

seconds. Other physicians give similar testimony, and is it strange that men lose their reason with a poison in the brain?

It would be strange if they did not. And this is the cause why men who take this poison, have so much less reason than the men who do not; and why the same men have so much less reason after they have taken it than they had before. They have a poison in their brain, which tends to make them madmen. Hence the reason why the man who, before he began to use it, was a kind father, an affectionate husband, has afterwards been found murdering his wife, and upon the fire of his own hearth, burning to death his children. Nor is the effect in such cases confined to those who use it; it descends to their children and children's children; producing a predisposition to insanity and various diseases, which, if the cause is continued, will become hereditary, and be manifested in a diminution of size and stature; a decrease of bodily and mental strength and activity; a feebleness of vision and a trembling of limbs; an indecision and a fickleness of purpose; a general deterioration of character, and a premature old age; which will visit the iniquities of the fathers upon the children from generation to generation. Nor does the effect stop here, but,

4thly, Ardent Spirits should be banished, because their use is a wicked waste of property. When taken moderately, besides producing disease their use creates an artificial and dangerous appetite, which increasing by gratification, continually requires increasing quantities to satisfy it. Unlike the appetites which God has given us for bread and nourishing food and drinks, appetites which may be daily gratified and yet will not increase in their demand—their cries are continually give, give. Hence the reason why, although it is not 300 years since the use of it began in Great Britain, the quantity used has continued to increase till the inhabitants of that country have used more than 40,000,000 gallons, and the inhabitants of North America, more than 60,000,000 gallons *in a year*—and yet with all this vast expenditure was there no tendency to be satisfied, even with five gallons annually, upon an average to every man, woman and child. The tendency was getting stronger—the number continually increasing—agreeably to the nature of the poison, and to the nature of the various appetites which it forms. In this wicked waste of property, which might be used for worthy purposes, the corn consumed in distillation in the British Empire, would supply four hundred thousand persons with food at the rate of ten bushels per year. The amount of money consumed in 1829, was 20 millions of pounds, which is about £4 to £5 to every family.

Were this money spent on articles of substantial comforts, how many families at present, in abject poverty, might be restored to independence and respectability—to say nothing of the tens of thousands who might have been saved from crime, and misery, and degradation, and premature death, which the streams of ardent spirits thus produced from the waste of property directly or indirectly must have produced.