

gation. All the artificial drinking usages are burdensome; they are in the nature of taxes; the inhabitants generally yearn to be quit of them, if they dared.

A Good Example.

A merchant who was in the habit of selling a considerable quantity of liquor, a Portuguese by birth, but who had settled on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, related the following account of his own experience:—

I went to a temperance meeting; the speaker said a good many things which hurt me very much. I felt angry with him, and would not go any more for some time; but a short time after, while I was absent from home, one of my neighbours sold a man a gallon of rum, he got drunk upon it, went home, and killed his wife. When I returned, I said to myself, what if I had sold this man the rum! No, but I did not sell it. But something said, but if you had been at home you might have sold it to him. I said to myself, I will sell off what I have very cheap, and then I will sell no more.—But something said, you may sell to some other man, and he may kill somebody—that won't do. Then I will send it back to Baltimore to the merchant I got it of—but something said that won't do. He may sell it to somebody who may get drunk and kill somebody also; that won't do. I heard soon after of a temperance meeting, I went there; I almost run, I jumped over the heads of the people; I said put my name down. Somebody said, Mr.—, what will you do with your liquor: Oh, I said, that is settled. So early the next morning I turned all the liquors out and pulled out the spicket, and said, from the earth you came, and to the earth you must go back.—*Maryland Temperance Herald.*

Wiser Today than Yesterday.

The frank and manly acknowledgment of an error, while it disarms censure, restores our self-respect, and we often make atonement to ourselves and others at the same time. An eminent clergyman, the president of a literary institution, in one of the southern States, lately rose before a large audience, and stated that he had hitherto withheld his name from the temperance society, simply because, inasmuch as he had not led, he would not consent to follow the example of others; but he stated that a certain degree of disquiet which he felt would allow him to persist no longer. Doubtless he returned home at peace with himself, as he was by this act of ingenuousness, greatly elevated in the estimation of others.—*Am. Temp. Paper.*

What one Glass of Rum Did.

It, since the only merchant in a

spirits, gave a glass of liquor to his negro man. The negro became excited by the liquor, and being displeased with his master, took the horrible revenge of murdering him. Thus one glass of liquor was the direct means of destroying two human beings, and of cutting them off from life and usefulness.—*Am. Temp. Recorder.*

Another.

A few weeks ago, two men went to the grocery or tavern, and clubbed for something to drink. Having drank and paid for the liquor, there were two cents to be received in change. The one said one cent belonged to him, and the other denied that it did. From words, they came to blows, and in the strife, one of them received a mortal wound. The survivor was arrested, and will expiate his crime upon the gallows, or in the state prison. In these two instances, ardent spirits in less quantity than a pint, costing no less than 12 cents, was the immediate cause of the destruction of four individuals; and of plunging at least two families into wretchedness and ruin, and unavailing grief. The consequences arising from that small quantity of liquor, will run on, in all probability, for one, two or three generations, and perhaps they will not cease to be felt till even the fourth shall have gone down to its kindred dust. The stains of vice, of guilt, are deep, very deep, and years are required to efface them.—*Id.*

Mournful Incident.

The whole catalogue of the dreadful casualties originating from ardent spirits, long and mournful as it is—cannot furnish a more melancholy, more heart-rending case, than occurred in this city last week. A labouring man was expected home to dinner, and among other things prepared for him, was his usual glass of rum. His only child, a fine little girl about three years old, unperceived by those around, got possession of the glass and swallowed the content—never thinking, in her childish innocence, but that she might take with impunity what she had seen her father delight to drink so often. As the rum was nearly undiluted, she shortly became insensible, and remained so until relieved by medical aid. This relief was but temporary. In the night she was seized with spasms, so violent that all farther medical assistance proved of no avail, and in twelve hours she died, the innocent victim of her father's vice.

What a subject is here for the reflection of a drinking parent. The father was not an intemperate man,—was only a “moderate drinker,”—“he worked hard and needed his glass at dinner to support his strength—and one glass will never injure any one.”

fully evident; true it did not kill the father, but the innocent little girl who would do as father did, drank, and was dead. The venom of the serpent's tooth is not more mortal to the child than the draught of health and pleasure which the father sips. Should ever again the miserable parent raise the cursed glass to his lips, will he not see reflected on its surface the image of his darling child, and hear the well remembered voice whisper in his ear,—“Oh father, you never said it was poison?”

The fact speaks more than words.—*Boston Mercantile Journal.*

QUANTITY OF GRAIN USED IN BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES.—The excise returns of malt consumed by the London Brewers ending October, 1855, was 5,620,264 bushels. We saw it stated a few weeks ago in a New York paper, that two distilleries on Long Island alone used the enormous quantity of 150,000 bushels of wheat in a year for the production of spirituous liquors. It certainly is a question for political economists, whether restrictions should not be laid on the immense consumption of grain for such purposes. We have now in our country a great scarcity of wheat and rye, and already importations from the Baltic and other places are making to supply the deficiency—burdened of course with freight and charges;—these causes alone must operate to raise the price of flour considerably above the current means of the poorer classes, without at all allowing for the great number of distilleries throughout the country, the owners of which will bid high for grain, and thereby exercise a very important influence in still further increasing the market price.—*Athenæum and Visiter.*

On some False Pleas for Drinking Spirits

“Ardent Spirits are said to be necessary in very cold weather. This is far from being true; for the temporary warmth they produce is always succeeded by a greater disposition in the body to be affected by cold. Warm dresses, a plentiful meal just before exposure to the cold, and eating occasionally a little gingerbread, or any other cordial food, is a much more durable method of preserving the heat of the body in cold weather.”—*Dr. Rash.*

The seamen, sent annually by the Russian Government to winter at Spitzbergen, as one means of avoiding the fatal effects of the excessive cold, abstain entirely from spirituous liquors. In the 1st. vol. of “Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester” is a valuable paper by Dr. Aikin, entitled,—“Remarks on the dif-