

THE HERALD.

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EATY & LASSITER,  
PROPRIETORS.

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A PLAIN QUESTION TO SETTLE.

On May the 26th, the voters of North Carolina are asked to settle a plain question. While it is an important question and one far-reaching in its results, it is still plain and no voter should fail to know what he is doing when he casts his ballot.

From different sections we hear of different imaginary objections to the law to be voted on. These objections are not worthy of mention as most of the things said are utterly without foundation and will not prove true when investigation is made. It is surprising how the people of some neighborhoods will take up some false idea and talk it day and night. One of the things being talked is that if this temperance law is ratified by the people some terrible law will be passed later which will ruin everything and everybody. This theory takes very well with some people who are naturally suspicious. There is not the slightest reason for any such talk as this. No fair-minded person wants to pass any foolish or hurtful law and it will not be done.

The law presented us by the legislature is the best that could have been drawn to get the votes of the people, or in other words, it will suit more people than any other which could have been presented. There is no reasonable excuse any man can give for not voting for it if he is in favor of temperance. Some people seem fretted because the question is before us but they should remember that a State vote is what a large number of people of all political parties have been asking for. Remember it is not a battle of words but a battle of votes. It is not to be a "fist and skull fight" but one of ballots. A fair election should be held and the will of the majority will be carried out. The plain question before us will be settled May 26th. If the people are in favor of stills and saloons all over our country they can vote for them, if not they should vote against them.

The State's policy may be reversed by the vote of the people. This policy has been to take the manufacture and sale of liquor out of the country and confine it to the towns and cities. This has been done on the supposition that the plan was acceptable to the country people. Liquor has done great harm to the towns and cities. It has debauched their boys and young men and wrecked thousands of their homes. They have gotten very tired of it and have voted it out one after another until nothing is plainer to the people of the State than that the towns are not going to allow liquor sold in them. It is useless to talk about putting it back into these towns for they will not have it. Most of the men who know the evil liquor has done will have to die out before it can be got back in many of the towns. If the temperance law is not ratified its defeat will be accomplished by the farmers of the State. If they want stills and saloons they can have them at the cross-roads and country stores. A law can be passed at our next Legislature to give them the stills and saloons. Of course, it would be necessary to insert in it that no still or saloon should be established nearer than a given number of miles from any town where liquor is not now sold or where liquor may be hereafter voted out. The votes May 26th will show what must be the future policy of the State towards stills and saloons.

To Your Tents, O Israel.

On the twenty-sixth of May, 1908, the yeomanry of North Carolina will be summoned to final action in a mightier and more far-reaching conflict than all the wars that have won them glory from colonial times to Spanish-American days. It will be a fight for the absolute prohibition of the liquor traffic throughout the State, a death grapple with the mightiest single enemy of civilized man.

Truly, such another foe never swept the sons of flight into the vaults of darkness.

It enters our fields and changes their grain into water of fire. It creeps into our vineyards and takes the blood of the grape and with it boils into frenzy the blood of our men. It sends the bullet and the knife into innocent bosoms and lays them low. It fetters and hurls our citizens into the gutter and mud-hole, the county home and the mad-house; clothes them with stripes; strangles them as criminals into eternity. It claims to build our roads but murders our road builders; claims to educate our children but makes their fathers convicts and lures our boys to ruin; claims to improve business and better the country, but is the arch-enemy of prosperity and the public good. It seizes the honest man of toil, whether on backwoods tenant farm or legislative halls, and changes him into a fiend, spit-fire and menace; it wrinkles with grief the face of his wife, bends her back with sorrow, robes in tatters her and her shivering children.

Who is so blind as not to see in Alcohol a most malignant and murderous foe? Who so unfeeling that he can stroke it as a friend? Who so senseless or hypocritical as to babble in its praise?

Awake, and to arms! To your tents, O Israel!

Spare not the enemy!

Drive the Canaanite out of the land, and avenge our fathers of haughty Amalek. Tear down his strongholds even with the ground; burn his cities with fire; sow his fields with salt; pluck up his vine and fig tree by the roots; save not for profit, glory, or sacrifice his herds of sheep and kine; hew Agag in pieces before the Lord!

Let no remnant or remembrance of strong drink abide upon our body politic as a coiled serpent ready to spring upon the babe in arms or strike the unborn to death.

The battle is on!

Let no one who can go forth to the battle or stay by the stuff falter in this time of need. Let Jael drive her nail. Let David use his sling. Let Shambar sway his ox-goad. Let Joash shoot again and again his unhesitating arrows. Let Samson break the cords of the Philistines and dally not with Delilah. Let Aaron and Hur hold up the hands of Moses. Let Samuel gather the people together for sacrifice and call upon the Almighty for aid. Let Elijah slay the prophets of Baal and fear not the face of Jezebel.

The battle for righteousness is on! Moon, stand thou still over the valley of Ajalon! Stars, fight thou against Sisera! Storm-clouds fling down your javelins of ice as at Bethoron and cry out in thunder as at Mizpeh! Thou God of Israel, stretch forth Thy hand and lead Thine armies to victory!

To your tents, O Israel!

Let not a man falter on the twenty-sixth of May—not one of all our men of war from Murphy to Manteo, from Dan to Beersheba. Leave the plow in its furrow; let the shuttle be silent; lay down the yard-stick; turn even from the sick-bed of loved ones; leave thy gift before the altar, exchanging worship for sterner duty. Go to the polls on that day of days;

cast your ballot for home and State; and work for God and the right!

To your tents, O Israel.

And victory shall be ours. Not Babylon with her whoredoms nor Nineveh with her might can prevent it. Let them pour out their money, buy hypocritical tongues, and purchase weakling voters as sheep for the slaughter; they must not, they shall not, they cannot win. The God of Hosts is leading on!

Victory shall be ours. The fire must stop its glow at the still; and farm lands must be saved from wine and woe; the city must no longer be built with iniquity, nor the State established in blood; the dealer in drink must come from behind his counter and the blind tiger be slain in the alley; the drunkard must reel in his own closet and the sot be unseen on our streets and lanes.

Speed and crown the day! Then Hatteras will thunder its joy, Piedmont will shout acclaim, and Mitchell will sing the news to the stars!

But now the battle is on. To your tents, to your tents, O Israel!—Biblical Recorder.

No Christian Should Hesitate.

The voters of the State are to cast their ballots the second time on the subject of Prohibition. This is to be the last election on the question. It will be adopted by a majority larger than that by which it was defeated. Nobody thereafter will have following enough to induce a legislature to submit the issue again to popular vote. The majority should be as it will be a great one. It is easier to enforce a law enacted by the moral force of a great majority.

There is no place for hesitation by a Christian man about where he ought to stand. Every intelligent disciple of the Lord is instinctively resolved already to vote for it. This is one election in which there is no ground where duty can be done by not voting at all. There is no neutrality in morals. Not to vote is to help enemies of the measure. Every voter must be for or against it. The Word of God clearly calls every saint to vote for it. And that settles the question. We owe it to the poor and ignorant to close the saloons.

One of the amazing things in this country is the recklessness with which men who earn their wages by hard labor—honest labor—pour their hard earned money into the coffers of the saloon. We must help strike down by law any thing that fills our jails, destroys the comfort of home and the peace of families, and debases and brutalizes our people.

The natural tendency of the saloon is to produce criminality in the population at large and among saloon-keepers themselves. It debauches not only the body social but the body politic as well. No drunkard can enter the kingdom of God, and saloons are drunkard-making. Therefore we are called upon as missionaries of the cross—every one of us—to help wipe out the saloon as a part of our work of rescuing the perishing.—Presbyterian Standard.

What Is Lost by Strong Drink.

Are you good at arithmetic? I will give you some losses to add up and calculate how much they come to. They are losses made by every one who indulges in strong drink:

- Loss of Money.
- Loss of Time.
- Loss of Health.
- Loss of Business.
- Loss of Character.
- Loss of Friends.
- Loss of Good Conscience.
- Loss of Feeling.
- Loss of Mind.
- Loss of Life.
- Loss of IMMORTAL SOUL.

It is a long and terrible account to run up, but it is an easy one to begin, and I see even boys beginning it at the beer shop, young men adding to it at the tavern and billiard saloon.—Selected.



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Mr. S. Davis, of the above named firm, who had been on the Northern Markets for the past fifteen days selecting one of the most up-to-date and out of the ordinary lines of Spring and Summer Clothing and Gents' Furnishings for his firm, returned last week.

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