounts; and will be held responsible according as he used those powers. The question, How should I vote? is one of the

most vital importance; and appeals to the reason of every man in our grand and most glorious Republic. For, upon his decision hangs the fate of hundreds, yea, thousands of our most promising young men. Let him decide wrong, and he will add a link to the chain which robs and degrades the mind of man, and binds the immortal souls to an eternal hell. But, let him

decide right, and he will add a link to the chain which lifts man into a higher and nobler sphere in life, and anchors the soul within its God. The curse of slavery – in which the soul retained its liberty – existed only a brief period; for, as soon as man realized its awfulness, and saw his duty, he resolved to right the wrong, and wiped it out of existence. A grand and

most glorious work. But the greatest and most heinous curse of our land – the granting of license to sell that which steals away the brain and makes the man a brute – still remains. It makes the pleasant and happy hour destitute and robs it of all its former joys. It steals the flush of youth from many a rosy cheek, leaving a pale, carnivoreus, and sorrowful countenance.

It poisons the life blood of the brightest, the fairest, and the most intelligent minds, and coveys them to a premature grave. It tampers, not only with a man's body, but also with the immortal soul, hastening it where neither human nor Divine aid can reach it – the drunkard's hell. Who has not seen gray hairs brought with sooner to the grave because of this awful curse?

Who has not heard of the low, sad wails of orphans? Who has not seen beauty clothed with rage and man-hood shorn of all its glory? Why these things in this enlightened age and Christian

land? I will tell you. It is thus because the Christian people do not perform their duty. I have seen – almost daily – the results of this

demeaning and soul destroying cup; but notwithstanding these startling and blood curdling exhibitions, they do not hesitate to vote with the parties who encourage the rum traffic and the sending of human souls to an eternal hell. Is it not high time that the Christian people of our land awaken to this fact and put a stop to this fearful traffic, this new slavery, this

destruction of human souls? But where, and how, will this be accomplished? It will not, and can not be accomplished while those who profess the name of Christ indulge in the social glass, not while they wear the cloaks of those parties which encourage this slow, but sure method of poisoning both body and soul; not while those say – who bear the name Christian.

There is no harm in an occasional class. But, let the professors of Christ Jesus learn and fully realize the meaning of the words, "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright; At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." Let them arise from their lethargy and arise now to a deep

sense of their responsibilities; and the intoxicating cup will be banished from the land. Let them lay aside the torn, tattered, and rotten garments of the Democratic and Republican parties and vote themselves with the vote of Prohibition, and the strong fortress of the rum fiend will not only be shattered – but be utterly destroyed. Let the dry bones in the

open valley be shaken; and let the pure, sweet air of God sweep over them, breathing into them the breath of life, giving health and vigor to both mind and soul; and King Alcohol will be compelled to surrender his dominion. There is a remedy for this great evil; and it is the work of the Christian people to apply it. If they but do their duty, the captives will be lead

out of their dark, deep dungeons into the bright and glorious sunshine of God's smiles. But if they do not pause to ask the question, How should I vote? and persist to vote with the parties who encourage the sale of human souls, they do not their duty. The intoxicating cup is the fountain of almost every crime, and to vote with the parties who favor the

rum traffic is to endorse every crime springing from said fountain. May the eyes of the people be opened so that they may see and realize this awful fact. May they arise to a sense of their duties and do all in their power to drive – by means of the ballot box – this curse from our own land. Right – in due time – will conquer man and hurol(?) the soul destroying

curse back into the hell from whence it sprung, giving life and liberty to those who are held in its powerful grasp. Then, and not until then, will the sunbeams play upon the countenances of a free and independent people; and as darkness is compelled to flee before the rising sun of day, so will the darkness of sin, sorrow and eternal

death be compelled to flee before the glorious dawn of Temperance. To this end then, let us act wisely and vote conscientiously, and victory will surely crown our efforts. By doing thus we will aid in lifting our fellow men out of their low, sinful, and degraded positions into a loftier and holier sphere, where they will enjoy the pure,

fresh air of God, their Creator. We will receive God's approving smile for thus aiding man to regain his former state. Let us then, so live and act as that the world may be the better for our having lived in it, ever having for our motto, "Touch not, taste not, the unclean thing."

Jno. M. Correll, Harrisburg, Pa. Class '86