

though in many points they are far ahead of their predecessors, yet in some they are doubtless travelling in the beaten track of error. To suppose otherwise would be to suppose that the science has attained perfection, and that nothing remains for future generations of physicians to discover or improve upon. That they are likely to be in error on the subject in question is manifest from the fact, that most or all of them were educated before the Temperance Reformation had attracted public attention, and when a universal delusion on the subject of intoxicating drinks prevailed; and, consequently, their opinions about the use of these drinks are those of a past age which are rapidly being exploded.

Some physicians no doubt keep pace with the spirit of the times and bring their own judgments to bear upon questions like this; but a great majority, we have reason to believe, go on in the routine which they have been taught at college, without thinking of questioning its correctness.

In conclusion, we would say to mothers that thousands who have in this matter disregarded medical advice and public opinion, have had good cause to rejoice; whilst tens of thousands who followed them have had abundant cause to mourn either for themselves or their children.

#### INTOXICATING DRINKS AT BAZAARS FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH has lately been much commended in Parliament for holding the even balance between Christianity and Idolatry in India, inasmuch as on the occasion of the late victories in Afghanistan he requested public thanksgivings in the Churches, and appointed a triumphal procession of great magnificence in honour of a pair of old Idol temple gates which had been recovered. But it appears to us that at least as much credit for impartiality is due to the Ladies of Montreal, who have lately held Bazaars for the glory of God and the advancement of pure and undefiled religion, at which they carried on a brisk business in the sale of intoxicating drinks.

It has been said "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon," but some Indians never sacrificed to the Good Spirit without offering an oblation to appease the Devil, and it would appear that the Ladies, by blending their sacrifices to the God of heaven with those to the god of this world, think the same kind of prudence requisite.

These Ladies, however, we presume, deny that selling intoxicating drinks is serving Satan; but can they deny that our cemeteries are strewn with graves—thick as leaves in autumn—over which could be inscribed, with all truth, the fearful word Drunkard? Can they deny that our city is thronged with candidates for the drunkard's grave, in every stage of their progress—from the first headache in the morning to the last scene of all, when the poor inebriate passes into eternity, either in the ravings of delirium tremens, or utterly worn out in body and mind with long continued violations of the laws of Nature and of God? Can they deny that a great many of these candidates are of the class called fashionable young men, on whom for good or evil the influence of ladies is almost unbounded? And will they persist in sanctioning and ministering to the easily besetting sin of these young men, of the age and the country in which they live? If they do let them look to their own fathers, brothers, husbands, and lovers, for no offence carries surer retribution with it, than obstinate and wilful opposition to the progress of the Temperance Reformation, a reformation which has the most indubitable evidences of Divine countenance and favour.

It is indeed exceedingly mournful to find this holy and benevolent work impeded; to see the traffic in intoxicating drinks which has done such incalculable evil, and of which even the suburb dram-sellers are beginning to be ashamed, sanctioned: to

find the drinking usages of society, which have erected almost insurmountable barriers in the way of Christ's kingdom, encouraged; and all this by Christian Ladies and done in the name and for the sake of Religion! If this be not betraying their Master's cause with a kiss we know not what is; but can a blessing be expected to attend the thirty pieces of silver or whatever the amount may be which is gained by such means?

We do not mean to undervalue the efforts of the Ladies to raise money for religious purposes, so far as these efforts are innocent, but the end however good does not justify bad means, neither is it lawful to do evil that good may come.

**HORSE RACES.**—We have seen with much regret a paragraph paraded in the newspapers to the effect that Sir CHARLES METCAL had, at the request of the Turf Club, and doubtless in the discharge of what he deemed official duty, appointed the Queen's plate to be run for at Montreal next summer; thus making it one of his first public acts to sanction Horse Races.

We presume that in doing this the Governor General, for whose character we have long entertained high respect, did not know that, in Canada at least, races are perfect fairs of vice and dissipation, that there are probably more drunkenness and gambling in three days of races, than in three months of ordinary times; that these occasions seldom or never pass without hurrying two or three singularly unprepared victims to the grave; that they are a sort of saturnalia for the intemperate, licentious and profane—where the scum and offscouring of society collect from all quarters and glory in their shame; that inasmuch as they tempt multitudes of the young into the paths of destruction, they are the terror of ministers, parents, and guardians. That in a word, they are harvest days of Satan, and almost the only parties who profit by them are his agents the rumseller, the gambler, and the prostitute.

We know it is asserted that Races improve the breed of horses, and consequently benefit agriculture; but even admitting this statement, it is no reason why they should deteriorate the breed of men by encouraging drunkenness and licentiousness. We have the authority, however, of enlightened practical agriculturists for saying that there is no foundation for the assertion, because the peculiar qualifications requisite for race horses are not only unnecessary but absolutely hurtful in horses devoted to other purposes; and that if a tithe of the money spent in races were given as premiums for the best draught horses, roadsters, &c., the breeds which are really useful would be improved incalculably more than by the present mode.

What is the meaning of Mr. Workman's flooding the country with handbills? to destroy public confidence in your Society? I have got one dated March 29.—*Extract of a letter from James McDonald, Pictou, April 14.*

We know not what document is above referred to; but we know from various quarters, that Mr. WORKMAN has taken no small pains to injure the Committee of the Montreal Society, in public estimation. Nevertheless, as long as he confined his publications to Montreal, where the circumstances that called them forth were pretty well known, and where they could be answered in the local papers, it was not judged proper to occupy any part of the *Advocate* with the matter; but as they have been sent to distant parts of the country, where Montreal papers do not probably penetrate, the Committee might suffer in public opinion, and the Temperance cause be injured by further forbearance.

It is to be observed, that the publications issued by Mr. W. were for the declared purpose of defending his character from an alleged charge made against him at a public meeting; but if the case, was not the wide circulation they obtained in Mon-