

HEREDITARY DEGENERACY.

The evil of strong drink would be of comparatively small magnitude if only those addicted to its use were involved in the deplorable consequences. The editor of the *Northwestern Lancet*, in a suggestive article on "The Medical Aspect of Inebriety," says: "The close relationship of insanity, epilepsy, and inebriety is strongly shown by the remarkable manner in which, through heredity, one form of disease may pass into another, as where drunkenness in one generation is followed by epilepsy or insanity in the succeeding generations." It is this inevitable nerve or brain deterioration on the part of those of a previous generation who indulged in alcoholic beverages, and became parents, which undoubtedly would, if careful investigation should be made, account for the presence therein of many at the present time of those by whom our insane asylums and hospitals are over-crowded. The drink evil involves not only those immediately connected with the drinker here and now, but leaves a fearful legacy of suffering and incompetency to future generations. — *N. Y. Temperance Advocate*.

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT.

Oftentime a young Christian may be puzzled about how he should act as a Christian. I have this much to say—one who is very anxious to do God's will and is prayerful and reads his Bible daily, is not often troubled by this question. We must take it for granted that everybody who is a Christian wants to do the will of Christ.

The New Testament furnishes general rules for Christian conduct. The whole law is, love to God and love to man. This comprehends everything. We give some rules founded on the Scriptures:

1. Do nothing if you doubt its being right: "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin."
2. If there is something you want to do which would do you no harm, but might lead a weaker brother into wrong, dare not do it. "Wherefore, if meat make my brother so offend I will eat no flesh while the world standeth."
3. Do not place yourself in a false position. "Abstain from all appearance of evil."
4. Do nothing in thought, word, or deed, on which you can not ask God's blessing. "Whatsoever ye do in word or

deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him."

TOO CHEAP.

A preacher of the gospel had gone down into a coal mine during the noon hour, to tell the miners of that grace and truth which came by Jesus Christ. After telling them the simple story of God's love to lost sinners—man's state and God's remedy—a full and free salvation offered—the time came for the men to resume work, and the preacher came back to the shaft to ascend to the world again. Meeting the foreman, he asked him what he thought of God's way of salvation. The man replied: "Oh, it is too cheap. I cannot believe in such a religion as that."

Without an immediate answer to this remark, the preacher asked: "How do you get out of this place?"

"Simply by getting into the cage," was the reply.

"And does it take long to get to the top?"

"Oh, no; only a few seconds."

"Well, that is very easy and simple: but do you not need to help raise yourself?" said the preacher.

"Of course not," replied the miner. "As I have said you have nothing to do but get into the cage."

"But how about the people who sunk the shaft, and perfected all this arrangement? Was there much labor or expense about it?"

"Indeed, yes; that was a laborious and expensive work; the shaft is eighteen hundred feet deep, and it was sunk at a great cost to the proprietor; but it is our only way out, and without it we should never be able to get to the surface."

"Just so. And when God's Word tells you that whosoever believeth in the Son of God hath everlasting life, you at once say, 'Too cheap, too cheap!'—forgetting that God's work to bring you and others out of the pit of destruction and death was accomplished at a vast cost, the price being the death of his own Son."

"To gain from Holy Scripture all that it is adapted to impart, one must be penetrated by it through constant reading. Its words should be imprinted on the memory, because it is by them that the Holy Spirit speaks to the soul."