

Strong Drink :

ITS USE and ABUSE.

It is proposed,—

1. To notice shortly the origin, and usefulness, of wine and strong drink ;
 2. Then to touch on the evils arising from excessive indulgence therein ;
 3. And, finally, to enquire as to what is the right way to go about abating those evils.
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I.

ORIGIN AND USE.

“Wine” in its widest sense includes all alcoholic drinks made by fermentation of vegetable juices. In this sense the word will be used here.

The art of making wine, and the habit of drinking it, are things which have been with men from the earliest times. The legends of the ancient heathen nations give the credit of its invention to their gods.

The first mention of wine in the Hebrew scriptures is in Genesis, where we are told that Noah planted a vineyard, and drank of the wine, and was drunken. But it does not appear from the story that wine had never been made before that.