

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT MANUAL:
CONTAINING ARGUMENT, APPEAL,
PETITIONS, FORMS OF
CONSTITUTION, CATECHISM AND GENERAL
DIRECTIONS FOR ORGANIZED WORK FOR
CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITION**

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Constitutional Amendment Manual: Containing Argument, Appeal, Petitions, Forms of Constitution, Catechism and General Directions for Organized Work for Constitutional Prohibition by J. Ellen Foster

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
MANUAL.

CONTAINING ARGUMENT, APPEAL, PETITIONS, FORMS
OF CONSTITUTION, CATECHISM AND GENERAL
DIRECTIONS FOR ORGANIZED WORK

FOR

CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITION.

BY

J. ELLEN FOSTER,

*Superintendent of Department of Legislation of the Woman's National
Christian Temperance Union.*

"Statesmanship consists rather in removing the causes than in punishing or evading
results."—JAMES A. GARFIELD.

NEW YORK:
National Temperance Society and Publication House,
58 READE STREET.

1882.

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To my dear husband, at whose suggestion and earnest entreaty I began my work in the study and practice of the law, on the public platform and in association with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and whose hearty co-operation and approval have been a constant source of encouragement and support; and to my beloved sons, Will. and Emory, who, to the measure of their opportunity, have shared the work, with its privations and its joys; to these three, who minister at our blessed home altar, do I dedicate these desires of my heart, these thoughts of my brain, with the prayer that always, as now, their shibboleth may be for God, and Home, and Native Land.

CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITION.

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CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITION.

THE movement for Constitutional Prohibition, so general at this time throughout the entire country, winning as it does the approbation of philanthropists and the co-operation of Christians, also demands the calm study of all temperance workers. Those who lead in so glorious a struggle must understand fully the magnitude of the evil fought, its entrenchments in appetite and avarice, in social custom and unrighteous law; they must see the broad field of the entire war and understand the scope of the present campaign. Let it never be said of our hosts, "they perished for lack of knowledge."

THE CAUSE AS IT NOW STANDS.

The Amendment Campaign does not discuss the simple question of total abstinence. All temperance organizations—except, perhaps, an occasional unimportant one—stand upon this platform, but the claim for Constitutional Prohibition does not of necessity rest upon a recognition of the necessity of total abstinence. The proposed prohibitory amendments to State Constitutions deal with the traffic in its relation to the individual and society. Temperance organizations deal with the individual in his relation to society and the State. The case then may be entitled,

THE PEOPLE *versus* THE LIQUOR CRIME.

The people claim that prohibitory legislation is necessary to material prosperity, is sanctioned by political economy, is sustained by enlightened jurisprudence, and is demanded by sound morality; and further, they propose to incorporate the conclusion thus reached—after years of experience in the study of the conflict of forces that go to make up civil society—into the Constitution of the State.

They consider this principle so vital that they desire to place it beyond the tricks of politicians, the machinations of demagogues and the price of hirelings.

It is answered by the defendants, that the principle of prohibitory legislation is opposed to personal liberty, that it is a removal of the work of "moral reform" from the philanthropist and the Christian to the politician and the jailor; that it will destroy large business interests, and throw many men out of employment, that it will not accomplish the desired end, but will, on the contrary, increase drunkenness, pauperism and crime. It is further claimed, that if the principle of prohibition were in itself correct, it ought not to be of constitutional law, but of statutory legislation only.

IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE'S CLAIM we state, that so long as "the love of money is the root of all evil," so long will men argue that prohibitory liquor laws are opposed to the interests of any community, not that they are so opposed, but because the investment of a little capital in manufacturing and selling brings such great returns, and because the large reve-

nue to nation and State seem to the careless observer to be a real source of wealth. What are the sources of a nation's wealth? We answer. Land and labor. Political economists may classify otherwise; they may speak of agriculture, trade, commerce, of mines, and fisheries, of railroads and steamships, but these all may come under the two broad divisions I have given, land and labor. The land is the gift of God. Our beautiful prairies have been filling up through the centuries, each adding its accumulations to the last. The mines, those wondrous pockets of the earth, have been filled by no accident of nature, but are careful treasuries stored by the Father for his needy children. The trees in the forest, the fish in the sea, the cattle upon a thousand hills, these but wait man's wish, they are his to possess. The subtle forces of nature, steam, electricity, light, sound, the gases and the common air, come and go at call. It is his labor of hand or of brain that yokes them to his triumphal chariot. Whatever then increases the earth's richness or aids in its development, whatever subjugates the forces of nature, whatever increases man's power of brain to think, his skill of hand to execute, his force of muscle to endure, this is a source of wealth. The farmer who wins from the earth the golden harvest, the product of its richness, the glory of the sun, the freshening of the rain, and his honest toil, he is a source of wealth, he gives the people food. The lumberman who fells the forest tree, the miller who gives us a pile of boards, the carpenter who builds a house by so much as lumber is better than logs, and houses than lumber, by so much do they benefit society. The common laborer