

man beings to live and think and act, in this common-sense, matter-of-fact world of ours. Hence the many disappointments, the discontents, the misery, the broken-hearts, the insanity, and the suicides among novel-readers.'

7. 'The *knowledge* stored away in the mind of novel-readers, is *nothing* more than a huge, unsightly mass of *errors* ! The memory having nothing to do, must wear out in its own indolence.'

8. 'The *judgment* becomes *weakened*, the reasoning powers unhinged, and all the perceptive faculties destroyed or greatly vitiated. More than this, all the generous affections of the heart, and all the noble sensibilities of human nature, become blunted and seared under the blighting and withering influence of novel-reading !'

9. 'It also *injures the intellect*, by creating a distaste for nobler and more solid reading. Men do not like to go from the splendid palaces of kings—from the soft and lascivious saloons and drawing-rooms of dukes and counts, into the common walks of life—no, they would rather luxuriate amid the splendid castles and enchanted scenes of the novel writer !'

Who ever knew a novel reader, or one who spent, daily, whole hours, in pouring over the pages of Graham, Harper, Godey, and the like sugar-coated poisons, who was an ardent lover of God's book, a diligent student of the Bible ! a devout Christian, a holy, self-denying follower of Jesus Christ ?

10. Novel reading *unfits the mind for devotion*.

11. 'Novel reading produces *indolent and sluggish habits of thought*. The habitual novel reader unfits himself for intense mental application as the history of literature abundantly shows.'

12. 'Novel reading *poisons the soul* in all her faculties. 'The whole head becomes sick, the whole heart faint,' the native depravity is fed and fostered, and like the sickly plant of a hot-house, rapidly forced to maturity. The Bible, that 'dread wondrous book, the Author, God himself ; the subject, God and man,' that book which is a transcript of the Eternal Mind—that book which has 'God for its author, truth without error for its subject, and heaven for its object,'—that book has no charms for the novel reader ! No, it deals in truth and not in fiction ! and he has no soul to enjoy the beauties of truth.'

13. Novel reading *destroys the principles of virtue*, especially of female virtue. As evidence of this, look at the late Richmond, and other tragedies.

14. 'It lays the foundation of *mutiny and piracy*. Look at the unfortunate case of young Spencer, and others.'

15. *It lays the groundwork for gambling and stealing.*

Young men that have their minds vitiated, and their moral sensibilities perverted by novels, will not endeavour to procure wealth the ordinary way, by labour and patience ; this is too slow a process.