

infidelity into the nuptial vow :—it blights the fondest hopes of the parent, and alienates the affection of the child :—it contaminates the dearest emotions of man's bosom, and dries up the sacred fountain of woman's love :—it vitiates the noblest faculties of the mind, and instils into the body the germs of disease and mortality. In fine it converts everything that is pure, virtuous, and honorable, into that which is corrupt—depraved—base.

Before proceeding further with these melancholy reflections, it will perhaps be interesting to make a few remarks on the origin and history of intoxicating liquors.

The ancients made use of "must" or "unfermented wines," which consisted of the simple juice of the grape, palm-tree, pomegranate, and some other fruits. Such were the refreshing and innoxious drinks, obtained directly from the natural products of the earth, by those people who dwelt beneath the sunlit skies of eastern climes. Such were the pure fountains, from which, in olden times, man refreshed his body, without bewildering his *brain* by the fiery fumes of intoxication. And well had it been for mankind had those simple habits never been departed from. But the growing appetite for luxury soon discovered means to pervert the designs of Divine wisdom and goodness, and to convert the generous and beneficent sources of nature into those of sensuality and vice. In addition to fermentation, by which process wines acquired intoxicating properties, the pernicious practice of adulteration was had recourse to, which but too plainly demonstrates the fearful abyss of immorality and intemperance towards which man was fast hastening. The ingredients, used by the ancients in adulteration, were both various and injurious; and tended not only to excite those passions whereby man