

been stolen away by the demon of intemperance? How will you give back to the man the manhood he has lost?

Let us see what the inebriate has lost. He has lost **BODILY HEALTH** to a greater or less degree. Though some people persist in claiming that *moderate drinking* is not injurious, no one denies that *drunkenness* is. The inebriate is emphatically a *diseased man*, and it may be considered a certainty that, if his life is not cut short by some extraneous accident, he will be poisoned to death by alcohol. He has lost **MENTAL HEALTH**. At times he is a raving maniac or a drivelling imbecile; and in his more lucid intervals he gives clear evidence of a weakened intellect. He has lost **SELF-CONTROL**. In the presence of temptation he surrenders himself to the enslaver of his soul and body. He may even do it involuntarily. He may feel his position—may see his doom—may long to escape—but have no strength to break the bonds of his deceptive and cruel taskmaster. Like a man suffering under a hideous nightmare, he may feel himself slipping down to the verge of a bottomless pit; but a magic spell is on him, and he has no strength to grasp even a shrub past which he swiftly glides. He has, very probably, lost **SELF-CONFIDENCE**. Frequent attempts at reform, and repeated failures, have impressed him with a sense of his impotence, and he has no heart to continue what he deems a fruitless struggle. This, then, is his condition: without bodily and mental health—still subject to the cause of his disease—and without power to free himself from that cause.

It may be said I have sketched an extreme case; but those who have studied the various phases of intemperance will bear me out when I say that I have but pictured the state of nine-tenths of our inebriates, and that the remaining tenth is fast hurrying into the same condition.

For his cure, reverse the spell. Remove him out of temptation; restore his bodily health; re-awaken his confidence; give him control of his desires. No one of these alone, but all. Banish his tempter, but leave him shattered in body and mind, and as sure as the sow returns to her wallowing in the mire, so surely will he go through fire and flood to obtain his accustomed stimulant. And unless the temptation is removed you can never restore his health, and strengthen his mind up to the resisting point. What will accomplish this end? Prohibition? That only interposes difficulties between him and the gratification of his desires; but it is neither absolutely preventive