

bers of the Foreign Mission Committee, and other incidental expenses, shall be defrayed from the Foreign Mission Fund. So far however, as the annual meeting, which is held at the time of the Assembly, is concerned, the expenses of those members who may be delegates to the Assembly shall not be paid.

TOBACCO.

PART OF DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON, PREDICATED SABBATH MORNING, MAY 17, 1885.

'Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed.' --Gen. I : 11.

THE two first born of our earth were the grass-blade and the herb. They preceded the brute creation and the human family -- the grass for the animal creation, the herb for human service. The cattle came and took possession of their inheritance, the grass-blade; man came and took possession of his inheritance, the herb. We have the herb for food as in case of hunger, for narcotic as in case of sleeplessness, for anodyne as in case of paroxysm, for stimulant as when the pulses flag under the weight of disease. The enteric comes and takes the herb and compounds it for the cure of the body. Millions of people come and take the herb for ruinous physical and intellectual delights. The herb, which was divinely created, and for good purposes, has often been degraded for bad results.

There sprang up in Yucatan, Central America, an herb that has

BEWITCHED THE WORLD.

In the fifteenth century it crossed the Atlantic Ocean and captured Spain. Afterwards it captured Portugal. Then the French ambassadors took it to Paris, and it captured the French Empire. Then Walter Raleigh took it to London, and it captured Great Britain. Nicotiana, ascribed to that genus by the botanists, but we all know it is the exhilarating, elevating, emparadising, nerve-shattering, dyspepsia-breeding, health-destroying tobacco. I shall not in my remarks be offensively personal because you all use it, or nearly all. I know by experience how it soothes and rosates the world, and kindles sociality, and I also know some of its baleful results. I was its slave, and by the Grace of God I have become its conqueror. Tens of thousands of people have been asking the question during the past two months, asking it with great pathos and great earnestness: 'Does the use of tobacco produce cancerous and oth-

er troubles?' I shall not answer the question in regard to any particular case, but shall deal with the subject in a general way.

You say to me, 'Did God not create tobacco?' Yes. You say to me, 'Is not God good?' Yes. Well then, you say, 'If God is good and He created tobacco, He must have created it for some good purpose.' Yes, your logic is complete. But God created the common sense at the same time, by which we are able to know

HOW TO USE A POISON.

and how not to use it. God created that just as he created henbane and nux vomica and copperas and belladonna and all other poisons, whether directly created by Himself or extracted by man.

That it is a poison no man of common sense will deny. A case was reported where a little child lay upon its mother's lap and one drop fell from a pipe to the child's lip and it went into convulsions and into death. But you say, 'haven't people lived on in complete use of it to old age?' O yes just as I have seen inebriates seventy years old. In Boston, years ago, there was a meeting in which there were several centenarians, and they were giving their experience, and one centenarian said that he had lived over a hundred years, and that he ascribed it to the fact that he had refrained from the use of intoxicating liquors. Right after him another centenarian said he had lived over a hundred years, and he ascribed it to the fact that for the last fifty years he had hardly seen a sober moment. It is an amazing thing how many outrages men may commit upon their physical system and yet live on. In the case of the man of the jug he lived on because his body was pickled. In the case of the man of the pipe, he lived on because his body turned into smoked liver!

But are there no truths to be uttered in regard to this great evil? What is the advice to be given to the multitude of young people who hear me this day? What is the advice you are going to give to your children?

First of all, we must advise them to abstain from the use of tobacco because all the medical fraternity of the United States and Great Britain agree in ascribing to this habit terrific unhealth. The men whose lifetime work is the study of the science of health say so, and shall I set up my opinion against theirs? Dr. Agnew, Dr. Olcott, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Rush, Dr. Mott, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Hosack -- all