

evil of its perversion, and the capacity in it of being used as the most tremendous engine of corruption. It is God's day; if it were not, if Satan now had possession of it as God has, we might despair of the world's salvation. And now, as it is, if we let it be taken as a day of labor and profit for grog-shops, to make men drunken, we are mad. All the days in the week put together cannot have so dreadful a power in promoting intemperance, among young men especially, as the Sabbath with the grog-shops open. In the week, multitudes are too busy to drink, too laborious to be tempted. But on the Sabbath they have a breathing-time, a time of relaxation and rest. Tempt them then, and it is the very triumph of hell. Open these infernal doors to them, and draw them together in social mood, with hours of revelry at their disposal, and what can save them? There was some hope in the Sabbath to save them from the week, but what shall save them from the Sabbath? The week itself, of labor and of temperance, cannot do it. Their Sabbaths make men's character. If they are well spent, they are like bridges over the whole week's temptations and dangers, by which the soul goes safely. If they are ill-spent, the whole week's virtue cannot bridge them over, for they are a hebdomadal descent into hell, and they carry the week with them.—*New York Paper.*

## INTOXICATING DRINKS.

### A LESSON FOR THE SOBER.

All history testifies that indulgence in intoxicating drinks has introduced more physical suffering, immorality and crime into the world than any other vice to which our race is addicted; for the wars instigated or rendered destructive by drinks, the crimes perpetrated by its influence, the lives it has sacrificed, and wealth wasted, proclaim it as the monster evil in all ages.

More than half of the crime of our country is still to be traced to the degrading power of intoxicating drinks—it is still the source of most of the diseases which afflict society, and in the catalogue of deaths it is found to be the greatest destroyer of our species.

It still forms the largest tax on individual industry, and sacrifices the largest amount of national wealth through idleness, waste, fire, and shipwreck. The love of drink still poisons the fount of infant education, saps the mental and moral stamina of our adults, and forms one of the greatest obstacles to all social and political improvements.

Where is found a greater incubus on all exertions for effecting the emancipation of our race, than is found in the stupefying influence of pot and pipe, and the habits and associations they so often engender?

Who perpetuates ignorance, superstition, and bigotry, more effectually than those who drink to their own destruction the means by which their children might be enlightened, and themselves qualified to aid in the regeneration of their country? Who contributes more largely to support injustice and oppression in every form, than those who give millions annually to uphold the tavern, and decorate the palace of the gin seller? While they neglect schools and institutes, despise books, sneer at instruction, and in their despair or drunken frenzy too often sell themselves as fighting tools to keep their brother slaves in subjection.

Seeing, then, the numerous evils occasioned by the love of drink, we are all morally bound not only to avoid temptation ourselves, but by precept and example to endeavor to dissuade others from so destructive a vice. We shall hear some advocate its moderate use, and talk of its temperate indulgence; but who can say he will prove its master who once tastes the seductive poison, seeing it has so often been proved to be uncontrollable by the stoutest hearts and strongest minds?

Its immediate effect is to force the passions into activity,

and weaken the powers of self-control; and every successive indulgence gives energy to the one, and hastens the prostration of the other. It is highly fallacious to suppose that intoxicating drink imparts strength to either mind or body, for its use gradually undermines the strongest constitutions, and inflames, weakens, and eventually destroys the most highly gifted minds. Intoxicating drinks is baneful to our whole bodily and mental structure; it unnaturally stimulates the vital action, forces the blood too rapidly through its channels, injures every delicate vessel, weakens the digestive organs, irritates the nervous system, and overcharges the brain; producing in turn delicious sensations, noisy madness, and drunken stupor.

The intoxicating ingredient in all drinks is alcohol, a strong burning poison, which varies in quality in different liquors; brandy, rum, gin, whisky, and wine, containing a greater proportion of it than beer, ale, or other malt liquors. But though the quantity of alcohol in wine and spirits may more immediately injure the body, the use of malt liquors is no less destructive of health; for in addition to the alcohol contained in them, the narcotic of the hops, and other pernicious substances sold by brewers' druggists, and used by brewers and beer doctors, render them equally injurious. Spirit drinkers, for the most part, become pale and emaciated, the constant stimulus injuring all those organs which supply healthful nutriment to the body; their appetites, therefore, gradually fail them, their nervous system becomes irritable, tending to insanity of mind, and their constitutions, however vigorous, rapidly sink to decay. Beer and wine drinkers, on the other hand, have a tendency to become bloated and corpulent, which is a disease of body supposed to arise from the partially fermented nature of the drink; their blood becomes dark and adhesive, impeding circulation, their livers enlarged, their whole viscera diseased, their breathing difficult, and inflammation or apoplexy generally terminates their career. Unhappily, it is a very common error among the unreflecting, (which is strengthened by the drinking habits of society) that intoxicating drink will the better enable them to perform labor, sustain fatigue, and endure cold; but so far from this being the case, the contrary has been often proved, for the excitement of drink leaves their bodies more depressed, more susceptible of cold, and more subject to diseases of every description. Habit and custom, too, have already ensnared thousands to the gradual undermining of all that is useful in their lives, and noble in their nature; and it requires a great amount of moral energy to break those bonds and be courage-proof against the sneers and solicitations of those who are still prejudiced and spell-bound in favor of this intoxicating poison. But would those who are still free from its influence stand secure, they should sedulously avoid the most distant temptation. Thousands in this metropolis (London) and our large towns, attracted by the joyous feelings of their nature to share in those recreations and amusements which are too often associated with drink, have, by first sipping the poison, been gradually led captive to all its degrading and brutalizing tendencies. Would the sober, therefore, preserve their health of body and strength of mind, would they contribute to the freedom and happiness of their race, would they be fit companions for the wise and moral, and be good husbands, fathers, and friends, they should eschew intoxicating drink as the most subtle and potent of tempters, which, once yielded to, may blight their manhood, scar their hopes, and speedily effect their destruction.—WILLIAM LOVETT, in *Howitt's Journal*.

### WISCONSIN ON RUMSELLING.

We have already stated that a very stringent bill in regard to intoxicating liquors was passed by the Wisconsin Legislature at its recent session. The bill consists of ten sections, and requires all persons who would vend or retail "spirituous liquors" to give bond to the town authorities,