

**THE FIGURES OF HELL, OR THE
TEMPLE OF BACCHUS:
DEDICATED TO THE LICENSERS
AND MANUFACTURERS OF BEER
AND WHISKEY**

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The Figures of Hell, or the Temple of Bacchus: Dedicated to the Licensers and Manufacturers of Beer and Whiskey by Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson

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MRS. ELIZABETH THOMPSON

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THE FIGURES OF HELL

OR THE

TEMPLES OF BACCHUS.

DEDICATED TO

THE LICENSERS AND MANUFACTURERS

OF

BEER AND WHISKEY.

BY

MRS. ELIZABETH THOMPSON.

"Wine is a Mockery."
Strong Drink Death.



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PREFACE.

This is not a pitiful tale to make women and children cry ; but solid facts and figures that no man can truthfully gainsay. A book full of testimony and statistics, overwhelming in terrible truth. It is the result of twenty years observation and study of the liquor question amongst the high and low. And yet the half is not told. This appeal is not to drunkards, pleading for them to reform. That has been tried in vain. There are no half-way measures in treating with mad-dogs and rattlesnakes. Unless they are killed or boxed up they will kill us. Equally so is it with those that manufacture and sell intoxicating liquors. Prohibition in one street will not save a city ; nor will prohibition in one state be successful, because of that state's bad surroundings. We are an afflicted people, accursed with beer and whiskey. Read the testimony, as well as the figures, and say if it is not time some amendment be made to our present laws. These statements are collected from reliable statistics, and not merely for a

sensation. The statistics show that not less than one hundred and thirty thousand widows and orphans are made such, annually, by liquor drinkers. Four-fifths of all the inmates in our poor-houses are sent there by drink. Four-fifths of the dead sent to the morgue are the result of drunkenness. The proportion sent to prison because of crimes committed from the use of intoxicating liquors, is perfectly appalling. You and I, and everybody, the innocent as well as the guilty, are taxed for the support of these criminals and paupers. Is it not time the battle should open against the licensers and the manufacturers? Is there not moral stamina in this country to clear itself from this terrible condition? Read and reflect. Take the matter home to your heart and your judgment, and say what should be done?

I plead with you, ministers, doctors, teachers, lawyers, judges, professors, by speech and pen to begin this work of reform against the spread of rum. This is the great cause of ignorance and crime. Help to remove it. I can see but one step—stop its manufacture and importation.

WHAT
ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS
COST THE PEOPLE.

STATISTICS AND COMPARISONS.

During the year ending June 30, 1881, there were imported into the United States, of beer, ale and porter, one million one hundred and sixty-four thousand, five hundred and five gallons, valued at seven hundred and forty-eight thousand two hundred and sixty-nine dollars; of ginger ale, one hundred and sixty-six thousand, three hundred and fifty-eight gallons, valued at one hundred thousand, six hundred and eighty-nine dollars; of cider, eight thousand, six hundred and forty-nine gallons, valued at two thousand, eight hundred and fifty-two dollars; of brandy, five hundred and seventy-two thousand and

ninety-four gallons, valued at one million, three hundred and thirty-eight thousand, six hundred and forty-three dollars; of brandy spirits, nine thousand, seven hundred and thirty-eight gallons, valued at fifty thousand, eight hundred and sixty seven dollars; of spirits, cordials, etc., nine hundred and seven thousand, three hundred and sixty-three gallons, valued at eight hundred and thirty-eight thousand, five hundred and ninety-five dollars; of wines, four million, seven hundred and twenty-seven thousand, eight hundred and ninety-six gallons, valued at six million, five hundred and thirty thousand, six hundred and sixty-one dollars; making a total of seven million, five hundred and fifty-six thousand, six hundred and three gallons of liquors im-

Do you realize the enormity of the sum paid for drink? Do you realize the pain, sorrow and sickness it produces? Do you realize the degradation it brings not only to the consumers, but the nation? Do you realize the good this money would do otherwise?

ported, valued at nine million, six hundred and ten thousand, five hundred and seventy-six dollars.

These liquors retailed in the United States at from four to ten times their import value. Taking as an average seven times the import value, and the sum paid by the people of the United States for the liquors imported in one year was sixty-seven million, two hundred and seventy-four thousand and thirty-two dollars.

The same year there were manufactured and sold in the United states sixty-nine million, one hundred and twenty-seven thousand, two hundred and six gallons of distilled spirits, which retailed for two hundred and seven million, three hundred and eighty-one thousand, six hundred and eighteen dollars.

Do you realize what an enormous sum this is? Do you realize how many hundreds there are in a million? Do you realize how much more health, wealth and prosperity and happiness this would give to the country if used for useful purposes?