



HIS LAST WILL

A few years ago, a drunkard who died in Oswego, N. Y., left the following lines as «his last will and testament.» They read : «I leave to society a ruined character, a wretched example and a memory that will soon rot. I leave to my parents as much sorrow as they can, in their feeble state, bear. I leave to my brothers and sisters as much shame and mortification as I can bring upon them. I leave my wife a broken heart and a life of shame. I leave to each of my children, poverty, ignorance, a low character, and a remembrance that their father filled a drunkard's grave. »

Could any stronger indictment of the saloon be written? Could one expect to read a more truthful pen-picture of liquor's terrible effects upon man, upon home, upon family, upon wife, upon children, upon sisters and brothers? The drunkard leaves behind him all that can bring shame and degradation to his relatives. Has it ever yet been known that honor followed in the wake of the drunkard's faltering footsteps? No. He is abominated and loathed by the lowest characters of mankind, for be they what they may, they still are men, they still have the use of their reason; but the drunkard is less than a brute, for liquor deprives him not only of the use of his mental faculties, but also of his limbs. Nevertheless, as it has been, so will it be. The dreadful examples of the past and of the present, were for the past *only* and are not for the present; it would be too childlike for the *strong* young and aged people of to day, to be guided by their warning lessons. They must also be taught at Nature's school of bitter experience. In the beginning they never intend to take *too much*, to overdo it. Only one drop, a mouthful! Every one knows that he who wishes to be held in estimation nowadays, must be a *man* (to become a brute in the near future) like others. . . . One drop calls for two, two for three and so on until barrels full have been consumed, and man's honor and glory, his wealth and his family's happiness, his body and soul have been drowned in whiskey's