

and less repulsive. No matter how good, how virtuous, how honorable, how benevolent, how noble men and women have been and still are who have been and are moderate drinkers, there can be no doubt their good qualities would have shown more brilliantly had they not been subjected to that deteriorating and demoralizing habit. The Bible declares wine a "mocker", says, "At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder". enjoins us "not to look upon it", and asserts that through it the "priests and prophets went astray and perverted judgment". If it wrought such havoc with Noah, Lot, and the princes and prophets distinguished by the favour of God, and if it has in all ages and in our own time dragged to perdition from among all classes and ranks of men the good, and noble, and generous, and talented, and excellent, how can any one escape at least partial demoralization who uses it at all?

GENERAL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL.

8. A quart or so of strong whiskey, if drunk in time, is said to be an excellent remedy for the bite of a rattlesnake; very probably it is. Being a powerful poison, it acts as an antidote to the snake poison; whether the latter is a good remedy or antidote for the poison of alcohol has not been as yet properly tested. It may in due time be determined by actual experiment that those liable to be snake-bitten should keep on hand a bottle of whiskey, and that those subject to wounds from the serpent of the bottle should ever have a rattlesnake in the closet as a convenient antidote. If there is any other good use to which alcoholic liquor of any kind can be put as an internal application, and something else may not be substituted for it with advantage, the writer is not aware of it. Were the whole stock of it destroyed to-day, and no more could be made, no honest, decent, lawful interest would suffer in the slightest degree; if temporary loss should appear in one direction, it would be compensated tenfold in another or in many others. The traffic confers no real benefit upon any one; one dealer in one or two hundred may get rich and appear *only* to lose his soul, and his honour, and his own respect and that of his fellow-men; but among no class of men is there such a per-