

cleave to Moses and the Prophets, to Christ and his Apostles; they must make known their sentiments with zeal proportioned to the greatness of their views, and the opposition they engage.

### PHRENOLOGY.

The operation of Intoxicating Liquor upon the animal frame, in producing Intoxication, phrenologically explained.

In one of the articles upon phrenology, which appeared in the Instructor, we proved that the heart is not the seat of the mind, but that the brain is the medium through which the mind acts, and that if there was no brain there would be no manifestation of the feelings. The heart is a strong muscle, which by expanding and contracting, impels the blood through the veins to all parts of the body, more especially through every particle of the medullary substance of the brain. For particulars regarding the nature of phrenology we refer our readers to the three articles contained in the Instructor on the subject. Intoxicating drink not only makes impressions upon the stomach, but it heats and rarifies the blood, causing it to expand or enlarge the veins by which it is conveyed through the frame. By this distention of the ducts which convey the blood through the various and minute ramifications of the brain, it (the brain) is compressed, and an impediment is thus offered to the free exercise of its functions, viz., the organ of the mind being affected, so is the mind itself. Whatever portion of the brain is most strongly developed will of course be most affected, and the passions not being duly governed, the individual will indulge in ridiculous absurdities and inconsistencies. A prostration of the faculties sometimes takes place, and the individual becomes insensible.

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The souls of men expire not with their bodies—they resemble the lamp in Gideon's pitcher; the latter must be broken to render the former visible:

### ASTRONOMY.

#### THE FORMATION OF THE COMET.

By far the greater number of comets appear to be mere masses of vapour, totally divested of all concrete or solid matter. So prevalent is this character, that some observers hold it to be universal. Seneca mentions the facts of stars having been distinctly seen through comets. A star of the sixth magnitude was seen through the centre of the head of the comet of 1795 by Sir William Herschel; and, in September, 1832, Sir John Herschel, when observing Biela's comet, saw that body pass directly between his eye and a small cluster or knot of minute telescopic stars of the sixteenth or seventeenth magnitude. This little constellation occupied a space in the heavens, the breadth of which was not the twentieth part of the breadth of the moon; yet the whole of the cluster was distinctly visible through the comet. 'A more striking proof,' says Sir John Herschel, 'could not have been offered of the extreme translucency of the matter of which this comet consists: The most trifling fog would have entirely effaced this group of stars, yet they continued visible through a thickness of the cometic matter, which, calculating on its distance and apparent diameter, must have exceeded fifty thousand miles, at least, towards its central parts.' It is plain, therefore, that in this case, whatever may be the nature of this substance, it possesses no perceptible power either of absorbing or refracting the light which passes through it; and, therefore, according to all probability, of a density bearing a proportion which, in popular language, may be said to be infinitely small compared with the density of atmospheric air. 'If any man should assert that the largest comet ever seen, including its million of miles of tail, contained no more matter than is to be found in the New River Head, he might justly be blamed for asserting more than he knew. But certainly any one who would positively deny the fact, would deserve the same censure.