

nence, and to exert my influence to induce others to act with me. The means I used was the simple machinery of the Temperance organization, with which, in all its modifications, I have been identified for nearly twenty years. As a Medical Practitioner, however, I have ever entertained the opinion that Alcoholic stimulants should have a place on the shelf of the Apothecary; and I am free to admit that, in the present state of my knowledge, there is nothing that I would be willing to place there as a substitute, and I have, from first to last, been accustomed to prescribe them—so far as regards conscientious scruples—as freely as if I had no connexion with the Temperance movement. Entertaining these views, I am quite sure that it will be gratifying to you to learn that I have accomplished the work of the year, having had, under treatment, 151 Patients, and have used but about one quart of each, Brandy and Wine. Let it not be supposed that I have been dealing in “infinitismals” when I speak of so small a quantity in connexion with so large a number of Patients, for I would prescribe, if required, a pound as readily as an ounce; the truth is, the cases requiring these remedies are rare; and I would consider it wrong not to avail myself of their medicinal virtues in the few cases in which they are applicable, because I believe their influence on the system in a state of health to be vicious.

Incurable Paralytics and Idiotic persons are being sent to us, and have encroached upon the accommodations designed for the Insane, till the evil has assumed a form that requires a remedy. It is quite possible that the reason why such persons are sent here is, that they may cease to be a burden on the Parish to which they belong. If the object of our Institution were correctly understood, and sufficiently appreciated, and if those who have the power to send them were guided by proper feelings, they would rather protect us from such cases than impose them upon us. The golden rule would, I think, operate well under such circumstances. Let any one put the question to himself: If Providence were to afflict me with insanity, would I like to be confined in a Ward—perhaps already overcrowded—with persons who, from the effects of incurable disease, are deprived of the power, to say nothing of the will, of attending to the ordinary decencies of life? Now, this is just what happens with us in our present circumstances. If a patient be sent to us in a state of violent excitement, no matter how re-