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"It was found," says Dr. F. R. Lees, "that in the battles lately in America, the wounded soldiers left to nature recovered the quickest and most perfectly, simply because they were saved from the doctors' stimulating treatment." The truth is making its way into the hospitals in England. Dr. J. Grey Glover, for example, says that "the administration of large quantities of stimulants in cases of carbuncle is now only a part of a general fashion that is already going out. I am satisfied that, of all forms of blood-poisoning, that by alcohol is not the least common." In July, 1883, we find Dr. C. R. Francis, M. B., declaring that "no popular delusion has been so ruthlessly exposed, no theory so completely overthrown by the evidence of unexpected facts, as the once almost universal belief in alcoholic liquors, both as drink and medicine." There is no question that stimulants prescribed for trifling ailments have introduced intemperance into many families, and spread social and personal ruin all around. "I have seen," says Dr. S. Wilks, physician to Guy's Hospital, "so many cases of persons, especially ladies, who have entirely given themselves up to the pleasures of brandy drinking, become paraplegic (paralysed). From what we hear of our continental neighbors, it would seem that that diabolical compound styled absinthe is productive of exhaustion of nervous power in even a much more marked degree. It would seem that the volatile oils, dissolved in the alcohol, give additional force to its poisonous effects."

The late Dr. Anstie, in the *Practitioner* for February, 1871, has well said: "Another way in which medical men often fail to do their duty, is that they do not ascertain with sufficient accuracy whether a daily dose of alcohol, ordered for a particular temporary purpose, has or has not been relinquished when the occasion for it ceased. A comparatively short course of this conduct is sufficient to implant

in the unstable nervous systems of women a firmly fixed drink craving. Many girls of the wealthy middle and upper classes, especially the former, are of late years taking to consume all kinds of wine, particularly champagne, to an extent which used never to be permitted. Many girls are in the habit of taking, in the shape of wine, two or three ounces of absolute alcohol, a quantity which, if expressed in cheap beer, would be equal to six or seven pints. An unfavorable stimulus is often given to the animal nature of young women. There is a subtle change, perceptible enough to those who study character with any care, telling of the gradual decline of the intellectual, and the increased prominence of the sensual tendencies." Dr. F. R. Lees, F. S. A., of Edinburgh, says: "Let us hope, however, that the members of a noble profession will speedily awake to a full sense of the great responsibility under which they labor in prescribing alcoholics, recollecting the fact, of which their daily practice gives them a perpetual proof, the fact, as stated by Professor Laycock, M. D., that "indigestion being temporarily relieved by alcoholic stimulants, it lays the foundation of an ever-growing habit of taking them in women, and excites a more and more urgent desire in the drunkard, so that it is in this way that many persons of position and education become irrecoverable sots. Forgetting this law, and pandering to fashion or appetite, the physician will fail in his true and holy mission, and, under the pretence of healing physical disorder, will leave behind him in many households, a demon more rampant and more remorseless than ever tore the flesh of the possessed in olden time."

Dr. James Ross, of Waterfoot, in the *British Medical Journal* for Oct. 2^d, 1873, asks: "What of the stimulant effect of alcohol? Partly delusive, partly real. In so far as it is real, it must depend upon a certain amount of nervous energy being set free. It is this diffused effect which goes by the name of the stimulant-action of the drug. The degree of diffusibility also