

from the Egyptian papyrus, which appears to him to settle the unpe beyond controversy the existence of teetotal societies. It is, long perhaps before the days of the Pharaohs; and if it be true that in those times "even the ladies were carried home drunk from banquets by their attendants," one can scarcely doubt the desirability of such preventive organizations.

Dr. Tuke deals rather tenderly with the Greek women in relation to their vinous indulgences, for though he is satisfied that "they were not by any means teetotalers, they did not imbibe strong wine to the same extent as the women of England."

Indeed the Milesian (Irish of course) ladies are said to have drunk only water." This from a plain, truth-loving friend, is surely a harsh imputation; but just note the cruelty and ungalantry of the following clinching sentence:

"The number of wine flasks left daily in the waiting-rooms of English railway stations by the ladies who frequent them is something extraordinary, and forms one among other proofs of an amount of imbibition which would have shocked respectable women in Greece at any period."

Shame, shame! Dr. Tuke, you are a most unlovely Englishman. Could you not have supposed that the many "wine flasks daily left" were not empty and that they were intended for country friends, and that in the hurry of embarkation they had been forgotten and thus left behind; or might it not be that they belonged to continental travellers? We do heartily hope that, in the next edition of his work, Dr. Tuke will make to his fair countrywomen the *attende honorable*, and clear their long skirts of that unseemly wine stain.

We wish that our available space permitted us to extend our notice of the book, for it abounds in entertaining and very instructive matter, of which the excerpts here given are by no means fair examples. If all its readers derive from the perusal the same gratification which it has afforded to us, they will have no reason to regret having added it to their collection.

We must not, however, close this notice without expressing our disappointment, in not having met in Dr. Tuke's enumeration of causes, with any pointed allusion to the fearfully destructive effects of one vice, which beyond all doubt, both in this country and in Europe, stands more intimately associated with insanity than any one, or even half a score, of other moral or physical factors of men-

tal dethronement. Our professional readers hardly require that we should say the evil to which we here allude is masturbation. The writer of this article has had from the most reliable sources, assurances of the prevalence of this "enshrined moral pestilence," to quite as large an extent in Great Britain as it is admitted to have attained in America; and yet, strange to say, not only almost all the latest English authors of treatises on insanity, but more culpable still, the writers of asylum reports seem to ignore the subject, and thus to leave unexposed to popular recognition, an evil which contributes more largely, if not to the production of insanity, certainly to its incurability, than alcohol, religion, politics, business misfortunes, and disappointed affections, all combined.

Just observe how delicately Dr. Tuke *hints* at this body and soul destroyer:—"Alarm should be felt when the young seek solitude and society is carefully shunned." Yes, verily, should alarm then be felt,—nay, but indeed, *then* is alarm too late. To take alarm then is to lock the door when the steed has been stolen. When a young man or a precocious girl becomes gloomy, fitfully sullen, enervate, over-studious (as it is called), and evinces indisposition to participation in the natural and invigorating pastimes of buoyant youth; just as sure as the experienced gardener infers the lurking canker-worm at the root of the untimely-wilting plant, may the physician conclude that he has to contend with a pestilent infection, which will bid defiance to all his *armamentarium medicinale*. Why should this calamity be eternalized? Why do not the guardians of the public weal speak out?

CONGENITAL OCCLUSION AND DILATATION OF LYMPH CHANNELS. By Samuel Busey, M.D., Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine, University of Georgetown. New York: W. Wood & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

The writer of this most interesting work has not attempted any systematic classification in the large collection of cases contained, yet without doubt it is the most complete record in the English language; a large number of the reports are well illustrated, no less than fifty-six in the well printed volume. Among the subjects treated will be found—Elephantiasis congenita, Cystica E. Varicosa, Hypertrophy of integument of arm, hand and finger, of leg, foot and toes, Congenital lymphatic varix, Leptra Arabica, etc. According to the writ-