

A Sermon preached December 9th, 1888 in the First Baptist Church, Yarmouth, N

DANIEL, 1. 8.—“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.”

We are not able to ascertain whether Daniel had a scientific knowledge of the effects of strong drink on the human body, or not, but of this we are sure, that he had numerous opportunities for coming with his own eyes abundance evidence that it DEFILED all who drank it. The human body was in his esteem a great and powerful engine through which to project the purposes of the soul within. He recognized the sublime truth which Paul uttered 660 years after in the following language, “What know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost,” and again “Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.” And under the bright white light of this divine truth, he most resolutely purposed not to defile himself with the wine and meat offered to idol which the king had allotted as his daily portion. He knew that wine is allied to weakness and wretchedness, and vice, and having seen these effects in the drunkards of Babylon, he resolved to abstain from the ruby wine. This word DEFILE, used to express Daniel's idea of the effects of liquor on the human body is a very strong one. In plain English it means to make foul or filthy, and the same meaning is attached to it by a number of other languages, such as the Dutch *Vuilen*, Anglo Saxon *Gefylan*, and the Old French word *Desouler*. Anything that befouls the human body, was in Daniel's esteem a violation of divine Law, and consequently believed his only safety was obedience to the obligation our maker imposes on every creature. The Bible and all history support the belief and conduct of this Jewish teetotaler. And with such a galaxy of heroic characters who have preceded the present generation from Moses down, illuminating the past, I propose to discuss this evening, THE RELATION BETWEEN STRONG DRINK AND THE HUMAN BODY.

The human body is capable of extraordinary endurance. Marvellous feats of manual labour,—gigantic accomplishments of brain effort,—wonderful battles on field of war,—long and laborious Arctic explorations,—and perils by sea, and perils by land, have all been the crow's of man's physical capacity. But with all his powers of endurance, his physical ability is governed by divine laws and obedience thereto. Natural food and natural drink; pure water and fresh air, are essential to build up and sustain man's body to a maximum of strength. In England 88 Insurance Companies have a total abstinence department. Many of the directors are moderate drinkers, and some so immoderate as to be drunk occasionally, yet these men are shrewd enough to perceive that it pays to give a premium to all who abstain from strong drink. They know that the death rate among those who drink beer and spirits is very much greater than among teetotalers, so great that it is nearly double. Therefore on the ground that a total abstainer lives nearly twice as long as a tippler you can easily see that in the long run, a teetotaler paying \$10 a year on \$1000 at death for 44 years, will have paid into their treasury much more money, than a drinker who pays \$15 a year for 16 years. A drinker at the age of 20 may expect to live till he is 35 years and 6 months. A total abstainer at 20, may expect to live till he is 64 years and 2 months. Of course there are many drinkers who live to be much older, and many abstainers who die much younger, but taking the deaths of all the drinkers and all the abstainers, those are the AVERAGE periods.

The next part of this proposition is, Why is the average life of an abstainer so long, and the average life of a drinker so short? My answer in brief is that the liquor so defiles the body, that all sorts of diseases are generated by the vile stuff, as to eat up, or rather burn up, all the vital tissues of the human frame, and so ensures an early grave. Whereas abstainers, being nourished and built up with natural food and wholesome drink, escape the defilement that breeds corruption, and ensures early decay.

A glance at the ingredients of which the bulk of liquors are composed, will endorse with tremendous emphasis what I have said. Listen to the following by Rev. T. Maple. “The United States consumes one million baskets of champagne wine a year. Of this she imports twelve thousand baskets of the genuine article, the remaining nine hundred and eighty-eight thousand baskets are made of chemical ingredients, that are absolutely poisonous. So, that he may consider himself a fortunate tippler, who gets a bottle or even a glass of the genuine wine. In 1866 four firms in New York reported to the Commissioners of Internal Revenue, 225,000 gallons of pure wine for the manufacture of bogus wines. With this they can make one million gallons of artificial wine, which the stuff is represented to buyers and sellers as pure

“Madeira wine.” To manufacture these bogus wines there are four hundred establishments in the whole country. Wine dealers have in their cellars thousands of dollars worth of chemicals with which they make wines, but among the ingredients are not found one dollar's worth of grapes or grape juice. The frauds in bogus wines are recorded as \$88,000,000 annually in New York. A gallon of whiskey in the evening, it appears next morning in the form of five gallons of wine. Some of these experts in adulteration and trans-formation, have confessed that they have bought a barrel of whiskey from a countryman in the day, and have sold him a barrel of wine before night, made from part of the whiskey, at a profit of 500 per cent. A French merchant boasted that from the contents of two barrels in his cellar, he could produce any kind of wine desired, in six hours. This is not an uncommon thing for these great tricksters to do.

How is it with our brandy drinks? Those who drink brandy flatter themselves that they are drinking the product of distilled grapes, but not one per cent of it is from the grape. Brandy dealer's receipt books show that their brandy is a vile compound with no more relation to pure wine, than man to monkey and not so much if Mr. Darwin's theory is correct. Dr. Cox says, that the best brands of brandy, fresh from the custom house, when subjected to chemical tests, show a basis of WHISKEY and FUSEL OIL, mixed up with SULPHUR, NITRIC, ETHER, PRUSSIC ACID, COPPER, CHLOROFORM, GUINEA PEPPER, TANNIN, sometimes a little brandy, but often not a drop. He examined several specimens brought to Cincinnati for PURE ARTICLES of the best quality, and what was the result? Some blue stuff put in became scarlet; a polished steel blade in 15 minutes became as black as ink, rapidly corroded, and when the rust was wiped off, the blade was copperplated. What claimed to be pure brandy from a reputed house in New York, contained 55 per cent of alcoholic spirits, and the balance NITRIC ETHER, PRUSSIC ACID, GUINEA PEPPER, FUSEL OIL, WHISKEY, but not a drop of brandy. Not only are those that drink this vile stuff deceived, but even those who buy it are duped also. A pure article of beer is as hard to find, as pure wine or brandy. Here are the things the brewers use for MALT: SUGAR, HONEY, MOLASSES, AND LIQUORICE FOR HOPS: OPIUM, GENTIAN, QUASSIA, ALOES, COCULUS, INDIGO, AMARANTH, TOBACCO AND NUT TO PREVENT SOURING: SALTPEIRE, JALAP, SALT, MARANA, GREEN COPEPERAS, MARBLE DUST, OYSTER SHELLS, SULPHATE OF LIME, HARTSHORN SHAVINGS, NUT GALLS, POTASH AND SODA. The foaming head of froth is produced by adding GREEN VITRIOL, ALUM, AND SALT. The smack of age and the tingle of the palate is often produced by ALUM; and new beer is artificially made old in a few hours by adding the OIL OF VITRIOL.”

When you come to look in your dictionary for the full definition of all these drugs &c., you will not ask the question WHY is it that a young man beginning to drink at 20 is dead at 35 or 36, and WHY the total abstainer at 20 lives till he is 64 years old. How can any human being live out half his days, when he voluntarily turns his body into a small drug store?

Dr. B. W. Richardson says “When we eat or drink wholesome nourishing foods and drinks, they enter the stomach to be dissolved and thence distributed over the entire body. Alcohol is not digested but is taken up direct into the blood and is distributed by the blood through all the structures of the body. Making its way through the body with the blood, alcohol works its effects. The blood is the carrier of all that will feed and nourish the tissues. It carries albuminous foods for the building up of the muscles; it carries fat and other substances that are to be burned; it carries the salts that are to make the skeleton; it carries water which is essential to every part; and it carries alcohol when that is supplied. But alcohol cannot make any structure. It cannot make muscle, nerve, bone, skin, or any organ; it cannot play the part of water. It produces an artificial warmth that is transitory and afterwards when the glow has gone, caused by the sudden injection of fire-water in the blood, the body is colder than it had not received it. Why? Because it is not fuel-like food, to feed the fires of life, but is fire in itself which burns up the tissues, those minutes elementary structures of which organs are composed; and consequently thins the blood: drives it to the brain, which being clogged with blood cannot do its proper work.” He also says, “I once in my life had the sad but singular opportunity of seeing the brain of a man who was killed while he was in the first stage of alcohol poisoning. His brain on the surface, which in the

natural state was GLOW bright red with distention. Instead of puri- instead of puri- not go out- this fact. I abstain, and firmness about it does for t- When e m- his body, h- greatest ma- Dr. S. S. L- a confirmed morbid and p- fall into deca- Dr. T. L. should be us- Rhubarb and Dr. C. A. source of Br- evil effects ar- beverage, but Dr. W. C. ful as ardent duces fatty n- news.” Dr. G. A. morbid effect liver and kid- condition i- prevents nor- mental facul- With these it is that the- land which g- why tiplers l- their lives? Here are m-ments. “At Colonel Lem- in the Annals meeting. He vigorous, wit- “You see b- fought 260 b- I have hved trees for my canopy of be- or shoes on u- clothing. In days with a scorching filled with d- open the vel- Do you ask I answer that owe my pres- fact, THAT SPIRITUOUS That is a Now let us Drink. The exhibiting b- “Gentlemen only 18 mont- man voted for me to practi- died of a bro- behold,—all WORK, don't mit for pay, and it should our joint han- on that and lives nearly These two c- clusion with- Here are: may think o- 1. Every one sible to get p- bulk of artic- ous drugs, v- decay of the- 2. Science h- fire to the ay- to the body; Henry M. St- Greely in the digestion, and butchings it only thereby is n- 3. That the age, destroys