

EXTRACTS FROM THE MEDICAL JOURNALS.

"It does not do to consume 'the smaller ports' of alcohol, without doing anything to maintain the spirit; it will not do to drink strong spirits or stimulating the fine, and whilst not very much, it is a common error of medical men to suppose that in no sense can alcohol be regarded as a stimulant, or as a corrective, or as a restorative, or as a reference to nutrition, or of repairing of tissue and always given as a constituent. Such, also, are the views of Dr. Carpenter in his 'Physiology of Temperance,' and of Dr. F. R. Lees, of Edinburgh." The following extract from a testimony signed by Sir Benjamin Brodie, Mr. James Clark, Dr. Marshall Hall, and others, of the most eminent medical men in Great Britain, bears on this point. "An opinion handed down from rude and ignorant times, and imbibed by Englishmen from their youth, has become very general, that the habitual use of some portion of alcoholic drinks as of wine, beer or spirits is beneficial to health, and even necessary to those subjected to habitual labour. Anatomy, Physiology, and the experience of all ages and countries, when properly examined, must satisfy every mind WELL INFORMED IN MEDICAL SCIENCE, that the above opinion is ALTOGETHER ERRONEOUS. Man in ordinary health, like other animals requires not any such stimulants, and CANNOT BE ENHANCED BY ANY QUANTITY OF THEM, LARGE OR SMALL, nor will they increase during his lifetime increase the aggregate amount of his labour. If WHATEVER QUANTITY THEY ARE EMPLOYED THEY WILL RATHER TEND TO DILINISH IT."

Eddie, the prince of physiologists and chemists, says, in reference to the poor and labourer, "spirits by their action on the nerves, enable him to make up the deficient power AT THE EXPENSE OF THE BODY, TO SOMETIME TO-DAY THAT QUANTITY WHICH OUGHT NATURALLY TO HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED YESTERDAY." He draws, so to speak a bill on his health, which must always be renewed, because for want of means he cannot take it up, and consumes his CAPITAL INSTEAD OF HIS INTEREST, and the result in the inevitable bankruptcy of his body.

These statement of the most eminent physicians and physiologists of the age show the falsity as well as the folly of talking about alcohol imparting strength, and I may well leave the "Westminster Review," &c. &c. to the great authorities whom I have now quoted. You may might be filled with evidence that abstinence promotes health. The Temperance Life Assurance Office in England have had twice as many deaths as the other offices. Dr. Carpenter says that in the Guards, whereas the average mortality for all ages between 15 and 70 is below

that of the Temperance Provident Institution it was only

that alcohol contracts the fluids and decreases the

liver, enlarged kidneys, diseased heart;

and diminishes the general vigour of the

system, the spine, and the motor powers.

Alcohol may have all been in excess,

but it is not the cause of all the evil effects.

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