

crime, and almost all the ignorance, and almost all the irreligion that disgrace and afflict the land. I do in my conscience believe that these intoxicating stimulants have sunk into perdition more men and women than found a grave in the deluge which swept over the highest hill-tops, engulfing the world, of which but eight were saved. As compared with other vices, it may be said of this, 'Saul hath slain his thousands, but this David his tens of thousands.'

SPURGEON'S ATTITUDE.

There can be no longer any doubt regarding Mr. Spurgeon's attitude in relation to the work of temperance reform. He has not only become a total abstainer himself, but in a letter to a Total Abstinence Society, inaugurated the other week at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, says: "I sincerely believe that next to the preaching of the Gospel, the most necessary thing to be done in England is to induce our people to become total abstainers. I hope this society will do something when it is started. I don't want you to wear a lot of peacock's feathers and putty medals, nor to be always trying to convert the moderate drinkers, but to go in for winning the real drunkards, and bringing the poor enslaved creatures to the feet of Jesus, who can give them liberty."

FREE MEN.

A stranger arose recently in a young men's prayer-meeting and said:

"To-night when I was on the street a young man approached me and handed me a printed invitation to this meeting. I crumpled it in my hand and went on to the saloon where I have been accustomed to spend most of my evenings. Soon after I entered the saloon some of my companions asked me to drink, and I stepped up to the bar intending to drink with them when suddenly I was reminded of the invitation which I still held in my hand. I don't know what made me do it, but I just turned away from that bar and walked out of the saloon, and came straight up here to your rooms. Now I feel that I want to live a different life, and I ask you to pray for me."

On the other side of the room sat the young man who had given the invitation to the stranger. He had come in from his work that evening greatly discouraged, for he had met with more rebuffs, more sneers, more unpleasant experiences that night than ever before while engaged in distributing the invitations.

"I don't believe I can ever do it again," he said just before the meeting began.

"I'll be glad to go every Saturday night," he said with a beaming face at the close of the meeting.

"I want to be freed from this appetite," said the stranger; and he accepted the Christ as his helper before he left the room.

"I want to be freed from all fear of man," said the other. "If the Master is willing to use me I am willing to be used anywhere, in any way."

"In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good."

"Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free."--*Church and Home.*

TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

Temperance work was never more vigorously and successfully conducted than at present. Throughout the United Kingdom advancement is the order of the day. The Blue Ribbon movement for the time leads the van. Mr. Murphy in Scotland and Ireland, not to speak of his work in the South, can claim his tens of thousands of pledged abstainers; Mr. Booth his hundreds of thousands. It is said that, as the result of Mr. Booth's gospel temperance services in the provinces, 370,000 persons have adopted the principles he advocates, and since September 17th, in ten cities and towns, the record shows a total of 150,000 pledges. In Scotland many ministers have joined Mr. Murphy's ranks. A remarkable incident in connection with the Salvation Army reclamations in York is thus described:—Jane Johnson, the old woman of 84, reclaimed by the Salvation Army, spoke three times in York on Sunday to crowded congregations, in connection with the Salvation Army, all standing places being packed closely up. Large numbers also followed her through the street, which much amused the old lady. Last Thursday she kept her birthday in Leeds, and was presented by a Christian sister in Leeds with a large, beautiful Bible, and with a red silk neck shawl from another kind sister in Newcastle. Last year she kept her birthday by a drunken spree at Bradford. On the platform in York another old woman known as Drunken Susan, who has been rescued through the Army, said she and Jane were one night both in the lock-up in York together. They then shook hands, amid the smiles and rejoicings of the congregation." A new departure in temperance demonstration and practical work is to be made in Newcastle. The race week is generally a lively and unlovely time among the Northumbrians, and in view of it arrangements are being made for holding a great temperance gala on the town moor.