

Selected Articles.

THE TEMPERANCE PLEDGE.

We often hear of a series of objections made against signing the pledge, which if they are in the least plausible, are more than counterbalanced by the benefits that have resulted in a promise to eschew forever all kinds of alcoholic drink. One objection is, that if they cannot with their own free will desist from the use of ardent spirits, they will never sign a pledge. They imagine that there is something arbitrary in the very act. Many individuals are of such wayward dispositions, that while fully conscious of the evils of intemperance, they cannot bring their minds to the proper equilibrium to avoid it. They will go so far, as to promise within themselves, that after another glass, or some future day, they will throw the cup from their lips; but the matter is again easily compromised, and the sin of intoxication creeps slowly but surely upon them. We once heard in a Temperance Address, a variety of instances, of the good effects of pledges. A young man, who had formerly been addicted to intemperate habits, was prevailed upon to sign the temperance articles; the consequence was a total reformation. He was a great favorite among his friends, and was one day invited to a pleasure party; the young man accepted the invitation—his friends drank repeatedly, and pledged each other in bumpers of brandy, but he refrained. At length they noticed him and insisted upon his partaking with them of the social glass according to his former practice. This he peremptorily declined. They inquired the reasons, and he stated, "that he belonged to a temperance society and could not drink." We have heard a number of instances of self denial like the above, in cases where promises have had such an influence upon the mind, as to cause a total eradication of intemperance, in those who would, under common circumstances, have eventually sunk beneath its grasp.—*Boston Temp. Journal.*

TAVERN-KEEPER'S ADVERTISEMENT.

The subscriber takes this method to inform the public, and especially his old and tried customers, that he continues the trade of making drunkards, paupers and felons, at his well known stand, on the most reasonable terms and at the shortest notice. He may be found in his shop at all hours, whether by day or by night—Sundays not excepted—where he keeps constantly on hand as good an assortment of diseases as can be found anywhere, whether in town or country—such, for instance, as consumption, palsy, apoplexy,

delirium tremens and fevers of all kinds, in their most active and putrid stages, together with many others too numerous to mention in this advertisement. Without any disparagement to his respectable neighbours in the same line, he is confident that no one of them deals in more genuine and effectual poisons than are kept at his bar, or can boast of destroying more lives, or breaking more hearts, or beggaring more families. As some evil minded persons have of late slandered his character, and taken various methods to injure his business, he thinks it due to his own reputation, to assure a candid public that he is engaged in no contraband traffic; but is ready, at all times, to show his licence from the high authorities of the state, to maim, wound and kill just as many native and naturalised citizens as the public good requires. And he earnestly implores those who have suffered their minds to be prejudiced against him, to call and judge for themselves, especially on Sundays, and late in the morning, every night of the week.

N.B. The most satisfactory references may be had at the *alms house, the state's prison, potter's field and the gallows.*

Dr. Heberden, one of the most eminent physicians of the 18th century, says:—"Wine or spirits, mixed with water, have gradually led on several to be sots, and have ruined many constitutions."

Prof. Cullen, probably the most celebrated physician of the last century, has the following in his first lines of the practice of physic:—"The use of intoxicating liquors at meals gives rise to gout, apoplexy, dyspepsia, liver disease, &c."

Sir Charles Scudamore, the best writer on gout and rheumatism, whose works we possess, says:—"The use of raw spirits destroys the appetite, weakens the tone of the stomach in a permanent manner, and leads to diseases of structure. Wine contains so much more of alcohol in a given bulk than malt liquors possess, that it is probably from this cause it proves so active an agent in introducing the gout."

The American Hippocrates, Dr. Rush, says:—"The effects of wine, like tyranny in a well-formed government, are felt first in the extremities—while ardent spirits, like a bold invader, seizes at once upon the vitals of the constitution."

Dr. Cheyne says:—"The daily use of wine or spirits will lead a man of a certain age or constitution to apoplexy, as certainly as habitual intoxication."

Excuses for getting drunk—The following are the various excuses which, it is

stated in a late English paper, are made at the different police-offices in London, for being drunk in the streets. Many of the excuses are made indiscriminately by both males and females:

"Met a friend—met my mother—met my sister—have been wounded in the head—had a child die—in very great distress—out of work—broke my leg in his Majesty's service—very old—an old sailor—an old soldier—been out of place a long time—just recovered from a fit of illness—been looking for work—had a little business to transact with a friend—just come out of prison, and very little liquor takes effect on me—had my brother transported—my mother died—burnt out—very hungry—had a quarrel with my wife—don't know any thing about it—just apprenticed a child—buried my wife—married the day before—been to a christening—been to a funeral—in short, it would appear from the statements made, that there is not a single occurrence in life but is considered as an excuse for getting drunk."

How is Wine made?—At the recent meeting of the N. Y. State Temperance Society, Rev. Mr. Wright of Boston, and Dr. Lee of New York, made the following statements with regard to the manufacture of wine.

There is not probably a drop of the juice of the grape in the wines manufactured in Boston and New York, they being composed of cider, molasses, brandy, sugar of lead, gum arabic, &c. The port wines are made from the light red wines, in which an astringent bark is put to give a peculiar flavor. Extract of logwood to make a deeper red color—brandy and honey to give it more body. The white wine is made from cider and other materials, and in order to carry out the deception, the casks are marked to imitate those of the custom house.—*Rev. Mr. Wright.*

Large quantities of fictitious wines are made and sold which do not contain one drop of the juice of the grape. Such have been most of the port wines used in this country for the last few years. It is made in various ways; sometimes out of cider, logwood, sugar of lead, water, &c. This is a very dangerous compound, and I have known instances where the drinking of these deleterious mixtures had proved fatal.

Champagne is now made extensively out of cider by extracting its color, adding a little sugar, and impregnating it with carbonic acid gas. A friend of mine sold a receipt for this very purpose for D. 100, out of which a fortune has been realised during the last two years. An extensive manufactory of Champagne now exists in New Jersey, where the baskets, labels, corks, brands, and every thing are imitated so as to pass with the best judges for genuine Sillery.—*Dr. Lee.*