

# **TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITION**

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Temperance and Prohibition by G. H. Stockham

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**G. H. STOCKHAM**

**TEMPERANCE  
AND PROHIBITION**



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TEMPERANCE  
AND  
PROHIBITION.

BY  
G. H. STOCKHAM, M. D.

—  
“We love no triumphs sprung of force,  
They stain the brightest cause.”



—  
OAKLAND, CAL.:  
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.  
1888.

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## PREFACE.

HAVING been a contemporary of the Rev. Theobald Mathew during the great temperance movement originated by him, we were deeply interested in his work. Though but a youth at the time, the recollections of this extraordinary man are still vivid in our mind. We witnessed the wonderful enthusiasm that attended his labors in Dublin, and being then a resident of that city were present at many of his lectures.

We remained in Ireland long enough afterwards also to witness the relapsing of the people into their former habits of inebriety, and the gradual decline of the temperance lodges.

For the last three decades we have watched with continued interest the progress of the cause in America, and have seen with regret the failure of all license and prohibitory laws to crush out the leviathan of intemperance. The contemplation of this matter in its divers bearings on the welfare of humanity, led to our devoting what time we could spare from professional duties during the past few months to a closer study of the subject. Finding so much to interest and instruct as we advanced in our investigations, we conceived the plan of arranging certain facts and data into articles for publication. But as the matter grew on our hands we abandoned our first idea as being wholly inadequate to the setting forth of a subject that had now assumed enlarged proportions in our own mind.

If the result of this labor be received with favor, it will be most gratifying; but, on the other hand, if it meet adverse criticism, and thereby fail of its object, we shall at least have the consolation of having simply fulfilled what, to us, seemed a duty.

G. H. STOCKHAM,

*Oakland, April, 1888.*

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## CHAPTER I.

### ORIGIN OF THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

THE modern temperance movement began in the city of Cork, Ireland, in the year 1838, by the Rev. Theobald Mathew, commonly called "Father Mathew, the Apostle of Temperance." The great moral reformation, principally brought about by his instrumentality, both in its immediate and subsequent results, was unexampled in history. He was the first Roman Catholic clergyman who attained prominence in Ireland as a temperance reformer. Father Mathew was a man of singular purity and simplicity of character, with an utter unselfishness that made him dearly beloved by all the people.

A few years prior to 1838, he commenced preaching in the temperance cause, and the same year formulated a pledge which he urged all his hearers to sign. It ran as follows: "I promise to abstain from all intoxicating drinks, except those used medicinally, and by order of a physician; and to discontinue the cause and practice of intemperance."

During that year, 1838, the roads were thronged with people hastening to declare their total abandonment of drink, and before its close, one hundred and fifty thousand signatures from Cork and its surrounding country, were added to the pledge. The excitement was intense. Good men of all denominations joined his heroic labors. A great improvement was