

many shades of drunkenness. At what point is the will so destroyed as to justify restraint? This can only be learned by the history and surroundings of each individual case. And I hold that no individual should be incarcerated without a careful examination and report upon his case by, at least, three disinterested jurors, which report should be on file as a guard against improper restriction.

While I do not pretend to have exhausted this subject, I must close my paper, already I fear too long, with an appeal to all who hear me, and may say to my professional brethren who do not hear me, in favor of *temperance in the use of alcoholic drinks*. And if anything I have said has the effect of enlisting your interest in the cause, I shall feel that I have not urged in vain.

And now, gentlemen, the time has arrived when I should surrender this seat into your hands, in order that you may bestow it upon another. The seat is one that every member should aspire to hold, for it is a guarantee that the occupant possesses the confidence and good will of his confreres, without which success in our noble calling cannot be obtained. And when vacating this chair let me in all sincerity thank you for the kindness and urbanity that has been universally extended towards me, and what is more pleasing to observe, may I say towards each other, for I cannot call to mind that upon any one occasion has an unkind or offensive expression fallen from the lips of any one member towards another, proving as it clearly does, that associations of this kind, educate not only the mind, but the heart and produce a brotherly love among its members.

EMPYEMA AND ITS TREATMENT BY VALVULAR DRAINAGE.

BY A. M. PHELPS, M.D., OF CHATEAUGUAY, N. Y.

(Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal.)

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Society,—During a visit to Montreal last winter I had the pleasure of presenting to some of the surgeons of your city an aspirator and needle which I had devised for the purpose of facilitating the operation of aspiration when the effusion is thick or laden with flakes of fibrin, and