

Le Col mentions the death of Madame de Boison, "She had drunk spirits for several years ; she was sitting in her elbow chair ; the maid seeing her mistress on fire, immediately gave the alarm, and some people hearing, came to her assistance, and endeavored to extinguish the flames with the hand, but they adhered to it as if they had been dipped in brandy, or oil on fire ; water was brought and thrown upon the lady in abundance ; yet the fire appeared more violent, and was not extinguished till the whole flesh had been consumed."

"The Countess Cornelia Bondi, of the town of Cevena, one evening experiencing a drowsiness, retired to bed, her maid remaining with her till she fell asleep ; next morning, when the girl entered to awaken her mistress, she found nothing but her remains in a most horrid condition."

"A woman, about fifty, who indulged to excess in spirituous liquors, and got drunk every day before she went to bed, was found entirely burnt and reduced to ashes."

"A woman of Paris, who had been accustomed, for three years, to drink spirits of wine, was one day found entirely reduced to ashes, except the skull and the extremities of the fingers."

The baneful effects of ardent spirits are pervading many parts of our country, and even infants following their mothers to those destructive haunts, wine-vaults, and gin-shops, there suck in the poisonous drugs, and thus destroy health, long before they arrive even at a period of youth.*

CHRIST AN UNCHANGEABLE FRIEND.

Parents may die ; friends may drop off ; riches may make themselves wings and fly away ; flesh and heart may fail : but Jesus Christ is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother ! a friend that loveth at all times ! an everlasting Father ! The riches of his grace are satisfying and durable ; and when all sublunary things shall fail, He will be the strength of our heart, and our portion for ever.—*Rodda.*

THE CONTRAST.

Whose is that palace-dwelling, these rich and tasteful gardens, the costly equipage ? They are a small part of the property of a *millionaire*, who, in the enjoyment of health, and surrounded by troops of friends, has said to his soul ; "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years ; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." A week passes, and from that noble mansion two mourning processions come forth, directing their march to the solitary cemetery. And who

* This one lamentable fact calls loudly on the legislature to investigate, and prompt to remedy, this rapid and destructive contagion of morals.