

because she was not allowed to go out again, demanded her dismissal, but was put off for two or three days, in hopes that the craving for liquor would subside. This case was, however, too far gone; she could not rest a moment, but would red up and down like a condemned spirit, asking leave to go out of every body. At last, upon her solemn promise that she would never beg again, and that her sons would maintain her, she was dismissed, and I understand is now as busy begging and drinking as ever. I may mention that whilst she was in the House of Industry, a respectable grocer's wife in the suburbs lamented that this woman was shut up, as she was one of her best customers for liquor, and always cash. Indeed, the taking the beggars off the streets has been a blow to the lower order of taverns, dram-shops, and beggars' boarding houses, which those establishments will not readily forgive. For, between what was begged from the charitable and what was stolen from all classes, these houses had a very considerable source of revenue, which is now entirely cut off.

6. A woman, with two children, was admitted into the house, in the last stage of misery, want and disease, and immediately lay down with fever. Her husband, a blacksmith, when he heard she was sick, went to his employer, and told him that his wife was dead, asking the loan of some money to bury her. He got the money, and drank it. When his wife was informed of this, she said that her husband was her murderer, for he had not only drunk all his own wages, but everything that she could earn, and showing some severe bruises on her breast, she said they were the effect of blows inflicted by her husband when intoxicated. This woman died, being the first case of fever in the house.

7. Another woman, with two children, was taken into the house, whose husband, a shoemaker, could earn with ease twenty-five shillings a week, as his employer assured me. However, he scarcely ever worked, but drank and wandered about, the most pitiable object that could be imagined. This woman is also dead; and I have since heard that she was as bad as her husband, for that before he became so very drunken, he would sometimes bring her house tea and sugar, which she sold for liquor. The husband is not yet in his grave, but he has long been dead for all useful purposes—he now exists only as a nuisance.

8. A respectable-looking woman, with grey hairs, who had formerly kept a tavern, forced the Committee to turn her out, because she smuggled in liquor one way or another, and kept herself drunk for a number of days.

9. Many of the men and women in the house, if allowed to go out, come back in liquor, and several have been caught bringing it in. In some instances they have stolen the articles of the house provided for their own comfort, and sold them; and in others, they have bartered the clothes which they got in charity, for liquor—for some of the dram-shop men will take even the knives and spoons of a poor-house, or the clothes of the paupers, in payment of drink.

10. The Canadians who have friends in the house, sometimes think it a necessary part of the supplies which they send them from time to time, to include a bottle of liquor, which I need scarcely add is invariably declined, and I have noticed that the husbands of several of the Canadian women who have taken refuge there, are tipsy when they come to see their wives, which probably accounts for their being unable to support them. Generally, however, the Canadian inmates were as respectable as any.

11. A man, who was useful about the house and entrusted with a good deal of authority, was allowed to go out, came in drunk, went to the women's room and commenced beating and kicking his wife, who was in a very delicate state, till the cries of murder resounded through the whole house. When he was going to be put in confinement, he seized an iron bar and threatened to knock out the brains of any one who attempted to touch him. He was of course expelled. This was a young able bodied man, perfectly capable of providing for his family, but for the temptation of dram-shops. And here I may remark upon the impossibility of maintaining discipline where drink is permitted. A child might command all the men in that house when they are sober; but let one or two of them get drunk, and the whole Committee could not keep them in order. It is, therefore, no wonder that the disgraceful punishment of the lash is obliged to be kept up in the army and navy, as long as Government serves out in rations the very means of drunkenness, to the soldiers and sailors. Government gives the men

drink to make them riotous and insubordinate, and applies the lash to make them quiet and obedient—and this is the wisdom of the nineteenth century. There are in the House of Industry tailors, coopers, and other tradesmen, who would be worth good wages if they could be kept from drink. There are many also, who have been reduced by drunkenness to be the mere wrecks of human beings, and who never can be restored to health and strength in this world.

A woman who recently came in, has received an excellent education, and evidently moved in a respectable sphere. She latterly, with her husband, kept a tavern—became a drunkard—turned her old father, a man of seventy-five, into the street—who was attacked with delirium tremens—her children, who were starving of cold and hunger, were taken from her by some charitable friends—and she herself was at last brought to the House of Industry, where she is improving in appearance.

Another case, which only came to my knowledge yesterday, is that of a woman who I always noticed to be particularly attentive when I was speaking about temperance. She, it seems, had a husband in a dealing way in Quebec, who made money, owned some houses, kept fourteen cows, and to crown all commenced tavern-keeper. Like a great many other tavern-keepers, he became a drunkard, and after going through all the painful stages of that disease, lost all he had in the world, and died. Leaving his widow with two sons, one of them a wild unsettled boy, who drinks when he can get liquor; and the other, half deaf and half an idiot. This woman cries bitterly when she tells her story, and says that every word that Temperance men say about drink and its effects, is all true.

It would be tedious to multiply instances. I shall merely state generally, that the more I became acquainted with the previous history of the inmates, the more I was inclined to attribute their destitution almost solely to the pernicious habit of drinking, which is unfortunately so prevalent. Even those whose appearance and conduct seemed to exempt them from the general rule, I was sometimes surprised to find confirmed it in the most striking manner. To make this plain, I shall merely cite one instance. The most respectable-looking family in the house, was a man, his wife, and six daughters. They all behaved well, both the man and his wife were made overseers, and they executed, and still execute their duties to the satisfaction of the Committee. I was convinced that this family was reduced by misfortunes, till I had an opportunity of hearing from a person who lived near them last autumn, that the wife and her six children were sometimes obliged to fly in the middle of the night to a neighbour's for shelter, to avoid the fury of her husband when he came home drunk. Here was a manly, honest, well-behaved man, converted into a demon by alcohol. His youngest child died of water in the head, his second is dying of consumption—and who can say whether their diseases were not caught when exposed to cold and hunger, by the conduct of their father. This man, with his whole family, and about ninety more of the inmates of the House of Industry, have become members of the Temperance Society, at their own earnest request; and to all appearance they are determined never more to touch their deadly enemy, alcohol. May the Lord in his mercy prosper them. With a few exceptions (for of course other causes operate to produce poverty sometimes) none of the inmates of that house need to be chargeable to the public, but for the existence of grog-shops. And we may here admire the wisdom of the citizens of Montreal, who are willing to license dram-shops, and then contribute six thousand dollars a year to remedy a small part of the evils which they cause.

I think, after what I have stated, it will not be denied that intoxicating drinks cause three-fourths of all the beggary amongst us. I would be inclined to say nine-tenths, but it is best to keep within bounds. As for the diseases caused by drinking, and the shortening of human life amongst all classes, but more especially among the poor, they are appalling. The mortality among the poor drunken creatures who used to infest our streets, as well as among their children, was, and is enormous, many of them came into the House of Industry in a dying state, and there is scarcely a family within its walls which has not lost at least one individual; but I am convinced that perhaps the half of them would have perished this winter, had that house not been established. As for the crimes which require Courts of Justice, we shall not hesitate to say that three-fourths of them flow from the same un-

hallowed source, when we consider that thefts and robberies are invariably committed almost by those who are reduced to misery by drunken and debauched habits, and who require means to carry on their mode of life; and that almost all deeds of violence are committed under the maddening influence of liquor. Indeed Judge Pyke did not hesitate to say that nine-tenths of all the criminal cases which came before him were caused by spirituous liquors. To conclude, I would merely add, that the misery, disease and crime which I have described, and with which every community is more or less cursed, are the legitimate and necessary effects of that "good creature of God" alcohol, when used as it has hitherto been; and that they are the invariable accompaniment of that "honest lawful and respectable trade" rum selling.

The Rev. G. W. Perkins, then proposed the fourth Motion, which was seconded by J. E. Mills, Esq.

That as a fearful amount of pauperism, crime and disease, result from the use of intoxicating drinks, those employed in manufacturing, importing and retailing these liquors for a beverage, are accessory to all the evils which result from their use.

The following is the principal part of the speech made on this motion—

The Rev. G. W. PERKINS.—The terms, said the Rev. Gentleman, in which this resolution is expressed might have been much more severe, with equal truth and propriety. Indeed, language can scarcely be found strong enough to describe the evil nature and tendency of the traffic in intoxicating drinks. The resolution charges upon the manufacturers, importers and retailers of intoxicating liquors, (to be used as a beverage,) the sin of being accessory to all the evils which result from their use. That pauperism, crime, and disease, to an appalling extent, are the result of such use, it is not my design at present to show. Facts fearfully demonstrative of this position have been often and fully stated to the public of this city, on previous similar occasions; are accumulated in frightful masses in printed documents; and are detailed with peculiar interest and excellence in the remarks of Mr. Douglass, who has just preceded me. My special object this evening is, to show that the dealers in intoxicating liquors as a beverage are accessory to those evils. I wish it, however, to be distinctly understood that in making this grave charge, I am willing to do ample justice to the private character of many of those upon whom my subsequent remarks may seem to bear with severity. I am willing to allow, that in their own families they may be affectionate and amiable; are, and deserve to be, objects of attachment to their own wives and children, and that they may pay their debts with honour and punctuality. Towards dealers in intoxicating drinks I cherish no feelings of personal ill will, some of them I unfeignedly respect for many estimable traits of character. But we deal with truths and facts. They must not be concealed, nor modified through fear, nor through favour. If those truths and facts bear heavily upon any class of individuals, who are to blame? Certainly not we who state and defend the truth, but those who persist in a business which cannot bear exposure. My object is not to prove that in a legal and technical sense, the dealer is accessory to all the evils resulting from the use of the liquor he sells. But I will state a case to show that the principle on which guilt is adjudged in other cases would, if strictly applied, bring in a verdict of condemnation against the seller of intoxicating drinks. After the murder of Mr. White, of Salem, by Crownshield, (who to avoid conviction, if I recollect rightly—committed suicide in prison.) Knapp was tried. The question before the court was—whether he was so far a participator in the crime, that the sentence of death could legally be pronounced. The case was argued by the celebrated Daniel Webster.—It was proved that at, and previous to, the time of the murder, Knapp took his station about three hundred feet from the house in a different street. The ground which Mr. Webster took, was, that he was there to facilitate or encourage the perpetration of the crime. The court and jury sustained the ground, and a verdict of guilt, and sentence of death, were accordingly rendered. Now, let us suppose, that instead of taking his station at any distance, near or remote for the purpose of aiding or encouraging the crime, he had previous to the perpetration of the murder, supplied the actor in the fearful tragedy with a glass of brandy to sustain his failing purpose. Would not his condemnation have been equally just? Would he be con-