

concern of a wise government. No other agency can act with such extensive and combined power. But much wise caution is needed in dealing with such a subject as national health. Human agencies are very imperfect, and much has to be learned as to the right way of dealing with most important subjects of health legislation. If the authorities introduce a supply of pure water into a village suffering from typhoid fever they do a righteous thing. They deal with causes. By careful investigation they have collected a body of facts which prove that impure water will produce typhoid fever. In this act of introducing a supply of good water there are many principles enfolded. Thus they destroy the cause of a great evil; they express approbation of that good thing—pure water; they educate the people into liking it; they show them, through experience, the blessings that flow from it. They thus render obedience to Divine law by their legislation. But it is very different if they attempt to regulate a village gin-shop. Gin, as a drink, is always bad, whether adulterated or not, and, in dealing with the greatest evil that afflicts our country—the curse of drink—legislation must adopt the same course that it did for typhoid fever: it must patiently and persistently accumulate the facts which will show what produces this dangerous disease of drinking.

Divine law rewards the good (*i.e.*, the obedient), punishes the bad (*i.e.*, the disobedient), swiftly, surely, inexorably, no matter at what cost or pain;