

mainly in hindering the more rapid development of intemperance, when its utter extirpation might have been expected.

Much positive good doubtless has been done, but in a negative form. Our progress has been up hill with many a slip backwards. Some have grown weary with the incessant and seemingly never-to-be-ended with hoary evil. Others have given up in despair. Such have mis-calculated the nature of human depravity, and of the vice against which we are waging war. This moral demon, this destroyer of men, women and children, has a thousand lives, and will die hard. Do you ask "When is this moral warfare to end?" If any think, that after fighting a few years, with various turns of fortune, they are going to retire with laurels, and rest upon their trophies, they have mistaken the calibre of their enemy. With such a foe, it is a wearisome battle. Intemperance is a stronghold not easily subdued; we will have to wait many an assault in the trenches, and repel many a sortie, before we are able to storm the well fortified citadel; it may require a generation or two to accomplish its subjugation. Shall we therefore relinquish the contest? never! we fight for posterity as well as for ourselves.

A hundred years ago the Dutch built their ramparts—mud walls—to resist the effects of the ocean upon the soil they had redeemed from its grasp. Does the Hollander trust these walls? No, day by day he steals an hour from toil to fill the breach made by the ocean. The willows are constantly decaying and must be replaced to keep out the wild waters that roar above his head, that he may retain the heritage left him by his father. We also have redeemed some ground.—

"Yet much remains

To conquer still; peace hath her victories

Not less renown'd than war.

We have shut out the angry floods of appetite, custom and interest that are around us. It may take a time to convert the remaining water into land, but will we not fight to retain the land we have redeemed at so much labour and expense? We will, if it should cost us our life-time spent in this effort alone.

In the name of hundreds saved, and millions exposed to the destroyer, I charge you not to peril by indifference what so much toil and self devotion have purchased for us. Our fathers are growing grey in this service, shall we not transmit the works of their hands with unimpaired efficiency to posterity, and put those who come after us in a position to finish that which we have begun.

But have we put forth efforts in keeping with the magnitude of our undertaking? We have pledged ourselves not to cease working until every brother in the great brotherhood of humanity stands embraced within our circle of safety and honor. How does this comfort with the fact of our ably conducted *Tem-*