

*digestive function. Teetotaler and drunkard suffer from indigestion: "The extremes meet."*

Wherever we may look we observe that development of spiritious liquors has always been a part of the general civilization, of the growth of all that goes to further material position of man and to improve the comfort of his position.

But our present state of civilization is our inheritance from bygone generations, or more generally expressed : the advance of any nation in culture is largely a matter of destiny, viz., the soil upon which people live and the peculiar natural qualities of the people will always prove the road by which it advances in culture.

By what right do fanatical teetotalers dare to assert that any nation would be happier without intoxicating drinks ?

They have only a phantom to speculate with ; on their side is arranged neither history nor psychologic.

Are they not themselves children born and begotten of beer and whisky-drinkers ? Do they not reflect that all their better thoughts and feelings are due to their progenitors who were votaries of Bacchus and King Gambrinus ?

As far as our intelligence goes, it would seem evidently better if we had neither gales nor hurricanes at sea or on land, and it is difficult for us to understand exactly what good they accomplish ; still, they exist.

*So also it is difficult to show the blessings or even the*