

A WISE PRIEST.—A German priest was walking in procession at the head of his parishioners over cultivated fields, in order to procure a blessing upon the crops. When he came to one of unpromising appearance, he would pass on, saying, "Here prayers and singing will avail nothing: this must have manure."

Want of energy is another great and common cause of the want of domestic comfort. As the best laid fire can give no heat and cook no food unless it is lighted, so the clearest ideas and purest intentions will produce no corresponding actions without that energy which gives power to all that is of value, which is, as it were, the very life of life, and which is never more necessary or available than in the mistress and mother of a family.

—*Home Truths for Home Peace.*

THE TIGER AND THE MOUSE.—Captain Basil Hall, in his "Fragments of Voyages and Travels," gives the following anecdote of a tiger kept at the British residence at Calcutta:—"But what annoyed him far more than our poking him up with a stick, or tantalising him with shins of beef or legs of mutton, was introducing a mouse into his cage. No fine lady ever exhibited more terror at the sight of a spider, than this magnificent royal tiger betrayed on seeing a mouse. Our mischievous plan was to tie the little animal by a string to the end of a long pole, and thrust it close to the tiger's nose. The moment he saw it, he leaped to the opposite side; and when the mouse was made to run near him, he jammed into a corner, and stood trembling and roaring in such an ecstasy of fear, that we were always obliged to desist, in pity to the poor brute. Sometimes we insisted on his passing over the spot where the unconscious little mouse ran backwards and forwards. For a long time, however, we could not get him to move; till at length, I believe by the help of a squib, we obliged him to start; but instead of passing leisurely across his den, or of making a detour to avoid the object of his alarm, he generally took a kind of flying leap, so high as nearly to bring his back in contact with the roof of his cage."—*Thomson's Passions of Animals.*

Fatal Effects of Strong Drink.

The *Carlton Place Herald* contains the report of a Coroner's Inquest held on the 8th ult. at Mansell's Tannery, before W. Wilson Esq., on view of the body of Thomas Bagley, of Wofford. The deceased was found dead, lying under his sleigh. We subjoin the following particulars from the *Herald*:—

"Deceased, who had been in the habit of drinking to excess, was under the influence of liquor before reaching Carleton Place, and that, having got more there he was quite drunk when he left it; so much so, that he fell off his sleigh, as he went on to the Town Line of Ramsay, a little below the Village; and it was then with considerable difficulty he was got on again. Another teamster, named John Humphry, who was travelling in his company, wanted to get him to ride on his sleigh, but deceased refused. No one having seen him fall, it is not positively known whether he had fallen off, or having got off, had staggered under the sleigh. By the mark on the road, it appeared that he had been pushed in front of the runner, some distance before it had got on the body. The verdict of the Jury was, "That the deceased Thomas Bagley, came to his death by accident, while under the influence of liquor."

Mr. George Goff, Tavern Keeper, at Carleton Place, at whose house deceased stopped to bait, swore that he gave him one glass. Another witness swore that deceased had drank three glasses of whisky at Mr. Burrows' tavern, Franktown, and one at Rose's; and that he would have known deceased to have taken grog, before reaching Carleton Place.

The conduct of the party who gave deceased liquor, when already under the influence of it, is highly reprehensible, and deserving of the censure of the community. For the person who would give a drunken man one glass of grog, is morally as culpable as if he had given him ten or twelve, to make him drunk, and should be held equally responsible for the consequences.

Instances of the fatal effects of intemperance are fast multiplying, in this section. It was but on Christmas night, that the person at Richmond was turned out of a Tavern drunk, and froze to death; now another leaves a Tavern drunk, and is killed, in consequence of his inebriety.

Besides these cases, which can be directly ascribed to intoxication, there are numerous others which might be indirectly traced

to the same source. It is even strongly suspected, that if Ryan, who murdered his wife was insane, intemperance was the primary cause of his insanity. Are these calls not loud enough to be heard by the votary of intemperance?"

The *St. Catherine's Journal* of January 1st contains the following particulars respecting another victim of liquor:—

"It is our painful duty to record the death, in this town, of a young man, one who was naturally talented, and who, having had good opportunities of improvement, might and no doubt would have filled a respectable position in society, if it had not been for his love of drink. This accursed habit, when once formed, lays prostrate the highest natural talent, as also every adventitious advantage.

It is really distressing to contemplate a young man dying, as did this person, under that fearful disease *delirium tremens*; the circumstances attending which may be imagined but not described.

We should permit this young man's death to pass with a simple notice of the fact, but feel that in doing so we would not be performing the duty devolving on a faithful press, whose business it is to note the fearful results of drunkenness, and record the victims of the practice as a warning to the living.

When shall it cease to be our painful duty to record such occurrences? Will the people of this town take the matter into their own hands at the coming election, and insist on their councillors making a clean sweep of the innumerable dens where liquor is sold, and moral murder committed on young and old?"

The *Boston Traveller* of January 14th gives a singular instance of aberration of mind resulting from intemperance:—

"A man thoroughly saturated with liquor, last evening became impressed that he had arrived at his home and bedside, when in the path way leading from Cornhill to Brattle street, and accordingly divested himself of a portion of his clothing and laid down to sleep. Fortunately he was discovered before he had long tried his new bed, or otherwise he must have been frozen. Rum plays many and sometimes dangerous capers."

From the *Gateshead Observer* (Eng.) we quote the following account of the end of a drunken woman:—

"Margaret Russell, an unmarried woman, fifty years of age, was found dead in bed; she had an annuity on which she might have lived comfortably. Her medical adviser, W. Foss, had warned her that such would be her end, but she persevered in her course. She sometimes drank four gills of rum in a day.—[Oh, that moderate drinkers as well as drunkards, would take warning by this woman's untimely end.]"

We subjoin an extract from the *Bristol Temperance Herald*, respecting a trial for manslaughter, which took place in London, (Eng.):—

"On Thursday, the 18th Dec. 1851, W. Murphy, aged 26, and Mary Ann Murphy, his wife, aged also 26, were indicted at the Central Criminal Court, for the manslaughter of Bridget Murphy, their own child. (This case the counsel for the prosecution, pronounced to be one of the most distressing that had ever come before the court.) There can be no doubt that the child perished from neglect and starvation, but the prisoners were acquitted on the ground that there was not evidence to sustain, under the present state of the law, a verdict of Manslaughter. The Medical man gave it as his opinion that the child had not had any solid food for thirty-six hours before its death. The employer of the man Murphy, deposed, that the male prisoner had been in his employment as a cooper for five weeks previous to the death of the child. The first four weeks he earned £1 4s. per week, and the last week he earned 1s. The reason that he had earned so little, was, that he had left his work and had gone drinking. He could earn 2s. a week, and more if he pleased to attend to his work, as he was a very good workman. His Lordship, Baron Alderson, in ordering the prisoners to be discharged, exhorted the man in an impressive manner to abstain from drinking in future, and to employ the good wages he was able to earn, in providing properly for his family."

This list of casualties might be extended, but enough is recorded to produce a conviction of the immorality of the traffic in strong drink.