

THE COURIER.

TEMPERANCE.

The True Mission of the Rum Seller Portrayed.—The Rum-Drinker Also Pictured.

Rights of Suffering Women to Petition.

MR. EDITOR:—
There is a little mist over the eyes of some of the people of our town, and your brush is in demand that there may be clearer vision.
Some men have said, who should have had more discernment, that the petition to the commissioners of this county asking that they should not grant license for the sale of poison in Griggs county, was weakened because it was signed by women. This impression was given by the rum sucker and rum seller, and those who have decided to stand by rum, and ruin, and wreck, and to forward the interests of from two to half a dozen men who come to our town to send our sons and neighbors to a swift, fiery and eternal hell, "where the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched." In other words these men say that the women of Cooperstown—the wives, mothers, sisters—women who have come to this free land of Dakota, who have borne the trials and burdens of this new life; who have left the comforts of homes and old friendships of their eastern homes to plant homes here, where they may enjoy the few years left to them of life on earth, have no right to petition for peace, safety, security and happiness of their town and community.

No rights, no voice, no cry, no remonstrance against wrong, to wives, mothers, sisters and women. Those who have to bear the great burden of this wrong, whose bodies must bend until they break with work to supply that which the rum-seller steals, whose tears flow day and night, whose hearts burn with anguish, must be as mute and dumb as the brute in the stall. Those who have more than any one else the moral character of the family to build up and whose work is unremitting to make the children and family happy for this life and that to come have no right to petition against that which destroys all for this life and that of the future. None of the rumsellers and rum drinkers and those whose hearts are harder than a stone and who have lost all love for wives, mothers and sisters will say it or think it. The rumseller has lost sense of regard for the highest, holiest, purest love which this world holds. The rum drinker is losing all sense of regard for the highest, holiest, purest love on earth.

Those who support the rumseller and rum drinker are on the same road and must, sooner or later, if they turn not, possess the same spirit. Rumsellers may damn, curse, blight and destroy and fill the earth with woe and darkest ruin. They have rights and must be protected in their devilish, hellish business, but the pure, noble wife and mother must be dumb.

The rumsellers may push their petition for license as they did here, they make false entries as they did here, they may take six young men from St. Clair, Mich. and lie to them to get their signatures as they did here, stating that there was a petition out for "free" whiskey, and they didn't believe any one should sell without license, therefore they were out for license, but the women of Griggs who are our wives, mothers and sisters must not touch the pen to move in remonstrance because forsooth it weakens the petition.

The rumseller will take the last cent from the husband, then kick him into the street; steal the last piece of bread and meat from the half starved children; steal their clothes from their backs; steal the shoes from off their feet; steal the coals from the grate which keep them warm; steal the blankets off their bed; steal the dress from the half clad mother; steal every comfort from her home; rob her of all and every joy she has ever known and murder her by these processes. Then if woman lift her voice or pen or protest against his hellish purposes he will choke her remonstrance to death or burn it at the stake.

This may be the order of those who call themselves men now, but by and by women will treat rumsellers as men deal with horse thieves, and the day of God's vengeance is not very remote, and women shall be the nemesis.

I am a "Son of God" and speak as a "Son of God," and list my cry as a "Son of God." The poor, wan hand of feeble women; the white, soft hand of sensitive women; the delicate, frail hand of suffering women; the tender, loving hand of wronged women shall yet smite, like the lightning flash, the dark, fiend who shall deal poison to his neighbors. "Woe unto him who putteth the bottle to his neighbors lips" shall be the breath of her vengeance, and it shall be the breath of women who pray and run on God's sweet errands of mercy to the sick and sad and weary of heart. With one hand she shall smite; with the other she shall smite as with lightning, the dark curse of our land.

A few years ago we prayed that the curse of human slavery might be driven from this land. The answer came in blood to the horses' bridle and death to a million souls. A more awful curse rests upon the land and we pray, and the answers shall be with blood and fire and pillar of smoke.

Already comes the report that two hell holes are to be opened in our fair town. The petition of 385 persons of our county, 300 of whom were voters, should have kept the door to this cursed business closed. If they shall be opened and our young men shall enter and go down the swift way to hell through them the question must be met here and at the judgement bar of God, who was responsible that these dark places were given a foot hold in this new town of Dakota? Who is responsible for the wail of the lost souls in the drunkards' hell?

QUILL.

Fargo Argus: The spring is here—the last of the snows of winter are on their liquid journey to the north. The warm, genial rays of the sun are drying

and warming the surface, and giving assurance that the wheat crop this year will surpass even the great crops of other years. Fortunes will be made this summer by those who are so fortunate as to have broad acres in the Valley to seed. It is no extravagance to believe that many in this county will the present season realize from their wheat crop the full cost of the land.

Public Lands in Griggs.

Governor Austin, register of the U. S. Land Office at Fargo, has this to say as to Griggs county and the public lands therein:

Griggs county lies to the north of Barnes and the west of Traill; its eastern boundary is the range line between ranges 55 and 56; its western is the range line between 61 and 62. Here the townships are all surveyed except township 145, range 59, town 146, ranges 60 and 61; town 147, ranges 60 and 61; town 148, ranges 60 and 61. With these exceptions the plats have been recently received at the Fargo Land Office. In town 145, ranges 60, 61 and 62, the land is said to be very choice. The main settlements in Griggs county are in the southern part, around Hope, which at present is one of the termini of the Manitoba road, and the other main settlement is in the central part, around Cooperstown, to which the Sanborn, Cooperstown & Turtle Mountain road is being run. Cooperstown is about in the center of town 146, range 59. There are some farmers around Mardell, a trifle further east than Cooperstown, and the rest of the county, with the exception of that unsurveyed, is unoccupied by settlers and tilings can be made in almost every township, and in some tree culture entries may be made.

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THE COUNTY SEAT OF GRIGGS CO.,

—AND ALSO—

A RAILWAY TERMINUS!

The rapidly growing embryonic city of Cooperstown is surrounded on all sides by the very richest lands in North Dakota. Cooperstown, situated as it is in the very heart of a new and fertile region, must boom to keep pace with the unparalleled

Rapid Developement

of the surrounding country. When you stop and consider the facts, you will realize the advantages this new town enjoys. It is the

Geographical Centre

of Griggs County, of which it is the established seat of government, the county officers now being located and transacting all official business here. It being the Terminus of a Railroad, the entire country for miles and miles around must make it their

UNIVERSAL TRADING POINT.

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THE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

will be built the coming summer, and the stone foundation is now laid for an

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J. M. BURRELL, Sec'y. Cooper Townsite Company, SANBORN, D. T.

PLATS SENT ON REQUEST.

UNIFORM PRICES TO ALL!

It is the intention of the owners soon to move their offices to Cooperstown, as the town is fully capable of booming itself.