

of the body politic. We find its slaves and victims among the educated and refined, as well as among the ignorant and vulgar—among the wealthy and luxurious, no less than among the destitute and wretched.

No person of right feeling can regard this woeful waste of reason, of health, of life, without thinking of some remedy. And the physician can least of all rest satisfied without devising or discovering some means by which, at least a certain number of these victims of intemperance may be saved from their destroyer. Only some of them—for alas! experience and analogy confirm us in the belief that many are doomed to perish, because, notwithstanding all that may be done on their behalf, they *will* again and again throw themselves headlong into the tide of their passions, till they are at last borne beyond the hope of rescue. But for those who *may be* restored to sanity of will, no effort that can be made ought to be pronounced in vain. It is only of these latter that we desire to speak.

Drunkards may be divided into more classes than even those enumerated by Dr. MacNish in his celebrated "Anatomy." For our present purpose it will be sufficient to mention two—the *habitual* and the *periodical*. These names indicate very different modes of indulgence.

There is this marked difference between these two classes: The habitual tippler has occasionally his awfully lucid moments, and occasionally his deeper debauches, but is during by far the greater part of his time under the influence of stimulant. The periodical drunkard, on the other hand, leads two lives as of two separate individuals: for months he is the soberest of men; then, all at once, almost before he is aware of it himself, he is helplessly in the clutches of his enemy. The cause of the outbreak is sometimes so mysterious as to escape all enquiry. But it is generally found that it has been preceded by an incomprehensible craving, of which neither the *dipsomania* of some medical writers, nor the *alimentaryness* of the phrenologists, gives the faintest idea. *Hungeriness of the brain* is perhaps the most correct definition of it. If it be considered how awful a sensation ordinary hunger is, and what it will drive men to do; if it be remembered that ordinary thirst will make the sufferer mad, if it be not assuaged—some notion may be obtained of this hunger of the brain. The immediate temptation which leads a person thus suffering to gratify his appetite, may often be so trivial as naturally to cause persons in health to wonder and to blame, and is inexplicable to the person himself when the fit is over. But it is generally found on examination, that for some time previous the brain has been deprived