

church, or within the pale of some orthodox conventicle, to deal in gossip and scandal whilst they traduced themselves and their neighbors. A system of impertinent and undeniable espionage was set up; and all the better qualities of the human heart appeared to have abdicated to make room for the baser and ignobler passions. My own experience, sir, has satisfied me that the temperance reformation, instead of a blessing, has, with all its benefits, failed to confer on society a good commensurate with many of its attendant evils."—*New Englander*.

Terrible Testimony.

The *N. E. Fountain* says; that in passing sentence of death upon three persons lately convicted at Litchfield for the murder of Barnice White, Judge Church remarked "that this was the second if not the third time WITHIN THE YEAR, in which he had been required in the painful discharge of his official duty to pronounce sentence of DEATH for murders committed UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ARDENT SPIRITS. He told these prisoners, as was proved at the trial "that the bottle provoked the courage and nerved the hands to the deed of blood of which they stood convicted." He then pronounced the following sentence.

And now the sentence of the law and the judgment of this Court as to each of you is—that you be remanded to the prison from whence you came, and that, on the SECOND FRIDAY OF JULY NEXT, in the year of our Lord 1851, between the hours of 10 o'clock in the morning and 2 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, each of you, Benjamin Balcomb, William Calhoun and Henry Menasseth, be hanged by the neck until you are dead. And may God have mercy upon you.

There are now five persons under the sentence of death for five murders, committed in the state of Connecticut *within one year*, for which they are to be executed; and the Judge who tries the murderers affirming in open Court that the "bottle provoked the courage and nerved the hand to the deed of blood," in each case.

The cause of Temperance is at least ten years behind the age in Connecticut. 1200 men are there licensed, either by the provision of statute law, or by public indifference, to sell intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

A Sure Convert.

Mr. P. S. White, during one of his recent addresses at the South, so influenced the editor of the *Virginian* that it called forth this announcement in his columns:

The paper under our control is not the organ of temperance, its operations being in another and different sphere of morals; but we wish it to be distinctly understood, now and forever, that, from this time forth, no liquor advertisement can find its way into our columns. Some of our friends have advertised their liquors in our paper; but we this week take them out—if they see proper to hold the bottle to their neighbors' lips, we will not tell those neighbors where the bottle is to be found. We feel grateful to them for their patronage, but do not intend that the consideration of seventy-five or one hundred dollars per annum shall induce us to hold out the sign of whisky to our erring fellow-men.

LABOR LOST.—It is estimated that the value of labor lost from drunkenness in Great Britain is quite \$200,000,000.

Consumption of Wine in the United Kingdom.

It appears, by official returns, made to the British Parliament, that the total quantity of wine consumed in the United Kingdom, in the year 1787, was 4,521,941 gallons. In the following year the consumption increased to 6,650,644 gallons, and continued to increase till 1795, when it had risen to

8,238,438 gallons. In 1797, the consumption suddenly declined to 3,569,261 gallons, but rallied in the two succeeding years, until, in 1800, it was 7,294,752. The consumption during the next quarter of a century, from 1800 to 1824, was steady at an average of 5,000,000 gallons, but in the following year a large increase took place, the quantity entered for home consumption in 1825, being 8,009,542 gals. The increase, however, was not maintained, the consumption having fallen in the following year to 6,058,442 gals. The consumption since 1827 to the present time seems to have remained very steady, at an average of 6,000,000 gallons per annum. In the year 1843 the consumption was less than it had been since 1822, only 4,815,233 gallons having been cleared from the custom house. The consumption during the last four years has been as follows:—1846, 6,740,316 gals; 1847, 6,053,847; 1848, 6,130,547; and 1849, 6,251,662 gallons. The imports generally exceed the consumption by about 1,125,000 gallons. In the years 1786 and 1813 all the custom house records calculated to throw light on the imports and consumption in those periods were accidentally destroyed by fire. During the last ten years there has been a total decrease in the amount of duty received of £63,198. The amount collected by the revenue as duty on foreign wine averages £1,700,000, per annum.

Consumption of Spirits, in Scotland.

A Parliamentary paper was recently issued giving the following return "of the number of gallons of British spirits, at proof, on which duty was paid, for consumption in Scotland for the last ten years, ending the 5th day of January, 1850, distinguishing the quantity in each year":—1841, 6,180,138 gallons; 1842, 5,989,905; 1843, 6,595,186; 1844, 5,593,798; 1845, 5,922,948; 1846, 6,441,011; 1847, 6,975,091; 1848, 6,193,249; 1849, 6,548,190; 1850, 6,635,003. From another return, moved for by Alexander Hastie, (Glasgow), and issued same time, it appears that the number of gallons of British and colonial spirits, at proof, on which duty was paid, for home consumption in the United Kingdom, was 24,372,297 in 1840; 22,920,303 in 1841; 20,939,637 in 1842; 20,948,047 in 1843; 22,807,117 in 1844; 25,591,723 in 1845; 26,790,398 in 1846; 23,969,474 in 1847; 25,189,797 in 1848; and 26,002,354 in 1849. Scotland, with her scanty population, consumes annually at the rate of upwards of two gallons and a half of home-made spirits per head; and when from this comparison the women and children are deducted, the average rises to upwards of eleven gallons per man. Ireland, with her eight millions, consumes but little more than Scotland with her two millions and a half; whilst England, with her swarming population of perhaps eighteen millions, consumes less than one-third more of the deleterious compounds than Scotland, or poverty-stricken Ireland.

Licensing Court.

The Magistrates held a half-yearly court on Tuesday for the purpose of considering applications for spirit licenses from parties residing within the bounds of the city. The court consisted of the Lord Provost, who presided, and Bailies McDowall, Dregghorn, Playfair, and Bryson. Messrs. Forbes and Davie, town-clerks, also occupied places on the bench in the capacity of assessors. Previous to the meeting of the court, the Magistrates received a deputation in their private room from the Sabbath School Union, consisting of an office-bearer from each of the five districts into which the city has been divided. Each member of the deputation presented a memorial from the district he represented. The following is a copy of the memorial from the western district:—

"That your memorialists approach your honorable court in the name of seven hundred and eighty teachers, engaged in the com-