

A contagious disease breaks out in your city, your people have suffered from its ravages in former years, yet the cry goes up to your board of health: "What can we do?" The board of health hires Tremont Temple, and places on this platform an eminent physician to answer your question. He stands here for an hour to describe the workings of the disease on the human system, and after he has described all its loathsome characteristics, tells you: "you had better be careful and not catch it." Would not the disgusted and impatient audience cry: "Doctor, we do not need to be convinced of the terrible nature of the disease, we know that, because the disease has visited our city before. What we want is a remedy for the disease. The question is not: "Is it a contagious disease,—of that we are thoroughly conversant,—but what shall we do to prevent the spread of a contagious disease. Simply a question of remedy, doctor." So in dealing with the national disease of intemperance, the people need no additional proof of the horrid results and nature of the disease. It has crowded too many poor-houses, asylums and penitentiaries, filled the streets of too many cities with its debauched and ruined victims; blighted the flowers of hope and trust and love in too many homes; turned too many days into pandemoniums and nights into hells, for an intelligent people to remain ignorant of its nature and effects. The people are satisfied that intemperance is a terrible disease threatening the nation's life. From Cape Cod to Cape Mendicino, from Canada to the Gulf, they recognize the fact.

"Intemperance is threatening our civilization and liberties," is an axiom. The question remaining to be settled is, remedies for the disease. Certain well settled propositions will enable us to start right. Experience and science have settled:

1. Alcoholic liquors are a product of man's work, consequently the desire for, and disease resulting from the use of, must follow their manufacture.

2. Alcoholic drinks being a manufactured curse, the supply must precede and create the demand for them.

3. The use of alcoholic liquors in all ages and nations has been proportionate to the public popular facilities for obtaining the supply.

4. The effect of alcoholic drinks on the habitual user are, primarily, muscular and nervous degeneration and disease; secondarily, weakened intellect, sensibility and will.

5. The treatment of the alcoholic patient must be such as will arouse the weakened will to force the patient to wholly abstain from all alcoholic