

for many years, a specialty of the study of the laws of health and disease, I consider this one of the greatest evils of the present day. Language cannot describe the terrible effects which tobacco produces upon both body and mind. It perverts the taste, impairs mental capacity, corrupts the moral sense, and stimulates the animal nature.

"But its pernicious effects are not confined to the present generation, nor to this life. Its dreadful evils, through the laws of inheritance, extend to offspring, even to the second, third and fourth generation.

"In view of such facts, that smoking should increase, especially among young men, is alarming, yes, shocking! I pray that your book may prove a powerful auxiliary in this much-needed reform."

These fearful evils, together with the use of intoxicating drinks, are all around us, even in the Church and among its members; and they are desolating the land. Many are ignorantly practicing these habits, and imbibing the errors which encourage them; and what are our ministers and our periodicals doing to enlighten the people, and to lead them by the truth to shun bad habits as sins against God? Do we not absolutely need our Physicians to speak out as Missionaries to warn us all? And do we not need periodicals which will take hold of these bad habits, and guard the young and innocent against them? The voice of the Medical Faculty must be raised, and men and women must be called to repentance; and that call must be heeded before our native race can be rescued from the overwhelming flood of errors and vices which is sweeping over our land and swiftly destroying our race. Physicians could make a comparatively independent order of Teachers, not being dependent upon their vocation as Teachers for their daily bread. The Church to-day is a Missionary Church; and the best are finding that Medical Missionaries are the most useful in spreading a knowledge of Christianity in heathen lands. May we not well follow their example, and encourage such Medical Men as are qualified for the work, and are willing to work for the rescue of the American race from impending ruin?

PILATE thought a kingdom without fighting soldiers did not amount to much. Christ thought a kingdom of fighting soldiers did not amount to much. Pilate and all his kingdom have vanished. Christ's kingdom will endure forever. Pilate the governor would have been forgotten but for Jesus the prisoner.

MRS. CLEVELAND ON TEMPERANCE.

THE temperance people of the Union—and they seem all the time to be increasing in both numbers and zeal—will rejoice to know that the young and beautiful mistress of the White House is on their side.

Recently Mrs. Crow, a lady of Virginia, begged of Mrs. Cleveland an opinion as to the propriety of a woman's signing the temperance pledge. The President's wife promptly replied from the White House, under date of Aug. 12, in this brief but wise letter:—

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON.

Mrs. A. M. Crow,—The subject to which you refer and ask my advice is one in which your own conscience must dictate the wisest course for yourself to pursue. You have better opportunities for knowing how you can do the most good, and, it seems to me, that should be the standard by which we women should settle all our great questions in life. It rarely occurs that a woman needs for herself the restraining influences of a temperance pledge; but if by placing ourselves under such an organization we can better help our fathers, brothers, lovers and friends, I think there should be no hesitation in the matter. I know something of the Good Templars, and that they do much good work. It is quite certain you can do no harm by casting your lot on the side of temperance, and you may do much good. I do not consider it a small matter by any means, and I am glad you asked me the question. It is encouraging to know of every sister who wants to add her strength to the cause which, happily, some day will rid our land of ruined men and broken families.

FRANCES CLEVELAND.

Aug. 12, 1886.

A volume might be written on woman's duty, and yet what could be added essential to that short and simple exposition by the lovely mistress of the White House? All the preachers in all the pulpits to-day can propose no better rule of conduct in this case.

Mrs. Cleveland's sympathies, like those of every good woman, are with the cause of temperance. She sighs over the sorrows inflicted by rum; but, it will be observed, she does not undertake to herself propose any method of dealing with the liquor traffic, and does not give any opinion with regard to total abstinence, except that it should be practised by women if thereby they can "do the most good." Yet Mrs. Cleveland's letter to Mrs. Crow is an argument in behalf of temperance which is all the stronger because of its own temperance. She is a wise as well as a beautiful young woman.