

I entreat you not to go. For my sake, and the sake of your helpless children, I implore you not to go. As you love me, do not go. As you think of the gloomy past, say that you will not go. As you value our character, our happiness, our all, do not go." Could such earnest and affectionate entreaty fail? Yes, it failed. Archie said that abstainers were to be there; and as he had promised he would go.

Archie Gray did go to the dinner; his pastor, who was a long pledger, was there; several short pledgers were present, some of whom were mixing toddy from "mere courtesy," and handing it round; and most of them were drinking toasts. He became excited with the songs and the toasts and the speeches; he was thrown off his guard; one terrible word explains the rest—he fell.

#### ADDRESS.

The following address was delivered at a public Temperance Meeting in Mr. Adams' Sabbath School Room, Quebec Suburbs, Montreal, by Mr. Thomas Jones, May 27, 1847.

My respected friends,—As the subject of Temperance is one that is so dear to my heart, I feel great pleasure in this opportunity of presenting it to your most serious attention.

It has been so often, and so almost universally alluded to, and explained, that it seems difficult to present it in any new aspect, so as to fix your attention, convince your judgement, and influence your conduct. Yet the subject is so important—involving such vital interests—that next to true religion: all philanthropists feel themselves imperatively called upon to promote the principle from which they derive such unspeakable happiness and benefit.

If the individuals who advocate the principle be humble in life, they dignify themselves by the virtuous path they pursue; if they be exalted in station, they add a priceless gem to their diadem; for no jewel in the crown of distinction, is more brilliant than that of *mercy*! Sacred writ states that "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." And our immortal poet Shakspeare, beautifully enforces the passage thus,

The quality of mercy is not strained,  
It droppeth, as the gentle dew from Heaven  
Upon the earth beneath;  
It is twice blessed—'t' blesseth him that gives,  
and him that receives.  
It is mightiest in the mighty,  
And becometh the throned monarch  
Better than his Crown!

And, surely, mercy cannot be more nobly dispensed than in pitying those who have no mercy for themselves. It is a melancholy truth, that hundreds of thousands in the world, daily give evidence that they have no mercy on themselves.

We can seldom pursue a public paper, but our feelings are shocked and lacerated, by instances of the victims of the fell destroyer *Alcohol*!—who unceasingly pursues his infernal march over those who have been immolated upon his sacrilegious altar, to swell the awful triumphs of his victory, achieved by the destruction of the bodies and souls of those who have fallen under his dreadful influence!

Drunkness has no connection with health; persevering inebriety cannot be allied to salvation! This picture, horrible as it is, must be considered too feeble a representation of the sad reality. I would fain hope that none here personify any part of the picture, and I also trust that no one will ever experience the fatal effects. The subject of intemperance, and its consequences, is so prolific, that hours may be employed in arguments and representations respecting it; but time will compel me to use condensation. I therefore proceed to observe that, health, property, and happiness, are desired by all mankind; and to ask—Will the use of Alcohol contribute to all, or any of these? Most me-

dical men of character, have declared it to be decided Poison. Systematic inebriates swallow it wholesale, moderate drinkers retail; the former soon meet with further rewards, the latter receive only a little *procrastination*: but remember that *Poison* it is. No mathematical axiom was ever more clear; and the *penalty* of your devotions to it, you must sooner or later pay. Medical men and Chemists have decided the three following points, viz.: 1st, All fermented liquors contain Alcohol; 2nd, Alcohol is a Poison; 3rd, Poison continued, sooner or latter, contributes to disease and Death. These are, therefore, universally admitted, being as demonstrable as that the sun shines at noon day.

A short period since, the evidence of 500 of the most distinguished medical men in the world was brought before a Select Committee of the British House of Parliament, who will select a small part of their evidence:

Dr. Kirk was asked—"What is the nature of ardent spirits?" He replied—"mark the answer:—'All of them contain, as their basis, Alcohol—a narcotic stimulant, possessing properties similar to opium, which you know to be a Poison.'" To the question, "what is Poison?" Drs. Mussey and Johnson replied, "any substance which contributes to destroy life; such as *Alcohol*, *Prussic Acid*, *Arsenic*, *Corrosive Sublimate*; they are the same with respect to their destructive tendency. Dr. Mussey added, "mix Alcohol with whatever you may, its destruction of health and life is equally the same with *Arsenic*? quantity and time will make the difference: the one an immediate; the other a more lingering death. Dr. Gordon said, "it would be difficult to find a more destructive Poison than Ardent Spirits." Dr. Ure stated, "It has been the *Aqua Mortis* that is, the *water of death* to myriads of the human race." Dr. Henry Green says, "Alcohol, in all its forms, is to be regarded as the most *Virulent Poison*!" Dr. Frank said, "tendency of Alcoholic drinks when used even moderately to induce disease, premature old age, and death!"

The great Sir Astley Cooper the head of his profession and physician to the late King, said—"No person has a greater hostility to *drum drinking* than myself; in some that I never suffer any ardent spirits in my house, think them *Evil Spirits*! and if the poor could witness the *White Livers*; the *Dropsies*; the shattered nervous systems; cancerous affections which I have seen, as the consequence of drinking, they would be aware that *Spirits* and *Poison* are synonymous terms! other physicians swell the list of frightful number. We tremble as we contemplate the fearful consequences, *White Livers*; *Diseased Kidneys*; *Dropsies*; *shattered nervous systems*; all sorts of fever and the *Delerium Tremens*," as a closer under the operation or influence of which, if the unhappy parties do not cut other people's throat, they cut their own! Hopeful of any thing, to travel through life with! Who but a man would continue to drain the *Poisoned Chalice*? Dr. Eschsch said that, "half the men who died every year of fever might recover if they were not in the habit of drinking ardent spirits. Dr. Wm. Burk, Inspector General of Hospitals, said, "two-thirds of the diseases and deaths of Europeans in the East Indies are in consequence of indulging in the use of spirituous liquors." The celebrated Dr. Cheyne of Dublin, a man of infinite modesty and talent, said, "Should 10 young men begin at 20 years of age to use but one glass of spirits of 2 oz a day, a small quantity, and never increase it; 9 out of 10 would shorten life more than 10 years! Mark this, ye moderate drinkers, and tremble: let all inconsiderate youths remember, that *simply sipping* robs them of 10 years of life of 40 or 50; heart sickening thought; melancholy reality."

No doubt, some will say, "This may be all very well with respect to your first-rate drunkards, but there is not one of me; I am a moderate man, I drink but little spirits, that mixed with a large portion of water." Others may