

Poetry.

THE DRUNKARD.

What pen of puny men can well express
The drunkard's shame, and guilt, and misery?
Who can with words portray the awfulness,
Which, like an all-overshading canopy,
Hangs over and inwraps his destiny?
Alas! in all earth's numerous regions wide,
There breathes not one more stamped with infamy;
One who, for lust's vile and most impious pride,
A dreader doom in hell's dark mansions shall abide.

The wretch to whom pertains the drunken name,
Must bow beneath a load of woes, too great
For human sufferance; his are that shame
And censure of his fellows, which await,
Most justly, all who can, like him, create
And feed a boundless lust; his is the frown
Of heaven-born conscience's relentless hate;
His is the wrath of God, who looketh down,
With flaming eyes, on all usurpers of his crown.

'Twere well, if drunkenness its ills confined
To him who most deserved the wasting gall;
But, ah! how mournful to relate! the mind
Of many a harmless wife is made to fall
Prostrate by deepest grief; the mortal call
Lays many a woe-worn parent in the grave;
Children are often poor and sad; and all
Because he who their varied sufferings gave,
The husband, father, son, was drunkenness' slave.

O drunkard! drunkard! loudly art thou told,
By every selfish, generous motive, to deny
Thine idolized glass—not to grow old
In drunkenness. My feeble voice would try
To woo thee from thy dark captivity;
It would beseech thee, as thou wouldst bring
Peace to thyself, or 'scape from misery,
Away thy love for liquid fire to fling;
By all most dear to men, touch not "the cursed
thing."
P. J.

Miscellaneous.

TENDENCY OF THE TEMPERANCE REFORM.

1. It will tend to check the spirit of gambling.
2. It will tend to check midnight cabals, and prevent the keeping of late hours.
3. It will restrain vulgarity, and promote decorum in social intercourse.
4. It will prevent many amusements which are of immoral character, and chasten those which are in themselves innocent.
5. It will elevate the character of social intercourse, and promote kindness and affection among the members of families and neighborhoods.
6. It will elevate the national character in the eyes of foreign countries, and fix upon an immovable basis our highly valued and cherished institutions.
7. It will increase the productive industry of our country, and render crime and want, almost, if not entirely, unknown among us.—*Am. Almanac.*

Drunkenness.—What is it that saps the morals of youth—kills the germ of generous ambition—desolates the domestic hearth—renders families fatherless—digs dishonoured graves? Drunkenness! What makes a man shunned by the relatives who loved him—contemned by the contemporaries who outstripped him—reviled by the very wretches who betrayed him? Drunkenness! What fills our asylums with lunatics—our ponds and rivers with suicides; our jails with thieves and murderers; our streets with prostitution? The same omnipotent vice! He, who by precept, whether moral or written, shall succeed in rendering drunkenness detestable, and sobriety an inviolating virtue throughout the land, will confer on the humbler classes of society; a boon beyond all price.

Water.—Water drinkers have much keener appetites than those who drink beer. Water is the most natural and wholesome of all drinks; it quickens the appetite, strengthens digestion, quenches thirst most readily, effectually supplies the waste continually sustained by the blood and juices. A strong and rudy faced farmer, had a disease which induced the late celebrated John Hunter to enjoin a total abstinence from fermented liquors. "Sir," said the farmer, "I assure you that I am a very temperate man; I scarcely ever exceed three pints of ale in the day, and I never touch spirits."—"But," said Mr. Hunter, "you must now drink nothing except water." "Sir," said the farmer, "this is impossible, for I cannot relinquish my employment, & you know, Sir, it is impossible to work without some support." Mr. Hunter perceiving that his patient was not likely to be readily convinced, inquired how many acres of land he cultivated, and how many horses were kept upon the farm, and then boldly asserted that they were too few. The farmer maintained that they worked hard. "Allow me, then" said Mr. H. "to inquire what it is that you give them to drink?"—*Code of Health.*

Marry not a gambler, a tippler, or a haunter of taverns, because he has no regard for himself will never have any for his own wife or children.

Notices.

It is proposed to call a meeting of the friends of temperance, on the 22d instant, with the view of uniting the different temperance societies of Montreal into one, under the name of "The Montreal Society for the promotion of Temperance," which will

embrace two pledges, both entitling to membership, the one excluding the common use of ardent spirits, the other that of all intoxicating liquors. Invitations have been sent to one or two individuals in the United States of known ability and zeal in the cause of temperance, who, it is hoped, will be able either to be present or procure us substitutes of their own stamp.

Little time to spare from our other occupations may hinder us occasionally from perceiving misstatements of a trivial nature in our communications; and we are sorry this has been the case in an article in the last number, copied from another paper on the proportion of alcohol in different beverages. A bottle of Madeira is there stated as containing nearly a pint of proof spirit, when something less than one half that is the correct quantity.

Advertisements.

THE Secretaries of Temperance Societies, and individuals interested in promoting their objects, are informed, that by the liberality of E. C. DELAVAN, Esq., of Albany, between Two and Three Thousand publications on Temperance have been granted to the Montreal Executive Committee of the Temperance Convention, and that on application at the Book Store of Mr. Wm. GREIG, or to the Subscriber, they may obtain a quantity for the purpose of gratuitous distribution.

JAMES COURT, Secy.

October, 1835.

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