

TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITION.

CHAPTER .

Temperance—A Principle.

St. Paul, in speaking to the Galatians, says that temperance is a fruit of the Spirit. That is, it is entirely a thing within the heart or soul of men, working from within, not from without. In other words, temperance is a principle, which, when established in the heart, guides and controls the appetites, habits and desires of the flesh. Love is one of the great principles of human life, through the workings of which the world has secured the great blessings of broad liberties and the uplifting of the moral condition of men. It has transformed Europe, America and Australia, has changed our attitude towards the poor, has established national charities and religious peace, and especially has it marvellously improved the status of women and children. By this it will be seen how far-reaching are the effects of one principle when established in the hearts of men. The principle of Christianity was likened by Christ to a bit of leaven which leavened the whole meal, or a mustard seed which grew to the largest of trees.

Look where we will, we shall see the workings of principles of one kind or another. The solution of an infinite variety of problems in every branch of mathematics depends solely on understanding a few underlying principles.