

cases, teetotalers have learnt how to prevent them. Their senses become aware of the injurious influences which surround them, and they are ready at once to believe in the principles of sanitary reform. They learn the efficacy of pure air, are not afraid of cold water, and relish plain wholesome food. They find that alcohol cannot cure all diseases for which it is recommended; and that it produces far more maladies than it removes.

Teetotalism prepares the way for everything that is good. It pioneers: and, like John the Baptist, makes straight the way for religion. Drinking is a clog on all good works; teetotalism is an assistant to them. It does not prevent any kind of useful labour, but gives a helping hand to all. By freeing the body and mind from the deadening effects of intemperance, it leaves them prepared for the reception of all good influences. If you want to corrupt a man, first give him drink.

Teetotalism leads to a better understanding of religion. These are some of the good results of the Temperance Movement. We do not say that they have been the universal results; but we say they are the natural results, which would have shown themselves in all cases, had there not been counteracting influences. Into the causes which have prevented the complete success of teetotalism we may inquire at another time. In conclusion, we will observe that the good of teetotalism has not been confined to the members of its own body; but

Teetotalism has led to more sober habits among all classes of the community. Both among rich and poor, drinking is becoming more and more disreputable. Some of those who drank much, now drink little; and many have almost entirely given up the use of intoxicating liquors. The compulsory drinking usages of etiquette and trades are giving way; and "moderation" is becoming a thing more strictly answering to its name than it used to be. We do not say that teetotalism has done all this; but by the circulation of tracts, and the copious diffusion of information among all classes of the community, as well as by setting a good example, it has mainly contributed to this happy result.

STRONG DRINK AND INSANITY.

The healthy operations of the brain are materially hindered by drinking intoxicating liquors. Inflammation and engorgement are frequent consequences of the use of alcoholic drinks, and may take place at the time of a debauch, or arise some time afterwards, during the stage of debility from a loss of the healthy balance of action in the system. Inflammation of the organ, when it is acute, is usually attended with furious delirium and other indications of high cerebral excitement. In support of these observations we would direct attention to the following testimonies:—

"The use of fermented liquors, and particularly of spirits, is very conducive to the bringing on of insanity; they first act on the stomach, then on the nervous system; they bring on diseased action; disorganization of the brain is the consequence, and all the dreadful results of insanity follow. Out of twenty-eight cases admitted at the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum last year, that were reported to us as having been recent cases, *nineteen* of the twenty-eight were drunkards."—*Dr. Ellis.*

"Among four hundred and ninety-five patients, admitted, in four years, into a Lunatic Asylum, at Liverpool, two hundred and fifty-seven were known to have lost their reason by drunkenness."

"Dr. Halloran ascertained, that at the Cork Lunatic Asylum, out of three hundred and eighty-three male patients, one hundred and three had become deranged through the excessive drinking of whisky."

"In Scotland, where they drink about three times the quantity of spirit that is consumed in England, the number

of insane persons is about three to one, as compared with the number in England."—*Parliamentary Report.*

"The intellectual faculties are impaired by alcohol. Every excess is a voluntary insanity, and if often repeated, and carried beyond a certain degree, it often produces the horrible disease called *delirium tremens*, in which, while the animal powers are prostrated, the mind is tortured with the most distressing and fearful imagination."—*Forty Physicians of the State of New York.*

"No man," says an eminent physician, "who has taken only a single glass, has all his faculties in as perfect a state as the man who takes none."

STATISTICS OF SPIRIT-DRINKING.

On Thursday evening, a return was laid before the House of Commons, of the annual consumption of spirits in the United Kingdom, from 1800 to 1845. From this interesting document, we learn that the consumption of British, foreign, and colonial spirits in Great Britain and Ireland has increased considerably since the commencement of the present century, but not in a much greater ratio than the increase which has taken place in the population. During the five years ending in 1801, the average annual consumption of spirits in the whole kingdom was 13,195,153 gallons; during the five years ending in 1815, the average annual consumption was 23,739,841, showing an increase of 10,544,688 gallons in forty years. As the population of Great Britain and Ireland had increased, from 15,506,794 in 1801, to 26,715,920 in 1818, it will be seen that the amount consumed per head is but a small fraction greater now than it was forty years ago; indeed, if we take into account the very great decrease in illicit distillation, since the reduction of the spirit duties in 1423, it will probably be found that the consumption is really less per head at present than it was in 1801.

On comparing the returns relating to Ireland and Scotland with those of England, we find a very wide difference in the rate of progress which has taken place during the last forty-five years, as will be seen by the two following tables:—

The number of imperial gallons of spirits charged with duty for consumption in England, Ireland, and Scotland, from 1800 to 1804 inclusive.

Years.	England.	Ireland.	Scotland.
1800	7,994,572	2,365,323	1,631,606
1801	6,150,983	1,719,367	930,490
1802	8,168,759	5,444,733	1,922,873
1803	10,048,298	4,639,354	2,600,112
1804	6,507,759	3,746,478	2,045,053

Aver. Annual Consumption 7,774,070 ... 3,583,051 ... 1,838,027

The number of imperial gallons of spirits charged with duty for consumption in England, Ireland, and Scotland, from 1841 to 1845 inclusive.

Years.	England.	Ireland.	Scotland.
1841	11,511,907	6,515,761	5,078,719
1842	11,056,096	5,320,196	5,667,113
1843	10,785,750	5,574,921	5,665,618
1844	11,368,790	6,481,251	6,001,090
1845	12,507,995	7,638,993	6,525,489

Aver. Annual Consumption 11,446,107 ... 6,302,228 ... 5,991,605

The most startling fact which we gather from these figures is the enormous increase in spirit-drinking which appears to have taken place in Scotland since the beginning of this century. At that time the average annual consumption was about one gallon per head; at present it appears to be considerably more than two gallons per head, or more than three times the average quantity consumed by the people of the land. Much of this apparent increase may, no doubt, be owing to the suppression of illicit distillation by the reduction of the duty on whisky from 6s 2d to 2s 4d per gallon, in