

World, to evince the Temperance Cause any other than one of complete Philanthropy.

But, as there are many who *do* not, and others who *wish* not, to understand, what is the basis of our Constitution, the Committee deem it right *again* to make known their Fundamental Principle;—which is —not merely to prevent the *abuse* of Ardent Spirits, but, *utterly*, to abolish the *use* of them.

Had the Society admitted of a moderate use of Spirits, instead of this principle of *Total Abstinence*, their numbers, as has been before observed, would have been much more numerous than they now are; but it was the unanimous opinion of the Committee, that while they could reclaim one confirmed Sot, on that principle, by inducing him to drink moderately, ten Drunkards would have sprung up from the ranks of the Society itself.

Again, the object of the Society is not confined solely to the reclaiming of *Drunkards*, although it is advanced by some, and urged by many, that such Societies are intended solely for Drunkards, who cannot reclaim themselves, not for those *who are not such*, they being already temperate, there is no need whatever for their joining a Temperance Society.—Alas! short-sighted Reasoners! what certainty have they, that they may not become the victims of Intemperance, and eventually, the worst of sots? And if they have no better security than their own strength, and drinking *moderately*, they most assuredly will. Though we do not *reject* Drunkards, but allow them to join the Society, (and heartily rejoice in every such instance of reformation,) yet that is not our main, our grand and principal object; if such was the case, it were a hopeless task indeed. No! our object is, to save men from *becoming* Drunkards, not to permit them to *become* such, and reclaim them afterwards. It is not, therefore, in the *abuse* alone, that the evil exists, but in the *use*; for as long as the use of Spirits is encouraged and permitted, the abuse will inevitably follow.