

had not yet reached this lowest grade, was altogether improper. If he even had come in by the back door—but in open day to venture, in so crowded a thoroughfare, to enter a house, his appearance in which, or even in the vicinity of it (as the house and he would be sure to be connected in the mind of the passer-by, as cause and effect), was sure to damage, seriously, even the fancied respectability which a licensed tavern possesses.

"Truly the way of the transgressor is hard." Doubtless the man had just awoke from his feverish sleep, feeling all the horror of a raging thirst, which, according to the descriptions given by men who have been persuaded to turn from the evil, must be dreadful, and hoping to quench it by pouring again the liquid fire down his throat. A vain hope, indeed. But even it is denied him, because he has neither money nor price to give for it.

MORTALITY IN THE ARMY.

Mr. Joseph Hume, the well known member of the British Parliament, a man who has devoted much time to the collection of statistical facts, recently communicated a paper to Arago, the French Philosopher, which was prepared by Mr. Balfour, on the mortality in the British armies.

Mr. Hume read this paper before the Statistical Society in London, and some of the facts have been published in the English journals.

The author of this memoir proposes to establish what is the mortality among the English troops quartered in the numerous colonies and stations which Great Britain possesses in different quarters of the world, in order to point out what is the effect of climate.

In England the annual mortality is	16	in 1000
In Canada " "	29	" "
In Ionian Islands " "	28	" "
In Gibraltar " "	22	" "
In Mauritius " "	30	" "
In St. Helena " "	35	" "
In Madras " "	52	" "
In Ceylon " "	57	" "
In Bengal " "	63	" "
In Jamaica " "	143	" "

At Sierra Leone, on the Coast of Africa, where a garrison of British troops is now no longer kept, the mortality amounted to the frightful number of 480 out of every thousand men.

We are of opinion that *liquor* as well as climate has a great deal to do with this increased mortality on foreign stations. In England, the soldiers generally drink beer; in Canada, though whiskey is without doubt the principle fluid that finds its way down a soldier's throat, yet from the cheapness of grain the whiskey is we dare say pretty pure. The whiskey sinners do not find it worth their while to adulterate it. In the Mediterranean wine is cheap, light, and unbranded, and the climate delightful, while when we approach tropical countries, the land of fiery attack and new rum, the mortality frightfully increases.

EDUCATION.

THE GENUINENESS OF THE BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

A book is genuine which was written by the author to whom it is ascribed. Some of the books of the New Testament profess, in general terms, to have been written by immediate disciples of Christ, and are proved to be genuine, simply if proved to be apostolical; others profess to have been written respectively by Paul, John, Peter, James, and Jude, and, in order to be proved genuine, must be severally traced to the individuals whose names they bear. Evidences of genuineness, as they affect the former class, may be not only satisfactory, but redundant; or they may be such as not alone prove the books to be apostolical, but discover and authenticate their respective authors. Such proofs as I shall advance, apply, for the most, to all the books of the New Testament, and contain subsidiary evidence, either expressed or implied, which bears on the books in detail, or on such of them as

may be individually mentioned. I shall give them in the fewest words possible, and must rely on the reflection of my readers for eliciting their force, and giving them a practical application.

I. No reason can be urged against the genuineness of the books of the New Testament, which does not operate with vastly greater force against any of the ancient writings which are universally received as genuine. Listen to the reasonings of an infidel against an epistle of Paul or one of the four gospels, and apply them to Homer's *Iliad*, Virgil's *Æneid*, Herodotus' *History*, and similar works; and you will find that they throw doubts on all these received books of antiquity, long before they raise a difficulty respecting a book of the New Testament. Tested by infidel argument, Paul may be the undoubted author of the epistles ascribed to him, after Homer, Virgil, and Herodotus are made to be suspected as fabricated or merely supposititious names. Yet the works ascribed to these authors are universally received as genuine. Why, then, should the genuineness of Paul's epistles be called in question?

II. If the books of the New Testament had not been apostolic, they would have been ascribed to the most eminent persons of the age in which they profess to have been written. Other existing documents than they profess to be apostolic, but are easily proved to be spurious; and they are ascribed to Nicodemus, to the whole college of the apostles, and even to our blessed Lord. The object of the fabricators was to stamp them with importance. But what fabricator would have ascribed professingly apostolic books to such men as Mark, Luke, or Jude, who, as compared to other immediate disciples of Christ, were always obscure or secondary persons? Or what fabricator would have passed by Andrew, Thomas, Bartholomew, Philip, Simon, James the son of Zebedee, and all the seventy disciples, assigning only meagre writings to even Peter, John, Matthew, James the less, and Jude, while he ascribed no fewer than thirteen books to "the young man, Saul," who was "as one born out of due time?" What fabricator, in particular, would have forborne to ascribe some leading writings to the Lord Jesus?

III. The style of the New Testament is peculiarly such as the writers to whom the several books are ascribed might be supposed to employ.

1. It is not classical. That, indeed, of the books ascribed to Paul and Luke approaches to be so; but that of the other books is eminently what a polished or native Greek would have pronounced anomalous, and inelegant. Now, Paul and Luke were learned men, the former "brought up at the feet of Gamaliel," and the latter "a physician;" while the other reputed authors were all professedly illiterate.

2. It abounds in Hebrew and Syriac idioms. A Grecian would have written pure Greek, a Syrian would have written mere translated Syriac, a religious Jew, unacquainted with Christianity, would have written wholly in the idiom of Hebrew; but only men situated exactly as the apostles, could have woven, upon a general texture of Greek, such a peculiar fringing of Hebrew and Syriac, as is found in the New Testament.

3. It wants the marks of every age but the apostolic. The nearest kindred writings to those of the New Testament, viewed simply as to subject and style, are the books of Maccabees, and the works of the earliest Christian fathers. But though the former immediately preceded the apostolic age, and the latter immediately succeeded it, both are characterized by a style essentially different from that of the New Testament. A cognate style to that of spurious existing books, which profess to be apostolic, may be found in various early writers; but no style can be found cognate to that which is ascribed to Matthew, John, Peter, Paul, and their fellow-writers.

IV. The characteristics or peculiar statements of the books, minutely agree with the position and character of the reputed authors.

1. They contain many intimate allusions to Jewish customs and ceremonies. Now the authors were Jews, who had witnessed the customs of the Jewish nation from infancy, and had often acted a part in both their civil and their religious ceremonies.

2. They display intimate acquaintance, not alone with the practice of the Roman government in Judea, but with the local feelings and opinions which it excited. Just such a political condition as they implicitly describe, is proved by Josephus and other neutral authors to have existed at the precise epoch when the books profess to have been written. Now the authors lived in Judea, under the Roman government, daily witnessing the conduct of governors and the governed.