

tion of alcohol in them would they be as hot and burn like that that you put on my tongue and lips?

*Doctor.* They most certainly would and you would find it would almost take your breath, that it would force the tears from your eyes and burn throughout your whole body. When you drink liquor do you not feel a sort of thrilling sensation running through and filling your whole system.

*Adam.* Yes, but it stops for a while those uneasy itching sensations, and I find it my only relief.

*Doctor.* Just so, I was going to ask you next if it didn't. But if you were to drink it as strong as that I put on your lips you would feel those sensations far more intensely thrilling.

*Adam.* Is that because it burns like a liquid flame all through me.

*Doctor.* That is the very reason; and I think that now with a looking glass and magnifying glass I can convince you that it is a liquid fire and that it will both burn and blister as well as a coal of fire from your hearth.

*Adam.* Do you think you can make me believe that it will burn and blister like a coal of fire.

*Doctor.* (*Takes a looking glass from his pocket and a little microscope, tells Adam, who stands with his side to the assembly, to open his mouth, and holds the microscope between it and the glass.*) do you see those very small spots all round your mouth and down your throat?

*Adam.* Yes, what are they?

*Doctor.* Those are little blisters, but look at the end of your tongue and at your lips where I touched it with the feather and see if the spots are not larger there than elsewhere.

*Adam.* Yes, they are larger.

*Doctor.* Now I think that from feeling and seeing you can believe that alcohol burns, and that the stronger whisky or any other spirituous liquors are, the deeper they burn, that the burns cause blisters as well as a coal of fire, and that if it will burn your tongue and mouth it must also burn wherever it touches or courses along through every vein and artery through your heart, your limbs, your lungs, your liver and brain. Wherever this volatile and unquenchable liquid fire penetrates is thus scorched, blistered and blasted.

*Adam.* Doctor, that's a most awful description of its effects.

*Doctor.* A man only in his A, B, C, don't yet know a great deal, I have only

shown you the A, B, C, in the pathway of the terrible effects continually accruing to those who use those spirituous liquors. At another time I will show you that it is unquenchable, and that nothing but a miracle wrought by the hand of God can extinguish it or heal the withered and blasted humanity that has scorched, burned, and blistered his body and semi-putrified his immortal soul with libations from the hellish cup.

*Adam.* Your descriptions, Doctor, are so fearful I fear I cannot stand to know any more about it.

*Doctor.* The day is coming when you will have to stand it, to be forewarned is to be fore-armed, it is better to know the worst and stand back from the consuming fire than like the unthinking fool rush thoughtlessly and recklessly on to destruction. While I have the opportunity I must faithfully warn you.

*Adam.* I thank you for your willingness to help me and warn me of my danger.

*Doctor.* Let me tell you that the burning sensations that you feel, when you drink spirituous liquor as it thrills along, drowns your itching sensations, but when the thrilling sensation gradually subsides the unnatural heat and burning it has caused, creates an intolerable thirst and an increased intensity in that itching which you wish me to cure, and the more you thus drink when from home the worse you feel, is it not so?

*Adam.* (*In a contemplative mood.*) I think—you—are—right, Doctor—I think 'tis so—Doctor—yes I do always feel worse at those times, it must be the liquor that's burning me up—it is awful—but I didn't know it, Doctor, I wouldn't have believed it if you had not so thoroughly convinced me.

*Doctor.* You then acknowledge that I have thoroughly convinced you of the nature and cause of your disease, then are you willing strictly to follow the only prescription that will at all avail in your case.

*Adam.* I will take or do anything that will cure me, I will not drink any more, I see that I will soon be ruined if I do.

*Doctor.* I keep prescriptions ready written out for those afflicted as you are, I will read it to you and then you may keep it. (*The doctor now reads.*) "Whenever you feel as if a glass of liquor would do you good, drink only a glass of cold water. When any one asks you to drink if you choose, accept the offer, but be