Royal Entertainment.

(By Mary Dwinell Chellis).

Many called upon him. and he treated his guests royally with his choicest wines. The above paragragh is from a report which appeared in a prominent paper after a closely contested election, and has reference to the successful candidate for an important office. Not high-toned conversation and intelligent discussion of the duties which would devolve upon the host as a public officer. Not mutual pledges, binding one to act faithfully and conscientiously, while others gave their cordial and efficient support. Not a display of learning and culture, with a full appreciation of the duties about to be assumed.

There was nothing of all these, yet the guests were treated royally. The choicest wines at the disposal of their many mourned. host were set before them. He gave of his best, and this best was wine which beclouds, even while it stimu-

lates, the brain.

But who thought of this as glasses clinked merrily and were afterward drained of their contents? Who counted the cost of the entertainment, not in dollars and cents, but in high hopes and noble aspirations?

There were many present to whom the evening's experience was but an ordinary event, which would have no marked influence upon their future lives. There was one, however. a young man, whose career was an ob ject of solicitude to a large circle of friends. He had talent, wealth, and position. His personal appearance was attractive and his manners genial. He thought not of danger as he entered the house whose doors were thrown wide open to all who chose to pass within. His foe lurked in the ed again and again to taste the sparkling liquor. Yet still he lingered where the fumes appealed to his senses, making it more and more difficult to resist the cravings of appetite.

Come, Wadleigh, at length said one who had been his father's business partner, and who was respected and honored in all the relations of life

He took the proffered glass, looking, meanwhile, steadily into the face | Seven-tenths of the people who sufof one who had before given him fer from alcoholism are in the prime many a word of warning and counsel. of life-between twenty and fifty

The fixed gaze was in itself a revelation. The old man realized the wrong he had done, and that moment | spirits alone in 1882 was 261,000,000 would have bartered his entire for- marks, while all the direct State tune for the privilege of living over taxes for that year produced only 50, again the last half hour. He caught | 000,000 marks. Taking the whole the hand of Wadleigh Hoyt as an expenditure on beer, wine and spirits empty glass was replaced upon the it mounted to 907,000,000 marks Come with me Wadleigh.

Thank you, but I am engaged for its stamp duties, etc. the present, was replied in an excited tone; and throwing off the re- 1881 was even higher, 9.81 litres per straining hand, he turned to meet a head of the entire population; and in former boom companion. Another Belgium the average for the twelve draught of wine, and still another, years ending 1881 was 9.91 litres until the demon had regained ascend ency in his bosom. From the elegant mansion to the hardly less elegant saloon was an easy transition. Those whom for a short time he had forsaken welcomed him with demonstrative gladness, and the night had nearly waned when he was carried to his home in a state of unconscious-

The next day, when he was in a condition to receive company, Mr. Howde, who had tempted him, called, and with streaming eyes implored forgiveness for the sin which had been committed.

It will be all the same in the end, so there is nothing to forgive, answered the young man recklessly. I or a month longer, but I should have been sure to break it sooner or later. because you asked me to drink with

break my heart, groaned Mr. Howde, commit suicide has arisen in thirty in an agony of grief.

Hearts are of no consequence; heads, strong enough to carry off large sup- liquors has more than trebled in fifty plies of wine and brandy without giv- years, while the population has only ing a sign of their weight, are what increased from 3,500,000 to 5,500, count in these days. You are fortun-000. The use of spirits increased 66 ate, Mr. Howde, while I am one of per cent. between 1851 and 1881, and I appeal to you to say if it is. You all the time. There is no difference in the liquors. The difference is in

heads. Don't, Wadleigh, don't! My punishment is greater than 1 can bear

you last evening! Not another drop [In every case there is a very close conof wine or brandy shall ever pass my | nection between the amount of drinklips. Come, sign a pledge with me, ing and the facilities for obtaining and then let us ask God to keep it.

I can not, I can not, said Wadleigh Hoyt, quite overcome by the humility and earnestness of his aged friend. Con't blame yourself. As for me, I can not tell what is before me.

No more than this was conceded, and reluctantly the visitor took his leave. In his office the morning paper lay upon his desk, and as his eye rested upon the words with which I commenced this article, he threw it from him with a feeling of horror, so like mockery did it seem.

Three months later, when he stood by the open grave of Wadleigh Hoyt, an accusing conscience arraigned him as the murderer of one whose death

It was not known that any other young man dated his downfall from the evening when he had been royally entertained with choicest wines; but in that day when all secrets shall be revealed it may be that even a sadder record than I have made awaits our

royal entertainment?

If so, then God pity us.

The Drink Curse Abroad.

From all quarters we have evidence of the growing power of the liquor traffic. The nations of Europe are be coming more and more drunken. It almost seems as if they were bent on self-destruction. and had chosen strong drink as the means by which they intended to ruin themselves. tively startling.

In 1875 Germany consumed 200, wine-cup; and realizing this. he refus- 000,000 litres of pure alcohol—a litre representing about an English pint, or six litres per head of the entire population. This would give for the male population on annual consump tion of fifty litres of ordinary spirits per head. In 1880 the amount had thousand dollars, who are now witharisen to seventy-one litres. The result is an increase of drunkards, of suicides, of lunatics, of cases of delirium tremens, and of fatal accidents. years of age,

In Prussia the expenditure in sideboard, and whispered hoarsely: more than double the amount realized by the Prussian exchequer for

> In Holland, the consumption in per head.

Denmark heads the list for drunkenness, the average consumption there being eighteen litres per head of population or nearly twice as much as in Germany, Holland and Belgium, and three times as much as in this country. Next comes Russia, with an average of sixteen litres per head, followed by Sweden with eleven, and North Germany with ten and a half litres per head.

In Switzerland, curiously, the average is only seven and a half litres per head, which scarcely bears out the drinking reputation of the hardy mountaineers of Central Europe. All of these figures relate purely to spirit drinking, and they apply, not simply might have kept my pledge a week to the drinking population among males, but to men, women and children alike. The amount of spirits It was only a question of time, so consumed by habitual drinkers in don't allow yourself to be unhappy Denmark, Belgium, Holland and Russia is enormous' In Denmark you. I ought to consider it an hon- 74 per cent of the crimes are committed under the influence of drink, Oh, Wadleigh, Wadleigh! you will and the number of drunkards who years from one-seventh to one-third.

In Belgium the use of spirituous the most unfortunare of mortals. But the use of beer 15, 75 per cent. In that is no reason why I should not | 1881 Belgium spent 475,000,000 have all the wine and brandy I wish. francs on strong drink. Suicides have risen from fifty-four per million inknow it is the same wine and brandy habitants in 1845, to eighty n 1880. Lunatics have increased from 720per million inhabitants in 1846 to 1,470 in 1881. The Inspector-General of Belgian prisons reports that four-fifths of the crime and social misery is di-Would God I had died before I me | rectly attributable to intemperance |

drink.

Where drinking houses have been diminished, as in England, Holland, Norway, Sweden and France, there has been a corresponding decline in the amount of drunkenness and in the number of crimes resulting from drink. On the other hand, where the number of drink-shops has increased, the consumption of drink and the amount of crime and lunacy and misery have increased. In Belgium. for example, where there has been such a rapid and alarming increase of drinking, there were in 1880 125,000 liquor shops, or one for every dozen grown up males. Switzerland also shows a great increase of drinking, and between 1870 and 1880 the public houses increased 22 per cent. A simliar state of things exists in Austria. In 1880 Vienna alone had 1,624 drink shops, and there were 6,103 arrests for drunkenness! Another significant fact is that there is the most drinking where the people are most poorly fed, as in Iceland, Upper Silesia and Pomerania. These Are choicest wines necessary to statistics supply abundant food for reflection to the moralist and the reformer.—London Christian Commonwealth.

Keep Away

The proprietor of a high-toned drinking saloon in New York signed the pledge and closed his dram-shop. On learning that a company of lads had organized themselves into a temperance society, he went to them and gave them some of his experience A parliamentary paper has just been as a rum-seller. I sold liquor, said he, published which contians facts posi- eleven years - long enough for me to see the beginning and end of its effect. I have seen a man take his first glass in my place, and after-ward find the grave of a suicide. I have seen man after man, wealthy and educated, come into my saloon who now can not buy his dinner, I recall 20 customers, worth from one to five out money, place or friends. He warned the boys against entering the saloon on any pretext. He said that he had seen a young fellow, a member of a temperance society, come in with a friend and wait while he drank No, no, he would say when asked to drink, I never touch it. Thanks all the same. Presently, rather than seem currish, he would take a glass of cider or harmless lemonade. The lemonade was nothing, said he, but I knew how it would end. The only safety, boys, for any one, no matter how strong his resolutions, is outside the door of the saloon.

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Chatham; Northumberland, 37; Friday; G. Stothart.
St. John; Mariners and Mechanics, 38; Tuesday; John Kinney.
Hillsboro, Albert Co.; Albert, 39; Wednesday; John I Steeves
Sackville, West. Co.; Sackville, 40; Tuesday J. C. Harper.
Richibucto, Kent Co.; Richibucto, 42; Wednesday; A. Haines.
Newcastle; Newcastle, 45; Thursday; Jas. Falconer.
Point de Bute, West. Co. Westmorland, 50; Thursday; Jas. W. Colpitts.
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Tuesday; L, R. Moore, enfield, Charlotte Co.; Safeguard, 58; Saturday; H C Trynor.
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Dalhousie; Dalhouse, 64; Monday; G. Haddow Baie Verte; Baie Verte, 65; Wednesday; R. Goodwin.
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Derby, North. Co.; Nelson, Monday; J. Betts 99
Douglastown, North. Co.; Caledonia, 126; Tueday; Jacob I. Keirstead.

Upper Gagetown, Queens Co.; Oxford, 134
Saturday; James E. Coy.
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Tuesday; Samuel Osborn
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190; Saturday; Arthur W Ross,
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