

can rarely be imparted by the habitual use of alcoholic liquors; its deficiency being generally consequent upon some habitual departure from the laws of health, for which the use of alcoholic liquors cannot compensate; and the employment of such liquors, although with the temporary effect of palliating the disorder, having not merely a remotely injurious effect *per se*, but also tending to mask the action of other morbid causes, by rendering the system more tolerant of them.

"*Seventhly.* That consequently, it is the duty of the medical practitioner to discourage as much as possible the habitual use of alcoholic liquors, in however moderate a quantity, by all persons in ordinary health, and to seek to remedy those slight departures from health, which result from the 'wear and tear' of active life, by means which shall most directly remove or antagonize their causes, instead of by such as simply palliate their effects.

"*Eighthly.* That whilst the habitual use of alcoholic liquors, even in the most 'moderate' amount, is likely (except in a few rare instances) to be rather injurious than beneficial, great benefit may be derived in the treatment of disease, from the medicinal use of alcohol in appropriate cases, but that the same care should be employed in the discriminating selection of those cases, as would be taken by the conscientious practitioner in regard to the administration of any other powerful remedy which is poisonous in large doses."

As far as a luminous exposition of the effects of alcohol upon the healthy human system goes, we cannot desire anything more satisfactory than the work before us. If read in the spirit of sincere enquiry after truth, with a disposition to act upon the convictions which may be produced by a candid examination of its contents, we have no doubt that the result must be an abandonment of intoxicating liquors as an article of diet. It is true that the word *excess* is employed more frequently and more emphatically than suits our taste; for we have never met with a drinker of any degree who did not profess to believe in the evil of that; and the question upon which will ever depend the decision of tens of thousands, is the mischief or otherwise of supposed "moderate" drinking. Allowing every man to be his own judge, we have very few drunkards indeed, the great mass of tipplers never failing to take refuge in their own notion of "moderation." Our author's reasonings on this point are conclusive enough, perhaps, for all persons who are anxious to be right; but the extremely guarded manner in which he states his opinions, and the exceptions which follow in the succeeding chapter, will go a great way towards neutralizing the effect which he himself was, no doubt, wishful to produce. The matter is not so much as we understand Dr. Carpenter; it is more as to how his opinions will be received by persons who have prejudices in favor of drink; and on this point we have our fears. The work in many respects is a valuable addition to the stock of Temperance literature, and its ample treatment of the question will prove serviceable to the leading teetotalers of the country. They, at least, will interpret the views of the writer on the safe side, and to use a vulgar phrase, will not "take an ell because he has given them an inch."

We demur to the quotation in the preface from the late Archdeacon Jeffreys, which Dr. Carpenter fully endorses,—"That this saying of St. Paul (about meat, etc.) is the charter of teetotalism, and will remain the charter of our noble cause so long as the world endures,—so long as there remains a single heart to love and revere this declaration of the holy and self-denying Paul." We assert, and tens of thousands in the North of England, where teetotalism has flourished the most, re-echo the sentiment, that "this saying of St. Paul is not the charter of our noble cause." We

freely admit that it may serve as an inducement to persons accessible to christian motives, to become abstainers for the sake of their "weak brother;" but we cannot forget that in this country three-fourths of the population do not live in the fear of God, and hence cannot be influenced by this often quoted case. Teetotalism must be advocated on broader grounds than those of mere expediency; human beings must be addressed as human beings, and they must be asked to abstain on the ground of love to themselves, as well as to a "weak brother." Those who can be reached through this latter medium, why, let it be so, but do not take away the stronger argument, that intoxicating drink as a beverage is inimical to the physical health of the entire human family.

The work is written in a spirit of candor and good feeling; and with the middle and higher classes it will be received and read on account of the well earned fame of the author, and the royal dedication with which it is graced. We predict for it a large circulation amongst medical men and ministers of religion, and we fervently pray that the effect may be such as to lessen the number of complaints which are made about them of being hindrances to the progress of so good and true a principle as that which, under the blessing of the Almighty, has achieved such wonders during the last 16 years.—*British Temperance Advocate.*

#### A CHAPTER ON DRUNKENNESS.

1. On Sunday evening, Joseph Wolstenhome, Bury, after drinking to excess for a fortnight, went home in a state of intoxication, and died of apoplexy the following morning.

2. At Lincoln, on Monday, a young man lost his life by falling down the stairs of a house of ill-fame whilst intoxicated.

3. On Wednesday, an inquest was held on the body of David Mullinson, shoemaker, 56 years of age, living in Edge-street, Manchester. The deceased had been drinking for several weeks, and on Tuesday morning went home and terminated his existence by hanging himself.

4. On Thursday an inquest was taken at Whittle-le-woods, on the body of Roger Worsley, whose death was caused by a kick he received whilst fighting on Monday, at the Lord Nelson public-house, Brindle, with Robert Walmsley, a farmer. A verdict of manslaughter was returned against Walmsley.

5. On Friday morning, the body of John Cross was found lying in a pit adjoining the Liverpool-buildings, Chester-road, Tranmere. The deceased was about 50 years old, and was respectably connected. Lately his habits were dissipated, and it is supposed he had fallen into the pit on the night previously while in a state of inebriation.

6. On the same evening, Reuben Booth, farmer, Chadderton, near Oldham, was returning home with his horse and cart, and being in liquor he fell off the cart, when the wheel passed over his body and killed him on the spot. He was 38 years of age.

7. On the same day an inquest was held at Manchester Royal Infirmary, on the body of Thomas Gilham, aged 19, a clerk in the employ of the Ashton Canal Company. Deceased had several times absented himself from his duties without leave, and been often intoxicated; he was found suspended from the bedpost by a towel tied to a table cover. Verdict, 'Temporary insanity.'

8. On Saturday, at Shrivensham, Berks, William Robey, aged 29, died in consequence of injuries received in a pitched battle with Thomas Harman. Deceased and Harman had been drinking together at a beer-house.

9. On Sunday, at Liverpool, Eleanor Spinks, a married