

blear and bloodshot eye, sorrowful betokenings of their own doom, and shameful evidence of the folly of the professional advisers. Any other form of medicine would be discarded in a week, if its healing virtues were not more evident. But the deluded victim of the alcoholic treatment, year after year, with admirable patience, persists in his favourite remedy, until naught remains of him but

"The withered form, the blasted mind,
The wreck by pass on left behind;
A shrivelled scroll a scattered leaf,
Scarred by the autumn blast of grief."

"Permit me, gentlemen, to propose to you my own rule of action in regard to the administration of alcoholic medicines, a rule which I am sure you will find to be safe and satisfactory, both in its physical and moral blessings. *Never prescribe them in trival cases of disease.*"—*Amer. Temperance Union.*

SPEECH OF REV. DR. BURNS.

Delivered at a Meeting in Bristol, England.

The Rev. Dr. Burns next came forward, and said, that he never felt more strongly the importance of the words in a beautiful hymn of Wesley's, "Oh for a trumpet voice," as he should feel great pleasure in speaking so as to make the entire of that vast assemblage hear him. The cause of total abstinence had been truly described as a glorious cause, and they could not perhaps do better than to make a few inquiries respecting it. Teetotalism was not 16 years old; it was only fifteen years and five months since the good work was commenced. Since that time the great mass of the people, of all classes and of all trades, who before were in the habit of taking intoxicating drinks, were now made sensible, by experience, that such drinks could not only be dispensed with without sustaining injury, but, on the contrary, that health was improved by the discontinuance of them, (Hear, hear.) The mechanic, the labourer, the coal-heaver, collier, and miner, and those engaged in sedentary occupations, all bore testimony to the fact that intoxicating drinks were unnecessary. Medical men also gave their testimony to the same fact, and throughout the whole of his experience, which comprised the whole of England and a great portion of Ireland, he had never met with a man who had been injured by leaving off intoxicating drinks, but he had met with hundreds and thousands of persons who had become greatly benefited by discontinuing the use of strong drinks. There were hundreds and thousands of men who would declare upon the experience, not of a few days, but of seven, ten, and fourteen years, that they were able to do as much and more work, and with greater ease to themselves, than when they used intoxicating liquors, (hear.) A few years ago, medical men gave countenance to the use of alcoholic liquors, but he held in his hand a document signed by 1400 medical men, declaring that intoxicating drinks were not only unnecessary, but that they were hurtful, even when taken in moderate quantities, and that they could be left off without injury to the person who had been accustomed to them, (hear.) The names included the most eminent men among the medical profession. Medical men were not now so much in the habit of prescribing liquors to their patients; and in cases where such drinks were prescribed, bitter ale was generally recommended. (Laughter.) He

would, however, advise those who might have even bitter ale prescribed for them, to shew their physicians the testimony signed by 1400 of the faculty, and ask them whether it was necessary for them to take strong drinks. He would ask them whether they had ever known a man increase in worldly comfort by taking strong drinks; such a habit, they would agree with him, was not likely to fill their pockets, and every one in his own experience, could point to numbers who had their pockets emptied by drink, (hear.) Why, then, would labouring men continue to spend their hard earnings on that which was not bread? Those who were in favor of a little drink, must remember that even the slightest quantity could not be indulged in with impunity—that moderate drinking was accompanied with pernicious influences upon the human system, as well as diminishing mental vigour, (hear, hear.) He never knew a man whose intellect was quickened by drinking, or his mind improved, but how many hundreds and thousands were there who had become imbecile and idiotic from the use of strong drinks! (Hear, hear.) Again, drinking did not make men more useful in society; they did not become more pure and honest in their conduct in consequence of it: while, on the other hand, they knew too well, that drink caused a wife to weep over a drunken and worthless husband, children to starve for want of bread, and friends to mourn over a felon whose crime was occasioned by intoxicating liquors. He implored all who had families to put away strong drinks; if it were only for the sake of his children he should be a teetotaler, for he would not let there be the possibility of it being said that a child of his became degraded in consequence of his example. He would ask them if they ever heard of a man becoming serious in consequence of drinking? The answer was apparent to all, for they were all sensible, that not only was a drunken man not open to conviction, but that drink prevented men from thinking of their condition as it regarded the present and future state, and that drink robbed the church of many who had been consistent members, (hear.) He would present them a picture having two sides, and he entreated them to well consider it. He had recently travelled 3000 miles in the United States and Canada. He had previously heard of the results attending total abstinence there, but he formed no adequate idea of the real state of the case till he had witnessed it for himself. He believed that there was not a hundredth part of the drunkenness in New York that there was in Liverpool; and where one penny was spent for drink in Boston, one pound was spent in Bristol, (hear.) He had for several days together been in the streets of Boston as late as midnight, and he never saw a drunken man; and during the whole time he was in America, he never saw but three drunken men, and those were in New York. Total abstinence had become united with the church there, and he attended the conference of the members of a sect numbering 60,000 persons, and there was not among that whole number, a minister, office-bearer, or member, but who was a total abstainer. (Hear.) The same remark might to a great extent be applied to the Methodists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Unitarians, all denominations