



Drunkard's progress : narratives of addiction, despair, and recovery /

Crowley, John William (1945-)

<https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/entity/E39PBJwX8rDCwDwYGMPfGqgtKd>

Johns Hopkins University Press,
1999

Collected Work

Bloemlezingen (vorm)

Monografía

"Twelve-step" recovery programs for a wide variety of addictive behaviors have become tremendously popular in the 1990s. According to John W. Crowley, the origin of these movements--including Alcoholics Anonymous--lies in the Washingtonian Temperance Society, founded in Baltimore in the 1840s. In lectures, pamphlets, and books (most notably John B. Gough's *Autobiography*, published in 1845), recovering "drunkards" described their enslavement to and liberation from alcohol. Though widely circulated in their time, these influential temperance narratives have largely been forgotten. In *Drunkard's Progress*, Crowley presents a collection of revealing excerpts from these texts along with his own introductions. The tales, including "The Experience Meeting," from T.S. Arthur's *Six Nights with the Washingtonians* (1842), and the autobiographical *Narratives of Charles T. Woodman, A Reformed Inebriate* (1843), still speak with surprising force to the miseries of drunkenness and the joys of deliverance. Contemporary readers familiar with twelve-step programs, Crowley notes, will feel a shock of recognition as they relate to the experience, strength, and hope of these old-time--but nonetheless timely--narratives of addiction, despair, and recovery. -- Back cover

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Título: Drunkard's progress narratives of addiction, despair, and recovery edited by John W. Crowley

Editorial: Baltimore, Md. Johns Hopkins University Press 1999

Descripción física: 1 online resource (xiv, 202 pages) illustrations

Bibliografía: Includes bibliographical references (pages 199-202)

Contenido: "The experience meeting," from *Six nights with the Washingtonians* (1842) / T.S. Arthur -- from *A long voyage in a leaky ship* (1842) / [James Gale] -- *Confessions of a female inebriate* (1842) / [Isaac F. Shepard] -- from *Narrative of Charles T. Woodman, a reformed inebriate* (1843) / Charles T. Woodman -- from *Autobiography*

of a reformed drunkard (1845) / [John Cotton Mather, pseudonym] -- from An autobiography by John B. Gough (1845) / John B Gough -- from The life and experience of A.V. Green (1848) / Andrus V. Green -- from Incidents in the life of George Haydock (1847) / George Haydock

Lengua: English

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ISBN: 0801870216 electronic bk.) 9780801870217 electronic bk.) 0801860083 alk. paper) 9780801860089 alk. paper) 0801860075 pbk. ;) alk. paper) 9780801860072 pbk. ;) alk. paper)

Materia: Temperance Alcoholism Temperance Alcoholism Tempérance Alcoolisme alcoholism. SELF-HELP-Substance Abuse & Addictions- Alcoholism. Alcoholism. Temperance. Autobiografie. Alkoholismus. Anthologie. Alcoholisme. Drankbestrijding. Social Welfare & Social Work. Social Sciences. Substance Abuse.

Materia Geográfica: USA.

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Enlace a formato físico adicional: Print version Drunkard's progress. Baltimore, Md. : Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999 0801860083 (DLC) 98008732

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