

## Temperance Column

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging. Whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.—Prov. 1:20.

### HAVE NO MERCY ON DRUNKEN DRIVERS.

Here is an excellent thought from the Port Umpqua, Oregon, Courier: "If the Courier man were a judge in courts dispensing sentence upon drunken auto drivers, there would only be first offenders. Regardless of race, color, creed or alleviating circumstances, the person who has so little consideration for the lives of innocent people as to drink intoxicants before or after placing himself behind the steering wheel of an automobile should never be allowed to repeat the performance. Revocation of licenses would be fatal and final. Driving a car is a privilege—not a right."

It is impossible to prove exactly what percentage of automobile accidents are caused by drunken driving, for the reason that in many cases where liquor plays a part, arresting officers and prosecutors are unable afterwards to produce sufficient evidence for a conviction. But all the best estimates say that alcohol is the definitive factor in a much higher proportion of mishaps than is generally realized. Furthermore, an accident in which a drunk is involved is more likely to be serious than one involving sober drivers.

Drunken drivers are often released after paying relatively small fines. Some juries are notoriously derelict in their duty in bringing in convictions.

The drunken driver should never be allowed to pay a fine and he should be denied the right to use the public streets and highways. If such a program were carried out throughout the country, one of the gravest menaces to life would be greatly minimized. —Industrial News Review.

### HIS RESTRAINING HAND

In Gen. 8:2 "The rain from Heaven was restrained." It was enough. The earth had had enough and though the rains were not exhausted, they could still fall and, perhaps, pile another flood on top of this, yet because the deluge was deep enough, awful enough and had accomplished God's punishment of the wicked it was restrained."

A bar across the path in the narrow depth of the hills will cause a large flock of sheep to stand still.

They may be eager to move forward; they have journeyed far and have had meagre pasturage, so impatiently wait for this barrier to be removed. But the shepherd detains them and causes them to tarry a while to give him a chance to go before and move a danger from the path, or perhaps to eliminate certain poisonous plants from the beautifully green prospect of the new pastures.

The sheep do not know, but he does. They cannot see the wolf, but the shepherd discovered his foot-prints in the soil of the path, and he is now reconnoitering, as this beast may be crouched behind those sheltering rocks ahead, or ambushed in that dense thicket by the wayside.

So sometimes God uses a disappointment or a trial as a barrier to our path. We see no reason why we may not now go to a certain place and do new work for Him. Or, it may be we are in a hurry to face some difficulty which we know some day we must face. But He, the good Shepherd, says, "When He putteth forth His own sheep He goeth before

them, and the sheep follow Him for they know His voice." "But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth, etc."

With us it is so, our Shepherd "loved not His life unto the death," and now puts His restraining hand upon our impetuosity and bids us tarry, wait a bit, while He removes the near danger from our path. Not yet, wait a little. It is not just the right time to do that certain bit of work. Just a little too soon to face that difficult task. Tarry a little and learn diplomacy by "waiting upon God." In His own good time, when you have been made stronger and more mellowed by His great grace and love, He will again let you move forward and then, when you come face to face with the dreaded thing He will have so removed something of fear or dread or worse that you will say with David, "Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain."

Let us look a bit on the other side. Suppose the flood had gone on for some weeks more and the pitiless clouds poured forth their continuing deluge just so much longer, Noah, his family and the animals would have had to stay in the Ark and death may have happened too, to them, but in another form. But, blessed thought, "He will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Wonder of wonders that even our trials have a limit, a set time suited to our strength of flesh and faith! Surely we have a tender Shepherd.

What about the waiting sheep which the undershepherds are not permitting to go forward? Let us consider a bit.

South Africa, at least this part, is a sheep-land. Perhaps I should say this: South Africa is better adapted for stock raising than any thing else, especially in the great area, with its mountains and their high foot hills.

A sheep farmer must be a wise man and know his business or he will become a failure. The uplands are too cold for sheep in winter unless some hay or forage or other feed is provided. But the lower levels and low lands are warm where little or no frosts destroy the green grass. Hence he takes his sheep there in winter.

He knows just how many acres of grass land his 1,000 or 2,000 sheep require and provides accordingly.

Now sometimes a man trusts his fellow men too much, and instead of coming himself to inspect his winter pasture he trusts the report he has had of it and also that the old grass has been burned the proper time. Bringing his 600 or 1,000 sheep down at the appointed time expecting plenty of feed, he finds he has been deceived. The farm may have the required number of acres but grass may be sparsely scattered over steep, rocky side hills. O, deceived shepherd, what will he do? Get another piece of land in that district if possible? Suppose all the land is occupied by others and he cannot get sufficient feed? Disaster must follow and he suffers loss because he was not wise enough to go ahead of the sheep and provide for them.

Now our Shepherd goes before, chooses out and provides. He removes dangers, eliminates poisonous spots from his pasture and studies the good of his sheep, and, though they may be kept waiting, it proves in the end, best for

the sheep "... and the sheep follow Him: for they know His voice."

Let us be patient and lovingly obey our Shepherd, even when we can see no reason for the waiting time. This trial is for our good and He will never permit it to be too hard or too long.

MRS. H. C. SANDERS

### AT THE PLACE OF THE SEA

Exodus XIV.

Annie Johnson Flint

Have you come to the Red Sea place in your life,

Where, in spite of all you can do,  
There is no way out, there is no way back,  
There is no other way but through?  
Then wait on the Lord, with a trust serene,  
Till the night of your fear is gone;  
He will send the winds, He will heap the floods,

When He says to your soul, "Go on!"

And His hand shall lead you through, clear through,

Ere the watery walls roll down;  
No wave can touch you, no foe can smite,  
No mightiest sea can drown,  
The tossing billows may rear their crests,  
Their foam at your feet may break,  
But over their bed you shall walk dry-shod  
In the path that your Lord shall make.

In the morning watch, 'neath the lifted cloud,  
You shall see but the Lord alone,  
When He leads you forth from the place of the sea,

To a land that you have not known;  
And your fears shall pass as your foes have passed,

You shall no more be afraid;  
You shall sing His praise in a better place,  
In a place that His hand hath made.

### DID IT JUST HAPPEN?

It is not an easy matter to get shrewd business men to accept some of the things that are being taught in our modern colleges. A manufacturer makes a statement in the "American Magazine": "It takes a girl in our factory about two days to learn to put the seventeen parts of a meat chopper together. It may be that these millions of worlds, all balanced so wonderfully in space—it may be that they just happened; it may be by a billion years of tumbling about they finally arranged themselves. I don't know. I am merely a plain manufacturer of cutlery. But this I do know: that you can shake the seventeen parts of a meat chopper around in a washtub for the next seventeen billion years and you'll never make a meat chopper!"

Men are inventing many foolish notions in their futile attempts to refute the simple truth: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."—Anon.—Selected.

### WHY SOME PEOPLE STAY HOME FROM CHURCH

Some stay home because it's cold, and some because it's hot; and some because they're getting old, and some because they're not!

Some stay at home because their hat the milliner's not finished; and some because their liking for the minister has diminished.

Some declare they don't enjoy the singing of the choir; and others, because their fellow saints aroused their wrathful ire.

Alas, alas; our excuses grow to drive our thoughts from God, and turn us from the House of Prayer, the place where our fathers trod.—Simpson Summons.