

and he believed that for one case where it preserved life, in six it destroyed it. Dr. Guthrie then referred to the progress the cause was making, and said, he believed that somewhere about one-half of the United Presbyterian ministers, one-third of the Free Church ministers, one-half of the Free Church preachers, and one-half of the Free Church divinity students were teetotalers. The movement had made extraordinary progress within the last nine or ten years; and he believed before other twenty-five years had passed, it would be considered a shame and wonder for any minister of the gospel to countenance drinking habits.

#### LIBERATION OF SCOTCH SCHOOLS.

In Scotland the law is, and has always been, that Parochial schoolmasters must submit to a test, and belong to the Established Church. In a number of Burgh schools, however, this has been practically disregarded, and the teachers have belonged to various denominations. In the school at Elgin, the teachers were all Dissenters, and the Presbytery of the district lately raised an action on the subject, before the Court of Session, which decreed that the test-law applies to all such schools, just as to Parochial ones. The Lord Advocate has been urged to introduce a Bill into Parliament for securing liberty, and many are anxious that the Parochial schools should be included. The subject came recently under the consideration of the Town Council of Edinburgh, when Mr. Duncan McLaren said:—"A friend of his had lately ascertained the attendance at all the principal schools in Edinburgh, and the persons who were heads of each school; and the result was one of the most remarkable and striking things he had seen, as showing the little sympathy taken by the people of Edinburgh in tests as applied to the education of their children. The following was the attendance at the schools he alluded to:—High School, 400; Academy, 450; Mr. Oliphant, Charlotte Square, 450; Mr. Hunter, York Place, 350; Circus Place School (Mr. Begbie), 300; Queen Street Institution, 300; Mr. Henderson, India Street, 200; Mr. Douglas, Great King Street, 200; Mr. McLean, Charlotte Street, 100; showing a total of 2750 children attending at these schools, and in every one of them the head was not a member of the Established Church of Scotland. He also found that there were two leading schools which had head-masters members of the Established Church, and the attendance at these were,—Mr. McLaren, Hamilton Place, 200; Mr. Scott, York Place, 150; altogether, 350. Then there were three large boarding academies,—Merchiston, Grange, and Hillside Crescent,—attended by nearly 200 children. In none of these did the head belong to the Established Church. The result was, that in these schools, containing 3300 children, only 350 of the children were taught by masters belonging to the Established Church. Of the fifteen masters, three belonged to the Episcopal Church, six to the Free, six to the U. P., and three to the Established. He thought the sympathies of the upper and middle classes regarding the tests would be well enough ascertained from these facts; and if they were not particular as to the denomination to which the teachers of their children belonged, he did not think they would be more particular as to the teachers of the poorer children. He trusted the Council would unanimously resolve to petition Parliament in favour of the abolition of tests in the parochial as well as in the burgh schools of Scotland."

It is remarkable that the Church of Scotland has so small a share in public education wherever a monopoly is not secured to her by a test. For example, in the Metropolitan University of Edinburgh, the Principal does not belong to her, nor, we believe, does one of the six Professors whom her own Divinity students have to attend before they enter the Hall. So, at least, it very recently was. But it is rather humiliating, that in all the four Scotch Universities, the U. P. Church has only one Professor, viz., in the Medical Faculty at Glasgow. The fact, we fear, indicates a want of culture amongst us. It is noticeable too, that we have never had one Lord of Session, nor even one Sheriff Depute, and not very many