

to it. It dates from personal contact with alcohol, accompanied with the consciousness of the option to drink or not drink. My wife saw the state of the case, and advised me to flee to a country where society had not yet introduced my enemy. I listened to her advice, and brought my family into this then wilderness country. For a few years we lived here in security and peace. We prospered in the world, and acquired a competence. But the state then located one of its licensed grog-shops near my door. I guarded against the danger for months. My family stood sentinel around me," and, as he said this, his chin quivered and the tears rolled down his manly face. "I fortified myself with resolutions and prayers, knowing that my life and that of my family were involved.

"But, your Honors and Gentlemen of the Jury, my enemy subdued my strong-holds, and led me in chains. I was surprised into the trap that the state had set for me,—I say this in no spirit of recrimination,—and the moment I was there all my motives to virtue perished. I was occupied with an inward feeling,—call it what you please,—that absorbed my whole being. Wife, children, reputation, life, were nothing to it. Had your gallows then presented itself in perspective, with myself hanging upon it as a consequence of drinking, it would not have deterred me. That was the beginning of my insanity; that is the beginning of my insanity in every case. The contact is the conquest of my enemy over me.

"In reference to the crime on which you are now to adjudicate, your Honors and Gentlemen of the Jury, it is due to myself and family, yea, to justice and the public, to say that I had for months kept under my great enemy, till a new acquaintance, from no good motive, brought into my field, from our town groggery, a bottle of brandy. That produced the mad-