# Ohe Wtaskell free |luess. 

Vol. 17.
Haskell, Haskell County, Texas, Saturday, Augukt 30, 1902

## H. G. MCCONNELL,

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Anti Prohibition Department.
$\mid$ proprietor of the wishes to thank the dates for OTHER orvices in the field,
privil pruvilege of discussing through his
column the will be voted upon in this county on
September 8 .
It are many in the prohibition ranks
who are working for good morals, for who are working for good morals, for
a reduction of crime, for a better in-
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 Auence over the young men of our
land, and for a reduction in the con-
sumption of alcoholic beverages.
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L B ALLEN
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For Attorneen 39th Juvedeata) District
CULLEN
or Aenry Conaty
For connty Treasurer
R D C STEPHENS A G JONE
E LOE
For County Judge
H S WILSON
H S WILSON
D HAMILTON
For Connty and Distriet Clerk c D LONG
Fer sherif ame Tax collector BERT BROCKMAN
J W COLLINS
JNO F JONES
J W BELL
For Tax hissessor $\begin{aligned} & J \\ & \text { J BOHANNAN }\end{aligned}$
J F VERNON
J \& FOX
JOHN E ROBERTSON
R H McKEE
R H McKEE
S T COCHRAN
C M BROWN
For Gounty Attorney
OSCAR MARTIN
For State Representative
\& R CRAWFORD
For Public Welaher ${ }^{\text {T }}$ TONES
Por Gommisolaner. Pre. Mo. ,
J. T. BOWNMAN
C CROST

## -Bulk turnip seed at the Rack Store. -Mr. and Mrs. Dan Warren <br> -Mr. and Mrs. Dan Warren en tertained the young folks Mondes



hibition says the saloon may be clos- Life; they are by confession, forced by ed for the good of society, this may statistical evidence, the prolific ivaidentally interfere with some private drinking usage-nevertheless the salcon is what prohibition is after, not the private usage.
Can interference with personal liberty be pleaded as against the repression of the mob? Can the plea of individual nght to property bar the effort to stop a conflagration? Can the right to go in and out of our houses at pleasure be urged against the restraints of quarantine? To a man,you will answer NO! to these and many similar propostions. Then neither can a private drinking usage (right if you choose) constitute a valid reason for opposing a prohibitory liquor law. If the law smites the usage in smiting the saloon, it does so only incidentally. Good cirizenship will willingly bear an incidental evil or inconvenience for the sake of an essential and universal good. Life will become more sacred if we repress the mob. Property will have better security if we subdue the fire. Personal liberty will in the end be better safe-guarded by submitting to the quarantine restriction till the contagion is stamped out. So, also, every interest of society and of the individual, in the end, will be better shielded if we by the same-right abolish the saloons.

With the ground and object of prohibition thus understood we need say little as to the right to prohibit. The legal right is not open to intelligent challenge. Court after court, in state after state, for years have again and again affirmed the right of society to prohibit the liquor traffic. But some ask is tt morally right, notwithstanding its admitted legality? Yes, the moral right is just as unmistakable as the legal right, and not one whit more open to intelligent chal. lenge. The difference is, the earthly courts will punish for an infraction of the legal right while the dissobedience to moral obligation must be left to punishment by the court of heaven.

Look calmly if you can into the evils from which society and your fellow man are made to suffer by the liquor traffic. They affect public order, public health, public decency; they increase laxes, imperil property, endanger

## A Deagorous Acoldent

As Mrs. Ed Ellis and Miss Ada Fitzgerald were driving up the street from the northwest corner of the square Tuesday evening their horse took fright and making a quick dash atruck the buggy against the corner of Mr. J. E. Fitzgerald's yard fence throwing both ladies forward oai of the buggy. Miss Fitzgerald strik. ng the ground and receiving a bad cut in the sealp and severe bruises on the body, while Mrs. Ellis was thrown on the horse, to which she clung in some way for a moment until the buggy struck a telephone pole and she fell to the ground, receiving severe bruises. The ladies were conveyed to their homes and medical attention promptly summoned. With the nervous shock and their bodily in jaries they are still confined to their rooms. It is sincerely hoped that they will soon recover without any permanent injury resulting from the deplorable accident, which is regretted by all, and, perhaps by none so much as by those who were the unintentional cause of the horse's fright.
-One of the most unique and enjoyaole entertainments of the season, one where there was said to be a "flow of reason and feast of soul," was the reception given on Tuesday evening to the " V " branch of the W C T U by Mrs A B Mason, president of the latter, at her home. One who was present gave us a very interesting account of the affair, but our space being exhausted by previously arranged matter, we could not publish it, much to our regret.

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## Wednesday, September 3, 1902,

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Write for catalogue or other information to
OSCAR H. COOPER, LL. D. Pres.

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## THE RIGHT TO PROHIBIT.

As in all other questions with which man has to deal. there is a difference in oppinions as to the right to prohibit the liquor traffic. Some hold that it is "sumptuary legisla tion" and an unjustifiable attack on "personal hiberty" or "private rights." These arguments have befogged the real issue until some persons honestly think they are in the right in opposing prohibition. But we believe that a dispassionate and honest con stderation of the ground for, the object of, and the right to prohibit will clear the fog away and Illumine the way for honest iminds and hearts who are on the negative side to allign themselve on the other side in the interest of society and humanity.

As to the ground for prohibition, Why is acy act pronibited by law? On first thought many will say, because the act is evil. Such is not the basis of prohibitory laws: True, things prohibited by law are in two classes. One are things that are evils within themselves, such as murder, theft, etc., while the other are made evils by the law, though in themselves not evil, such as the carrying of a pistol, the building of a frame house in certain city limits, etc. There is no moral wrong in these latter acts. But the law prohibits them for the same reason it does the morally wrong acts, FOR THE PROTECTION of society - the law seeks to prevent one as well as the other solely for the protection of society from their probable consequences. The law will punish me if I attempt the murder of another but not for attempting suicides. The law does not prevent me frots telling a lie on the street, but it prohibits the from doing it in a court where the rights of others will bz jeopardized. One need only have this in mind to show the absurdity of the charge that "prohibitionists proceed upon the assumption that alcohol is a poison, and that any degree of its habitual use is wrong." Prohibition proceeds upon nothing of the kind, But, upon the ground of the effect of the liquor traffic on society. We might admit that there is no wrong in an individual taking a drink of liquor, but that does not affect the proposi-
tion that the liquor traffic has an injurious effect on society and should for society's protection be prohibited, Some tell us that "there is a righteous drinking of wine from our Lurd's time down and that prohibition is a reflection on him."

1 may drink it to some extent, as He possibly did, without sinning, but if I sell it to others they may not be discreet in its use and may iojure society and I will be a participant in the wrong done, hence I should nut be allowed to sell it to others. I can tear down my house in a crowded street but I cannot set fire to it, because the effect of the burning would also be to destroy my neighbos's property, but the tearing down will not, therefore the burning is prohbited not becaase it is wrong for me to burn my own but because of the effect on others -on society So hundreds of illustrations, could be cited.

Clearly then the inherent righful. ness or wrongfulness of an act has little or nothing to do with the prohibition of it by law. THE Asount AND CHARACTER OF ITS EVHLEEVECTA on orhers determines whether any given thing shall be prohibited or not. If the evils are open, public; if they imperil public interest, disturb public order, endanger human life or property, then the ground is furnished for prohibition. Many things that are wrong in themselves are never prohibited by law because they are of a private or pensonal nature and do not affect the public.

Whether the drinking a glass of wine is a sin or not his no more to do with the policy or society's right to exercise its police and legislative power in prohibiting the traffic in it than the question whether the construction of a wooden house is a sin or not has to do with the prohibition of building such a house within certain limits of a city. It is thus seen that it is not the thing in itself that is denounced but it is its results, its effects on the public, that is sougnt to be avoided. Ever since the human race emerged from a state of barbarism and men began co organize themselves in governments and enact laws for their guidance and protection, they have found it necessary to relinguish one natural right after another for the goad of the
whole. This is what is asked if,the prohibition of the liquor traffic, and no man should be too selfish to refuse to yield something for the good of his race.

As to the object of prohibitionMany persons seem to misunderstand the motive or object of advocates of prohibition. It is often charged that they are foolishly trying to make people good by law, and many persons seem aganally to believe that prohibition's object is to "coerce men to virtue;" "to reform men from with. out," etc., and thonking the method false, they shout "Away with it." That is not in fact nor in effect the direct policy or principle of prohibition. Law is recognized as protective and restrictive, not reformatory. Its aim is to guard rights, not to produce righteousness. So prohibition is armed to protect soctety from the effects of the liquor traffic rather than to reform individuals. Reformation will come through other processes and agencies, but the law will give reformation $a$ belter chance. The same doctrine applies to the prohibition of the gambling house and to the lav prohibiting certain things on the Sabbath.

Another misconception of the object of prohibttion is, that "it seeks to strike the individual, to invade his rights, to enter his home and to compel him by law to stop drinking," We hear all of these things alleged against the policy of prohibition by cunning speakers. But such is not its object; its aim is at a thing, not a man. It means the drink shop, first last and all the time. It would smite a traffic, not a personal indulgence (though it might help one to reform a wrong indulgence by removing a too open temptation.)

This may be illustrated: A mob is a bad thing. The law prohibits it. But to prohibit or repress the mol, it may be necessary to seize private property and destroy life, nevertheless for society's protection, the mob is what the law that prohibits it is after, not the property or the life A fire in a city is a bad thing and there are laws for its suppression and these laws permit houses in its path to be pulled down that the many others may be saved, then there are the quarantine restrictions; so, pro-
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With Exception of One. HABKELL, $\qquad$

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