

gent's Temperance Tales, and the Journal of the Am. Temp. Union. In time I hope we may do something to assist you, but at present we must look to you for assistance.

Praying for the Divine blessing on all your labours in this greatest work of human philanthropy, I am, dear Sir,
Very sincerely yours,

C. HAMLIN.

Miscellaneous.

DRINKING CUSTOMS.—Do what you will for the good of man, these customs are a blight, a worm at the root, you may feed, clothe, and educate the poor, but as long as they touch, taste or handle strong drink, your good works will in great measure, be lost. If you give them money, it will go to the dram-shon. If you give them bread, it will be turned into strong drink. If you give them clothes, they will go to the pawnbroker, to be turned into money to go to the whiskey shop. If you educate them, this may possibly be the greatest charity of all the three, and the most likely to lead to habits of manly self supporting independence; but it is much more likely that the young plant, reared on a soil daily moistened with strong drink, will be blighted and withered by its pestilential influences, and become a cumberer of the ground and a more deadly curse to society. On this account it is of the utmost importance that total abstinence be introduced as a part of the education of every day-school, and of every Sabbath-school.—*Rev. T. Johnson.*

A DISTRESSING CASE.—One of the citizens of Belleville, Ill., recently discovered a stranger lying upon the sidewalk, and apparently much intoxicated. He benevolently procured him a bed at a livery stable, where he remained till next morning, when he died. From papers found upon his person, it was ascertained that his name was John. D. Holdman, that he was a physician, and formerly from New York. He had been two or three days in the place, constantly intoxicated, but no one knew his business or history. It was also proved that on the evening previous to his death, he had entered the shop in front of which he was found; and being troublesome, and refusing to leave, the proprietor of the shop had pushed him violently out of the door; that in falling, his head struck upon the pavement; and that, so far as was known, he never afterwards spoke.—*Ex. Paper.*

A MINISTER CURSED.—At the Temperance Anniversary recently celebrated in Warrington, the following anecdote was related by the Rev. W. Roaf. There was a man whose wife's mother had induced them to break their pledge, on the occasion of the birth of their first child, by telling them that ministers of the gospel saw no harm in taking a social glass on particular occasions, and that her own minister, a most pious man, did it. They yielded—the man became a drunkard, and once said to Mr. Roaf, when referring to the name and authority of the minister, whose opinion and example had been quoted to his ruin—"I'll curse that man when I am in hell."

Dr. Peck.—This distinguished man in assuming the

editorship of the Methodist Advocate and Journal, says:—"It shall also be our object to render the Advocate eminently subsidiary to the great and noble cause of Temperance. In relation to this subject we now, as a Church, stand upon an eminence. The effort of the last 20 years has finally resulted in the restoration of Mr. Wesley's original rule to our discipline, and in the adoption of a rule for disciplinary proceeding with rum drinkers and rum sellers. All that now remains for us is practically to carry out the great principles which we have adopted, and enforce the rules which are incorporated into the Discipline. Our Book of Discipline is now a standing testimony against the trade in intoxicating drinks, and their use as a beverage; and all we have to do to rid our church of the last vestige of the evil of rum drinking and rum selling is to enforce what is now the law of the Church."

OBJECTIONS TO LICENSE LAWS.—1. They give a legal sanction to vice. 2. They fail to accomplish their object, neither diminish intemperance, confine the business to good men, nor raise the revenue. 3. They imply, what is not true in part, that intoxicating liquor is needful and useful as a beverage. 4. They give a monopoly of vice and mischief-making, and make bad men the influential men in the community. While they continue, with all that may be said in their favour, the temperance reformation—one of the greatest of all blessings—cannot prevail.

ONE OF A THOUSAND.—The N. Y. Commercial has a subscriber of whom it may be proud. He has taken that paper for fourteen years, and in a late letter enclosing another year's subscription, he relates the following experience:—"My means are small—but I abjured wine, alcohol, and other strong drinks, in June, '32, and have honourably kept my pledge. The saving under this head more than pays for my newspapers; and the gratification which the perusal of them gives me, is beyond calculation in dollars and cents."—*Am. Temperance Union*

ALCOHOL IN WINE.—Many persons suppose there is little or no alcohol in wines. This question may be easily settled. Take a tumbler half full of any kind of *merchantable* wine; add to it as much pearl ash as will dissolve;—the pearl-ash having a stronger chemical affinity for the water, than the water has for alcohol, will abstract the water, and leave the alcohol free. Its presence can then be demonstrated by applying a lighted taper. The *strong or generous* wines, as Port, Sherry, Madeira, &c., contain from 10 to 18 per cent. of alcohol, and the *light* wines, as Claret, Hock, Moselle, &c., from 7 to 12 per cent. According to Dr. L. C. Beck, Albany ale contains 14 per cent. proof spirit.

ALCOHOL AND THE BRAIN.—Dr. John Percy, a graduate of the Edinburgh University, states, in his Prize Essay (London 1839) that after poisoning dogs with alcohol, he had obtained it from distilling portions of the brain, liver, &c. And in a variety of experiments he found that a greater amount of alcohol was obtained from the brain than from an equal weight of liver, lung or any other organ. The effect of alcohol in hardening the brain and nerves may be thus explained. The nervous structure being composed of nearly nine-tenths