

he walked up and settled them all before the day of trial came on, and gave an obligation to sell no more rum so long as he should keep the house

Miscellaneous.

ANOTHER VALUABLE TESTIMONY.—"Military discipline, in all its branches, becomes deeply affected by habits of intemperance. To the generally prevailing vice of drinking are to be attributed almost every misdemeanor and crime committed by British Soldiers in India. The catalogue of these, unhappily, is not a scanty one; for by rapid steps, first from petty, and then more serious, neglects and inattentions, slovenliness at, and absence from parades, follow disobedience of orders, riots, and quarrels in barracks, absence from guards, and other duties, affrays with the natives, theft, and selling of their own and their comrades necessities, robberies, abusive language, and violence to non-commissioned officers, insolence to officers; and last of all, desertion, mutiny, and murder, may be traced to this source. This frightful picture is not exaggerated. I have seen thirty-two punished men in a regimental hospital at once. Perhaps not a single individual of that number suffered for a crime which was not a direct or indirect consequence of the immoderate use of spirits. I recollect attending at the punishment of seven men of the same regiment, who received among them 4,200 lashes. They had been all tried for crimes arising from intemperance."—*Mr. Marshall, army physician.*

SINGULAR AND IMPORTANT FACT.—It is a curious and important fact, that during the periods when the distilleries were stopped in 1796—7, although bread and every necessary of life was considerably higher, than during the preceding year, the poor, in that quarter of the town where they chiefly reside, were apparently more comfortable, paid their rents more regularly, and were better fed, than at any other period for some years before; even although they had not the benefit of the extensive charities which were distributed in 1795. This can only be accounted for by their being denied the indulgence of gin, which had become in a great measure inaccessible from its very high price. It may be fairly concluded, that the money formerly spent in this improvident manner, had been applied to the purchase of provisions and other necessities, to the amount of some hundred thousand pounds. The effect of their being deprived of this baneful liquor was, also, evident in their more orderly conduct. Quarrels and assaults were less frequent, and they resorted seldom to the pawnbrokers' shops; and yet during the chief part of this period, bread was fifteen pence the quarter loaf, and meat higher than the preceding year, particularly pork, which arose from the stoppage of the distilleries, but chiefly from the scarcity of grain.—*Colquhoun's Police of the Metropolis.*

AN UNNATURAL MOTHER.—I was returning from a meeting one night, about twelve o'clock: it was a fierce blast of wind and rain. In Prince's Street, a pitious voice and a shivering boy pressed me to buy a tract. I asked the child why he was out in such a night and at such an hour. He had not got his money; he dared not go home without it; he would rather sleep in a stair all night. I thought as he passed a lamp, that I had seen him before. I asked him if he went to church. Sometimes to Mr. Guthrie's, was his reply. On looking again, I soon recognised him as one I had occasionally seen in the Lowgate chapel. He fled up to meet the weather, he did not recognise me. I asked him what his father was. "I have no father, sir, he is dead." Your mother? "She is very poor." But why keep you out here? and then reluctantly the truth came out. I knew her well, and had visited her wretched dwelling. She was a tall, dark, gaunt gipsy-looking woman, who, notwithstanding a cap of which it could be but presumed that it had once been white, and a gown that it had once been black, had still some traces of one who had seen better days: but now she was a drunkard; sin had turned her into a monster; and she would have beaten that poor child within an inch of death, if he had been short of money, by her waste of which she starved him, and fed her own accursed vice.—*Rev. T. Guthrie.*

We believe the public generally have not any idea of the extent to which human life is sacrificed, by the trade in strong drink. Valuable statistics, on this head, might be obtained by our friends which we are satisfied would prove very startling. We

should be glad to receive from the different towns in the West of England information as to the number of public houses, with an account of those kept by widows, with the age of their husbands at the time of their decease; also the number of publicans who died in early or middle life, and whose widows do not follow the traffic.—*Bristol Temperance Herald.*

MORTALITY OF PUBLICANS.—There are at present no fewer than thirty widows who keep Inns in the town of Carlisle.—*Leeds Mercury.*

DESTRUCTION OF CHILDREN.—Few persons not familiar with the diseases of children, can have any just conception of the extent of the practice which now prevails among the lower orders of nurses, of giving spirits and opiates to children. A poor woman, the wife of a labourer, lately informed me, that out of ten of her children, who were born healthy, nine had died under the age of three years, and most of them under two months; and that by the advice of her nurse, she had given spirits to them all before they were a week old.—Another poor person had twins, who were healthy until they were three months old, when, being obliged to work daily for her subsistence, she endeavoured to procure herself rest during the night by giving them an opiate at bed-time. The consequence was such as might have been foreseen; the poor infants immediately became ill from it, and in the course of a few weeks, literally perished from its effects.—*Dr. Ayre on diseases of the Liver.*

A LAMENTABLE FACT.—We have at least one hundred thousand persons in Britain alone annually forsaking the pale of the church. If the church's office-bearers can witness this wholesale defection and remain inactive, certainly they do not "watch the souls as they that must give account."—*Rev. W. Reid.*

Leaving drunkenness out of the question, the frequent consumption of a small quantity of spirits, gradually increased, is as surely destructive of life, as more habitual intoxication.—*Dr. Gordon.*

Alcoholic drinks poison our Sunday Scholars, check the progress of education, neutralize Tract, Bible, the City Mission, and Home Missionary Societies.—*B. Parsons.*

SPIRITS AND WATER.—Nearly all the illness of my adult patients and most of the cases of sudden deaths, are occasioned by the practice of taking a glass of spirits and water after dinner.—*Dr. Lettwin.*

A GOOD TESTIMONY IN FAVOUR OF WATER.—These comparatively weak beverages (French Wines), the intoxicating strength of which is just no more in proportion to the fiery wines used in England, than the strength of an infant compared with that of a giant, are but poor and meagre drinks at best. Smollett thus writes of them, seventy years since: "All the persons who take wine for their ordinary drink are of diminutive size, in comparison to those who use milk or water; and it is commonly observed when there is a scarcity of wine, the people are more healthy than in those seasons when wine is abundant. The longer I live, the more I am convinced that wine and all fermented liquors are pernicious to the human constitution; and that, for the preservation of health and proper exhilaration of the spirits, there is no beverage comparable to simple water."

SIR ROBERT PEEL AND TEETOTALISM.—At a recent tea party of the Temperance Tract Society at Birmingham, the Rev. Henry Gwither said that Sir Robert Peel had lately written to Mr. G. S. Kenrick of West Bromwich, in order to arrange for to administer the pledge to a coachman of his brother, Captain Peel of Lichfield, whose habits rendered such a step advisable, and who proposed repairing to West Bromwich for the purpose. Such a testimony to the preservative efficacy of our practice, from such a quarter, is truly gratifying. In aiding Sir Robert's benevolent proposition, Mr. Kenrick, of course, had to explain that the whole affair might be managed without the necessity of such a journey, there being actually a society at the city where the coachman was residing.—*National Temperance Advocate.*

INTOXICATING LIQUORS AMONG INDIANS.—The Secretary of war has issued regulations of a stringent character, prohibiting, according to law, the introduction of intoxicating liquors among the Indian tribes. They have suffered severely in health, property, and morals, by the excessive use of ardent spirits, and this effort to arrest the abuse is worthy of praise.

GOOD EXAMPLE.—Several of the tavern keepers in Merdina, Ohio, removed the liquor from their bars in anticipation of the license election recently held there, although their licenses had several months to run.