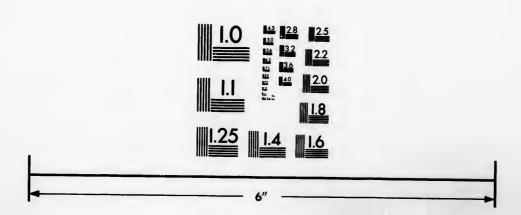


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Testimony of the Koly Scriptures

RESPECTIVO

WINE AND STRONG DRINK,

BEING THE SUBSTANCE OF

A COURSE OF LECTURES

PREAVERED BEFORE

THE PICTOU & A. SOCIETY.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTPICES OF THE PICTOU COUNTY TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

PICTOU, N. S.

1859

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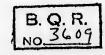
The following Lectures were delivered in 1848, by Mr. J. W. (now Principal) Dawson, and were published at the time in the Eastern Chronicle. They are now reprinted under the auspices of "The Picton County Temperance League," with the addition of a few Notes furnished by the author. Though ter years have elapsed since their first publication, it is believed that they still present a lucid and accurate general view of the subject, and that they will prove of service to all who choose to regulate their conduct in this important matter by the precepts of the word of God.

NOVEMBER, 1858

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E. M. MACDONALD, PRINTER:

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LECTURE, &C.

The great leading object of the Scriptures is the offer of salvation to fallen man, through Jesus Christ; but as a necessary appendage to this good news of salvation, they contain a rule of life fitted to guide the christian in every step of his pilgrimage. By this rule he should try every custom and practice of society, and every scheme which professes to benefit the human race; and should approve or reject according to their agreement or disagreement with the leading principles and more particular injunctions of the holy book.

The conduct of christians in reference to intoxicating drinks forms no exception to this great principle. At the present time men are ranging themselves on opposite sides of this question; some abstaining from all that intoxicates, and maintaining that it is the duty of all to do so, as the only way of arresting intemperance; others refusing to abstain, or to admit that it is necessary. On which side should a christian place himself?—or in other words, whether does God's word require him to abstain from intoxicating drinks, or encourage him in their use? This question is answered in very different ways. The friends of abstinence usually build their cause on that

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Mr. J. W. (now EASTERN CHRO-Pictou County urnished by the publication, it is ral view of the cose to regulate e word of God.

great law of christian love which embraces the whole teaching of the Bible in reference to our conduct to our fellow men. Its opponents usually fortify themselves with passages of Scripture countenancing the use of wine. Where then lies the truth? Does one party misapply the great leading precepts of the gospel, or does the other misapprehend individual passages? or is the word of God undecided or self-contradictory? These questions every christian should be prepared to answer; and my object in these lectures is to inquire seriously into the testimony of the Bible on this subject, by examining all the passages in which wine and strong drink are mentioned, either with apparent approval or reprehension; and by shortly considering the bearing of the principles of christian love and self-denial on the use of these and similar drinks as now existing.

In preparing the statements which follow, I have consulted every authority within my reach, and must acknowledge myself indebted to most of the later writers on the subject, especially to Rev. P. Mearns, whose little work the "Vine, Olive and Palm," should be read by every one who wishes to understand this subject. have, however, taken nothing on the bare assertion of any man, but have endeavored by a careful study of every passage in the original, and by comparing scripture with scripture, and with the nature of the substances in question, and the customs of the times, to form an independant opinion; or at least to ascertain the value of the evidence by which the views of different writers are supported. I have not sought to make out a case either for or against Total Abstinence; but have endeavored to inquire in a spirit of fairness, and with a desire that I might be guided to the pure unmixed truth. I entreat all who hear me, and especially those who really endeavor to regulate their conduct by the word of God, to come to the consideration of this important subject in the same spirit.

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The plan which I shall pursue in the following inquiries is to consider, first, the nature of the Grape, and the various products which can be obtained from it; secondly, the testimony of the Old Testament, and thirdly, that of the New Testament.

THE GRAPE AND ITS PRODUCTS.

- 1. For our present purpose, a ripe grape may be viewed as a tough skin or membrane, filled with very delicate cells, containing a sweet sugary juice, a small quantity of vegetable albumen, (a substance analogous in composition and properties to the white of egg,) and a vegetable acid, the tartaric, in combination with potash, forming the substance known as Tartar, or Cream of Tartar. It is scarcely necessary to say that the ripe grape is a delicious fruit, and that it is, especially in vine growing countries, used in large quantities. If carefully pulled and stored, the ripe grape may be preserved without any change for a considerable time; if properly treated even till the next vintage.
- 2. By drying in the sun or ovens, and thus converting them into raisins, grapes may be preserved for an indefinite time. This process has been employed to a great extent both in ancient and modern times, and we shall soon find that dried grapes formed an important article of food among the ancient Hebrews.
- 3. When grapes are thrown into a press or cistern, and trodden by men or otherwise pressed, a large quantity of sweet juice, usually termed *Must* is obtained. If exposed to the air, Must speedily becomes changed, but it may when fresh be used as a beverage, and has been employed in this way from a very ancient period.
- 4. If the Must be boiled, so as to evaporate a large portion of its water, a sweet syrup is produced, resem-

bling treacle, but more agreeable; and in some countries this substance is now prepared in considerable quantities. In Syria at present grape syrup is called Dibs, and Dr. Shaw states that in his time not less than 2000 ewts. were annually exported to Egypt from Hebron alone; and Dr. Robinson found the same manufacture going on in Hebron, and states that the dibs is much used by all classes as a condiment with their food. There is ground for believing that the Hebrew Debash, translated honey, often means the syrup of grapes; and if so, the trade above mentioned in "dibs," is probably very ancient, since Ezekiel in enumerating the principal articles exported to Tyre from Judah and Israel, mentions Debash as one of them. (Ez. xxvii. 17.)

5. The most important change to which the juice of the grape can be subjected is fermentation. If the Must be placed in an open vessel at a temperature of about sixty degrees, it soon ferments spontaneously. albumen already mentioned appears to be the first substance which undergoes change, and in doing so it becomes a yeast or ferment, under the influence of which the sugar of the juice undergoes a complete metamorphosis, being converted into alcohol, which remains in the liquid, and carbonic acid, a gas or air which escapes, causing a strong effervescence or boiling up of the fluid. During this process yeast is thrown up to the surface, and the tartar, being less soluble in alcohol than in water, is in part separated in the form of powder, and the liquid becomes turbid or muddy. The violence of the fermentation soon subsides, but the process still goes on more slowly, in some kinds of wine for a year or more. In modern wine making, the fermented Must is generally put into casks to undergo this slow fermentation.

The quality of the wine produced depends on the peculiarities of the variety of grape used, and on the methods employed; and with reference to these, we may divide a classes.

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ls on the peon the mese, we may divide all the wines of modern and ancient times into four classes.

First.—Dry Wines. In these the whole or nearly the whole of the sugar present in the grape is converted into alcohol. Some wines of this kind are called Light Dry Wines, as Hock, Hermitage, Claret, &c. These are usually the product of the more northern grape countries, and contain from 8 to 18 per cent. of alcohol. Others are called Strong Dry Wines, as Port, Sherry and Madeira; these are produced in warmer though not the warmest grape countries, and contain from 18 to 26 per cent. of alcohol. They are the strongest wines that can be made, and the stronger kinds are usually not the direct product of fermentation, but are mixed with distilled liquor. These dry wines appear to have been little known, and not esteemed in Biblical times, or even in the later periods of Greek and Roman civilization. deed it was not until in modern times the use of distilled liquors had vitiated the taste of mankind, that the harsh and alcoholic wines of this class were regarded with any favor.

The second class includes the brisk or effervescing wines, as Champagne. Wines of this kind are bottled before the fermentation is completed, and in consequence when they are uncorked carbonic acid escapes from them with effervescence. These wines are not so alcoholic as Port or Sherry, but the carbonic acid present in them, adds to their exhilirating power. Champagne is said to require the addition of sugar to the grape juice, in order to preserve the sparkling quality. Wine of this kind was known in very ancient times; indeed it appears that among the Hebrews fermented wines were always bottled in skin bottles, before fermentation was finished. The practice is alluded to in the book of Job. We shall, however, find in the sequel, that wines of this kind are expressly discountenanced by the inspired writers.

The third class consists of sweet wines, as Malms and Tokay. In these a portion of the sugar is unfo mented, giving a considerable degree of sweetness to the liquor. The grapes of warm climates are those which most readily produce these wines, as they contain the largest proportion of sugar. These wines sometim contain as little as nine or ten per cent of alcohol These rich sweet wines were highly esteemed in ancie times. The wine of Cyprus which in the present day remarkable for sweetness, was the most valuable win May, 1846. of the Greeks and Romans; and the latter people, order to make imitations of such rich wines, were the habit of preparing wines from half dried grapes, ar of sealing up the juice of their sweetest grapes in jar far de-albun and burying them in the ground or immersing them i moderate. water, so that only a very slight fermentation mighthe sun. T occur, and the sweetness of the juice be retained very valuable Sweet wines of this class are made in Syria, and the tice in the E grapes of a country so warm as Palestine, must at a analyses of times have been peculiarly suited for their production.

The fourth class consists of sweet wines made from know precise boiled Must. By boiling, the albuminous part of grap fairly repres juice is curdled, and may be removed, and the sweethe strength juice thus deprived of its ferment, is apable of under the fermented going only a very slight fermentation, or may be ker kind of grap altegether unfermented. This kind of wine is made of sugar in though in small quantities, in Italy and France, wher the must whit is known by the name of vino cotto, and vin cuit, both decided an signifying boiled wine. It is still largely made in the product of which is signifying boundaries. These boiled wines, which of all wines usually stated distinctions and stated wines. called, are the least alcoholic, were the favorite beverag of wines and of the wealthy and luxurious in ancient times. tells us of such wines prepared from must boiled down to animal h a half or one third of its original bulk. These must have ystem and been of the consistence of syrup, and scarcely alcoholic purpose tha Some indeed were as thick as honey, and required to be would produ

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dissolved in a large quantity of warm water before being drunk. We shall find intimations not very obscure, in the Scriptures, that these boiled wines were highly esteemed by the ancient Israelites.*

* Mr. Horner, a missionary in Turkey, informs us, that a drink called rines sometima Nardeuk is still made from grape juice boiled down to one fourth, and unfermented; and that though not fermented, it is distinct from the ord-

Mr. Eli Smith, an American missionary in Syria, gives an account of the modern methods of preparing wine in that country, in the Bibliothica Saera, May, 1846. He mentions three methods. 1.—The fermentation of the unprepared juice. Little of this kind is made, and it does not keep well. In other words, it runs on too far into the alcoholic, and perhaps vinous, fermentation, for the taste of the people. 2.-Large quantities are made ried grapes, an of juice boiled until it is diminished 4 or 5 per cent. This process must so t grapes in jar far de-albumenize the juice, as to render its fermentation subsequently very mersing them is moderate. 3.-Large quantities are also made of grapes partially dried in nentation mighthe sun. This also probably gives a sweet wine. Mr. Smith evidently understands very imperfectly the processes he describes, but his testimony is be retained very valuable, as showing the resemblance of the ancient and modern prac-Syria, and the tice in the East. Professor Hitchcock, in Silliman's Manual, Vol. 46, gives tine, must at a analyses of Lebanon wines, showing that they contain from 11 to 18 per ir production. cent. of alcohol; that is weak, compared to the stronger kinds of claret vines made from know precisely the mode of manufacture of these wines, nor whether they s part of grap fairly represent the present wines of the country, nor the extent to which and the sweethe strength had been increased by keeping and carriage.

pable of under the following general statements give the more essential facts:—Must, if fermented to the full extent, gives a wine containing, according to the or may be kep kind of grape, from 5 to 25 per cent. of alcohol, and from 4 to 94 grains wine is made of sugar in the ounce. There are, however, several methods of preparing France, wher the must which were in general use in ancient times, and which give a less d vin cuit, both elcoholic and more saccharine quality to the winc. These last must also distinguished from that boiling into syrup also much practised, and the y made in the product of which it appears was sometimes also called wine, though more vines usually so sually distinguished from it. For a popular view of the composition vorite beverag of wines and other fermented drinks, see Johnston's "Chemistry of Com-Plint form us of the effects of alcohol in supplying in some degree the material boiled down to animal heat, omits to notice sufficiently its other effects, on the nervous These must have extern and digestive organs, which render it so much less suitable for this recely alcoholic purpose than the many harmless and less costly articles of diet, which required to be rould produce all its good results without its evil.

The above short account of the products of the grape must be kept in view throughout our investigations, since without distinguishing between the wines and other substances produced from the grape, it will be impossible properly to appreciate the Scripture testimony.

THE OLD TESTAMENT.

If any person desirous of information on the wine question, consults the English version of the Old Testament, he will probably be very much puzzled in attempting to decide what are the views of the inspired writers respecting wine. He will find it in some passages mentioned as one of God's greatest temporal benefits, and associated with those productions which are most useful and agreeable to man. In other places he will find it associated with vice of every kind, and its use as a beverage decidedly discouraged. I have little doubt that many persons really desirous of information on this point, have given up in despair the attempt to obtain any unequivocal decision from the Old Testament. The reason of these apparent contradictions is, however, a very simple one. In the authorised version, eight Hebrew words, some of them denoting wines, others the grape itself or its juice in different states, are translated by the English word wine, qualified by the adjectives mixed, new, sweet, &c.; and consequently any passage to which the English reader refers, may apply to articles entirely different from wine, as we usually understand that word. In making this statement, I do not wish to bring any general charge of inaccuracy against the authorised version of the Scriptures. It is, however, well known that its translations of the names of ojects of natural history and domestic use are often incorrect, both because when it was made the knowledge of the natural history and

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domestic manners of eastern countries was very imperfeet; and because many objects of this kind have no English names, or nothing exactly equivalent to them There are indeed, some words of these in modern usage. kinds whose meaning is still involved in some doubt; and we shall find that one or two of those bearing on the wine question are in this predicament. In pursuing that branch of our subject which relates to the Hebrew Scriptures, it will therefore be necessary to inquire into the real meaning of the terms employed; and perhaps the simplest method of treating the whole of this department will be to consider under each word the texts in which it is I shall begin with those words which do not contained. denote wine usually so called.

1. "TIROSH"—VINTAGE FRUIT.

This is one of the most important words in relation to the Scripture testimony regarding wine. It occurs in thirty eight places, in all of which it is rendered in the authorised version by the word wine, sometimes with the adjectives new and sweet; and in most of which it is mentioned in an approving manner. The word is derived from Yarash to possess or inherit, and this used to be explained as implying that Tirosh possesses or takes possession of a man by its intoxicating power; but it seems much more probable, and more in accordance with the scriptural use of the word, that it is taken from the root above named, because "tirosh" was a principal part of the possession or inheritance of an Israelite. However this may be, it is now well established by the inquiries of various late writers, that the word does not denote wine of any kind; and this I think can easily be proved by a few of the passages in which it occurs.

1. It is said to be trodden in the wine press, Micah vi. 15, "Thou shalt tread the olives, but shalt not anoint thee with oil, and the new wine (*Tirosh*) but shalt not

drink wine." Here it is plain that the "tirosh" was to be trodden to make wine, as the olives were to make oil, -consequently the grape is meant. A similar passage is in Prov. iii. 10, where it is said of the man who honors the Lord with his substance that his "presses shall burst with new wine," that is, with the grapes to be trooden (2.) It is united with the Hebrew words Dagan (corn) and Yitzhar (translated in our version. "oil," but properly a general term for various kinds of fruit, and rendered by recent writers "orehard fruit,"), and these three words are used to denote the whole vegetable produce of the promised land. Deut. vii. 13, affords a good instance of this: "He will bless the fruit of thy land, thy corn, thy wine, (Tirosh) and thine oil, (orchard fruit) and in Nehemiah x. 37, the fruit of all manner of trees," is called "winc (Tirosh) and oil" (yitzhar.) The same three words are used to denote the tithes and first fruits, which it is well known included grain and all sorts of fruit, (Deut! xxvi., Numb. xxvii. 30); and if these words denoted only corn, wine and oil, as they are rendered in Num. xviii. 12, Deut. xiv. 23, and other places, it is evident that the law would not extend to the whole produce of the vineyard, nor to figs, dates, citrons, &c., of which nevertheless the Hebrews gave the tithes and first fruits. It is plain, therefore, that "Tirosh" must have had a much more general meaning than that The first fruits of "Tirosh" as well as (3.)those of corn and orehard fruit, are said to have been "eaten," (Deut. xii. 17, and xiv. 13) and although the Hebrew verb used in these passages has a somewhat more general meaning than the English "eat," it is not usually employed to denote drinking wine. There is one passage (Is. lxii. 8, 9,) in which the tithe of "Tirosh" is said to be

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^{*}The proper word for oil is shemen. The olive was, however, probably one of the fruits included in the general term yitzhar. In the original yitzhar is always associated with tirosh.

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drank; this is easily explained by the fact, that grapes are often pressed into a cup and the juice drank; and that the Israelites who lived at a distance from the temple, were allowed to substitute wine for their tithe of "Tirosh," (Deut. xxiv.) (4.) Tirosh is mentioned in terms which show that it was not a manufactured article, but a natural product. It was "gathered," like corn and fruit; Deut. xi. 14. It had a "season," like corn; Hosea ii. 9. It was dried up in the field by drought Haggai, i. 11, "I called for a drought on the land and on the mountains, on the corn and upon the Tirosh." Is. xxiv. 7: "The Tirosh mourneth, (hangeth its head) the vine languisheth." In Joel i. 10, the Tirosh and Yitzhar are said to be dried up in the field; and the prophet enumerates as the trees which produced them, the vine, fig-tree, pomegranate tree, palm tree and apple tree. In passages of this kind it is evident that the fruit hanging on the tree is meant, and not either wine or oil, which could not be said to be dried up by drought. Viewed in reference to the grape, these passages have great force, since the grape thrives in the driest soils and climates, and when it is withered on its stalk, there must be the very extremity of seorching drought. Lastly, I may mention that the word Tirosh is never associated with the idea of intoxication, which is frequently mentioned in connection with the words denoting wine.

The above reasons which might be supported by many additional passages, are I think sufficient to show that the word *Tirosh* denotes the produce of the vineyard, either gathered or on the stalk; or in other words, the crop of grapes or vintage fruit. I may mention here that the Hebrew has distinct words for a grape or berry, and for a cluster of grapes; and we shall find in the sequel that it has also distinct words for the juice of the grape in different states, and for wine. I may now proceed to consider the principal passages in which the mistransla-

tion of Tirosh has obscured the scripture testimony regarding wine.

In Gen. xxvii. 28, Isaac in blessing Jacob says, "God of a very give thee of the dew of heaven, and of the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine." In Jer. xxxi. 12, the prophet speaking of the redemption and in gathering of Israel, says, "Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the Lord, for corn and for wine and for oil." In Joel ii. 19, it is promised, "I will send you corn and wine and oil and ye shall be satisfied." In these passages the word "wine" should be "vintage fruit," the original being tirosh; and these are merely specimens of a class of passages of the same kind, to which may be added those verses, some of them already quoted, in which the destruction of the "tirosh" is predicted as a judgment on the sins of Israel.

In Judges ix. 13, in a parable in which the trees and shrubs are represented as speaking, the vine says, "shall I leave my wine (vintage fruit) which cheereth God and man?" As it appears in our version, this seems to refer to the exhilirating effects of wine, but the real reference is to the joy and feasting with which the vintage and the presentation of the first fruits to God were celebrated. A kindred passage, alluding to the rejoicing attending the harvest and vintage, is Ps. iv. 8, "Thou has put more gladness in my heart than they have in the time when their corn and wine (vintage fruit) increased." A somewhat similar expression occurs in Zech. ix. 17, "Corn shall make the young men cheerful, and new wine the The imputation against the Israelitish maidens, apparently conveyed in this passage, is entirely removed when we find that vintage fruit only is meant. word translated "cheerful" in this passage, however, more properly means to thrive or grow, and it is probable that the nutritive properties of corn and grapes are referred to, rather than the cheerfulness of the vintage.

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fatness of the Jer. xxxi. 12, d in gathering e and sing in r to the good. d for oil." you corn and n these passge fruit," the ely specimens which may be y quoted, in predicted as

the trees and e says, "shall reth God and eems to refer real reference ntage and the e celebrated. ng attending has put more time when l." A some-: 17, "Corn ew wine the ish maidens, ely removed neant. The e, however, d it is prod grapes are

vintage.

In 2 Kings xviii. and Isaiah xxxvi., we have a report ob says, "God of a very temperate speech from a very unlikely quarter. Rabshakheh, the envoy of the king of Assyria, in endeavoring to tempt the subjects of Hezekiah from their allegiance, says, "Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me, and eat ye every one of his vine and every one of his figtree, and drink ye every one of the waters of his own cistern, until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine (vintage fruit.)" This speech although of no authority in itself, is valuable as affording an indication of the tastes of the people of Judah, to which Rabshakeh would without doubt endeavor to accommodate his promises.

> A passage whose force and meaning are greatly obscured by the mistranslation of tirosh is Isaiah lxv. 8, "Thus saith the Lord, as the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith destroy it not for a blessing is in it, so will I do for my servants' sakes, that I may not destroy them all." As wine cannot be found in a cluster of grapes, this passage has in our version no plain or obvious meaning, unless the juice of the grape is understood, and even then it has little force; but when we introduce the true meaning of the Hebrew word, ripe grape or vintage fruit, a beautiful and expressive figure is at once developed. God's servantsin Israel are compared to ripe grapes in an unripe cluster, and this is not to be destroyed, for it is blessed, as a part of the consecrated first fruits, and as a presage of the coming vintage. So, we are told in the next verses, Israel would be preserved for the sake of God's elect who were in it.

There is but one verse in which any evil is attributed "Hosea iv. 11, idolatry and wine and new wine (vintage fruit) take away the heart." This is a passage sometimes quoted in arguing against wine; but it is probable that the wine and vintage fruit of this passage were offered to idols or used in idolatrous feasts, and that it is in this way that they are said to have taken away the hearts of God's people.

It thus appears that the proper translation of this word removes a considerable number of the texts which may be quoted in favor of wine. It may, however, be argued that since vintage fruit is the material for wine-making, the passages above quoted may be considered as indirectly approving of wine. It must not, however, be forgotten that there are other and important uses of the grape. From July, when the earliest grapes ripen in Palestine, till September, the Israelites had a constant succession of ripe grapes, and in plentiful seasons the time of the ripe grapes lasted even longer than this, (see Leviticus xxvi. 5.) In this point of view alone, a fruit so sweet, juicy and nutritive as the grape, was an inestimable blessing, especially in a warm and dry country, where fruit was probably used at every meal. Dried grapes also formed a staple article of diet, and the delicious grape syrup, among a people who were probably as fond of sweetmeats as other orientals, must have been highly valued, especially as cane sugar was then probably little known. These considerations are amply sufficient to justify the high place given to the grape among the bounties of Providence, if no wine had ever been made from it; and if wine-making were now to cease, they would still entitle the grape to rank among the most valuable fruits. We shall however, be in a better position for deciding on this point, when we have considered the testimony of the inspired writers respecting fermented wine.*

2. "ESHISHAH"—A CAKE OF RAISINS.

This word is derived from the root ashash, to press

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^{*} For farther discussion of the meaning of Tirosh, see Mearns' "Tirosh lo Yayin," and "Olive, Vine and Palm," also Kitto's and Eadie's Cyclopedias, Art. "Wine."

olatrous feasts, d to have taken

ion of this word: xts which may ever, be argued r wine-making, idered as indiowever, be fornt uses of the rapes ripen in had a constant ul seasons the than this, (see alone, a fruit was an inestidry country, meal. Dried and the deliere probably ust have been as then pros are amply to the grape ine had ever were now to rank among er, be in a

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together, and it is probably the name of a preparation of dried grapes, in the form of cakes, much used by the ancient Hebrews, and highly valued as a rich and nutritive article of food, as Buckingham informs us similar preparations of the grape and its juice, now are in the This word is translated in our version "flagons," and "flagons of wine," which must have been a mere inadvertence, as I believe most authorities ancient and modern are agreed that the word means at least a sweet cake of some sort. The word occurs only in four places. Two of these, 2 Sam. vi. 19, 1 Chron. xvi. 3, relate to the same occurrence: after the ark had been brought to Jerusalem, David is said to have given to every man and woman of the assembled multitude "a loaf of bread, a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine." This "flagon of wine" should be read a "cake of raisins." In Song ii. 5 the bride in our version says, "Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples,"—the more correct reading is, "Stay (nourish) me with raisin cakes." In Hosea iii. 1, the Israelites are accused of serving idols and "loving flagons of wine." Here also the original is cakes of raisins; and it is probable that these, like the vintage fruit referred to under last head, were offered to the idols or consumed in idolatrous feasts.

It may be proper to remark, before leaving this word, that cakes of figs were also in common use; and that bunches of dried grapes or raisins are also mentioned in several places as ordinary articles of food. (1 Sam. xxx. 10, & xxv. 18, 2 Sam. xvi. 1, 1 Chron. xii. 40.

3. "ASIS"-MUST.

This word is derived from the verb Asas, to tread; and it literally means that which is trodden out of the grape, namely, must, or the fresh juice of the grape, as it flows from the wine-press. In the authorised version it is translated new wine, sweet wine and in one place juice. This

substance was used as a drink in ancient times, thu the ancier Pharaoh's cup-bearer is represented as pressing the juic troubled into his cup; it was at the material from which wer redness; made syrups and wines is mentioned in the Scripture foams, be approvingly. In the Song of Solomon viii. 2, the juice o colored g the pomegranate is called Asis. In Isaiah xlix. 26, it i red also, t predicted of the oppressors of Israel that they shall be ed to exp "drunken with their own blood as with Asis." Here fermentat the reference is probably to the sickening effects of must, and blood, and the satiating or cloying property of the sweet must when drunk in large quantities; and not to intoxi sage (Det cation, which would be caused neither by must nor blood highly ne In Joel i. 5, Asis occurs in a connection which also at had made first sight appears to connect it with drunkenness. "Awake ye drunkards and weep, and howl ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine (Asis) for it is cut of from your mouth." In the following verses however this variety of is ascribed to an invader who had laid waste the vineyards, and thus cut off the must on which the drunkards the forme depended for their supplies of fermented wine. close of the same book (iii. 18) in a beautiful description of the latter-day prosperity of the church, it is predicted that "The mountains shall drop down new wine (Asis) and the hills shall flow with milk." And Amos (ix. 13) in a passage of similar import says "The mountains shall drop new wine, (Asis.)" In both of these passages the septuagint translation has "sweetness." the hills of Palestine especially that the vine flourished, and the prophets, in the predictions of future prosperity, represent the vine clad hills as loaded with a vintage so abundant that the sweet juice if expressed would flow down into the valleys below.

"HAMER"-FOAMING OR RED WINE.

This word is derived from *Chamar* to foam, be turbid, or be red, ideas which were very naturally connected by

according "the Bloc xxvii. 2, wine." this place appears a Daniel th wine, and sent, with on the wi of simple Palestine esteemed the rarit this view seriously

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^{*} Some the word d

iful description , it is predicted ew wine (Asis) Amos (ix. 13) The mountains these passages s." It was on vine flourished, ure prosperity, th a vintage so ed would flow

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ient times, thu the ancient Hebrews, as common to fermenting must and ressing the juic croubled waters. Our translators preferred the idea of com which wer redness; but since in fermenting, the juice of the grape in the Scripture founs, becomes turbid, and in the case of the juice of dark ii. 2, the juice of colored grapes fermented along with the skins, becomes th xlix. 26, it i red also, there can be no doubt that this word was intendat they shall be ed to express the state of the must during its first violent th Asis." Here fermentation. This is merely a temporary state of the oning effects of must, and one therefore not likely to be often mentioned; rty of the sweet accordingly this word occurs only thrice. In one pasnd not to intoxi sage (Deut. xxxii. 14) it is mentioned among a number of must nor blood highly nutritious and stimulating articles of food which which also at had made Jeshuron wax fat. In this place it is called drunkenness "the Blood of the grape." In the other passage, Isaiah owl ye drinkers xxvii. 2, God's church is compared to a "vineyard of red for it is cut off wine." This is supposed to refer to some particular ses however this variety of grape; but it is said that some copies have in waste the vine this place hemed "pleasant" instead of hamer, and perhaps the drunkards the former is the proper word. In psalm 75th hamar wine. In the appears as an ingredient in the cup of God's wrath. Daniel the Chaldee form of the word is used for ordinary wine, and the Arabic form appears to be in use at present, with the same general sense. Most modern writers on the wines of Scripture, are content to take the sense of simple redness for hamer; and state that the grapes of Palestine are chiefly red, and that red wines are more esteemed than white. These reasons do not accord with the rarity of the use of the word, and I cannot regard this view as other than superficial, though it does not seriously affect general views of the subject.

5.—"SHEMARIM"—LEES, PRESERVES.

This word is derived from Shamar, to preserve,* and it

^{*} Some writers give a different derivation for Shemarim, implying that the word denotes something drawn or heaped together. If this is correct,

with any of intoxic:

most commonly denotes the sediment deposited in bottom of newly fermented wine. The Hebrews te this substance Shemarim either because it was believ. This is preserve the flavor of the wine, or because it was rewine of a ed in the vessel after the wine was drawn off. Inprobably version it is rendered dregs or lees; but in one passaluct of the some importance to our present subject, "Wines opur Englis lees." This passage is Isaiah xxv. 6, in which many other promises spiritual blessing to his people under the emThere can of "Fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees mong th refined." Here, the only word answering to "windowever fi the lees," is Shemarim. Our translators seem to I fermen understood that the lees are here put for the wines" lik which was drawn off from them or had long stoodhe contri them. It seems, however, very improbable that in kins before scription referring to a sumptuous feast, the dregand perha refuse alone should be mentioned; especially as the at. In the pression, a feast of dregs, is evidently not fitted tovould be p before the mind the idea of delicious wines; and besvas the st it is not probable that wines which had long settle here wer their lees were esteemed by the Hebrews. For tvines were reasons some modern critics are inclined to believe ations of the word Shemarim here means some thick and richaented w serve made from the grape or other fruits. Viewe ther. In this way, the expression would be a "feast of presei3, and pe well purified." Whether or not this be the correct re juice; the ing of this difficult passage, it is evident that it can g. As umerous,

rder to gi it may have been applied to the seum taken from the surface of bespecting wines, rather than the sediment; and the former being both sweet 1. The nutritive, may when refined or purified have been the delicacy in quest I find no notice, however, of such an article as actually in use. In the prews a miah xlviii. 11, and Zeph. i. 12, wine settled on the lees is used as a survocal d bol of nations in a state of stolid indifference and wickedness. This first p sufficient to indicate that "wines en the lees" could hardly be an epifor good wine, though some critics have, with strange perversity, dr quite the opposite conclusion from this.

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with any certainty be cited as implying any approval of intoxicating wine.

ent deposited in he Hebrews ter

6. "YAYIN"—WINE.

se it was believ. This is the usual and generic word for manufactured cause it was rwine of all kinds, in the Hebrew Scriptures; and it is drawn off. Inprobably the original or most ancient name for the proout in one passatuct of the grape. The Greek oinos the Latin vinum, and ect, "Wines opur English wine, as well as the coresponding words in . 6, in which many other languages, appear to be a modification of it. le under the emPhere can be no doubt that some of the wines in use nes on the lees mong the Hebrews were highly intoxicating. I can ering to "windowever find no evidence that they allowed the process ators seem to fermentation to proceed so far as to produce "dry put for the wines" like those in common use in modern times. On had long stoodhe contrary it appears that the wine was enclosed in cobable that in kins before it had ceased to effervesce (Job xxxii. 19) east, the dregend perhaps without any previous fermentation in the especially as the st. In these circumstances, a sweet effervescing wine not fitted tovould be produced; and there can be little doubt that this wines; and best is the strongest wine known in Old Testament times. had long settle here were also allusions which shew that that boiled ebrews. For tvines were made; and that among the Jews, as in other ned to believe ations of ancient times, these luscious and scarcely ferthick and richaented wines were more highly esteemed than any fruits. Viewether. In a few places also as Isaiah xvi, 10, Jer. xlviii. "feast of preser, and perhaps Song ii. 5, the word yayin denotes must be the correct rajuice; this is, however, evidently an exceptional meanlent that it can's. As the passages in which this word occurs are umerous, I shall group them under distinct heads, in rder to give a more clear view of the general testimony

rder to give a more clear view of the general testimony m the surface of bespecting it.
er being both sweet 1. The more intoxicating kinds of wine known to the the delicacy in questorm are mentioned in the Old Testament with unetually in use. In febrews are mentioned in the Old Testament with une-

the delicacy in questional disapprobation. In proof of this I shall cite in advicedness. This first place some passages of the Book of Proverbs, a lid hardly be an epit.

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will be we book entering more minutely than any other into the dail in und tails of domestic morality. In Prov. xxiii., we have the ov. xx. strong dri following striking account of the effects of wine:

nature of "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? excite in Who hath contentions? who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? conclusion They that tarry long at the wine; ved there They that go to seek mixed wine? Look not upon the wine when it is red, When it giveth its eye (bubble) in the cup, when it movetmarkable itself aright, attention, At the last it biteth like a serpent, O Lemuel And stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, ces strong And thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sepervert th Or as he that lieth on the top of a mast. anto him They have stricken me—I was not hurt; They have beaten me—I felt not; that be bi ty, and re When shall I awake? I will seek it yet again."

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This passage is part of an admonition to an inexper The preenced young man, respecting his conduct in the worldion. The inspired writer first lays before him a strong state the intelle ment of the woes of those who tarry long at the wine indulges i and then abruptly enunciates the great truth that safet the duties lies only in abstinence. "Look not upon the wine." HBut in the then proceeds to illustrate this by a picture of the drunkneutralize ard's progress—the enticing wine—the kindling of licenwine to k tious passions—the uttering of the folly or wickedness of meane the heart—the reeling—the stupor and insensibility—anconvince Ndrown ou finally the insatiable craving for the stimulant. stronger warning has ever been given, and I quote it notended. only on account of its decided character, but also because were told It is despairing it specifies the kind of wine which is dangerous. that which is red, or as some read it "sparkles," botheets, that being properties acquired by the juice of the grape in it have left; fermentation. It is that which gives its bubble in the cup may be e a decided mark of fermented and effervescing wines; and honor, of we have already seen that these were probably the only To all suc Tvice of th highly intoxicating wines possessed by the Hebrews.

will be well therefore to keep this passage in mind, as an other into the daid in understanding others which are more obscure. In the tiii., we have the prov. xx. 1, we are informed that "wine is a mocker, of wine:

"trong drink is raging." This may refer either to the nature of the drinks themselves, or the disposition they excite in those who drink them; but in either sense the redness of eyes? conclusion of the proverb is true, "whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

The last chapter of the Proverbs contains a very reproperty, when it movemarkable advice on this subject, which deserves especial
attention, as it is often misapplied: "It is not for kings,
O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink; lest they drink and forget the law, and
he midst of the sepervert the judgment of the afflicted. Give strong drink
anto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those
that be bitter of soul; let him drink and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more."

n to an inexper The precept and the reason are both worthy of attenet in the worldtion. Rulers should not drink wine, because it impairs a a strong statethe intellect, because it blunts the feelings; the man who long at the windulges in such things is therefore less fitted to perform truth that safet the duties of a lawgiver or a judge, than he who abstains. on the wine." HBut in the minds of many, the latter part of the passage ure of the drunkneutralizes the effect of the former; if the one prohibits kindling of licenwine to kings, the other allows its use to soothe the cares or wickedness of meaner men. A moment's thought must however sensibility—anconvince any reflecting man, that such an advice as to stimulant. Ndrown our miseries in intoxicating drink never can be innd I quote it notended. The meaning is very different. It is as if we but also becausewere told that there are some men so poor, wretched and It idespairing, so devoid of all high hopes, duties or prosangerous. sparkles," botheects, that sensual gratification is the only solace they the grape in it have left; in such men a resort to intoxicating beverages ubble in the cup may be excusable, but not in those who have places of seing wines; and honor, of usefulness or responsibility to fill in the world. obably the only To all such, then, and especially to young men, the adlvice of the mother of Lemuel applies. he Hebrews.

Another remarkable fact in reference to intoxicating may wine, is that it is used as an emblem of the wrath wine in abret and God, and his judgments upon his enemies. In Ps lx. it is said that God in punishing his people had made the egard no to drink the "wine of astonishment," literally "reeling perations Another instance is Jer. xxiii. 15, "Take the wine clighty to of his fury in thine hand and cause all the nations trong dr whom I shall send thee to drink it; and they shall dring tinue and shall stagger and be mad." In the same book li. elect to Babylon is compared to a wine cup in the hand of the world Lord; and it is said "the nations have drunken of hach become wine, therefore the nations are mad." Such expressioner for al have been explained by the fact that in ancient timheir bloss stupefying draughts were sometimes administered to chicah con This can scarcely, hovess of Go minals before their execution. ever, apply to the above passages, since the wine is normhets, said to have caused stupor, but madness or fury, such pirit and The excit hee of wi would impel to foolish and violent actions. ment produced by wine is the emblem of that infatuationhet of t by which wicked men are made, in the providence bundance heir prais God, to work out their own destruction.

Its use was forbidden to the priests, when ministerin as not t nany inst in the tabernacle and temple. "Do not drink wine strong drink when ye enter into the tabernacle of thil these e The sta congregation, thou nor thy son with thee, lest ye die. And we find the prophets in later times lamenting an ed under ntoxicati denouncing the violation of this rule. Isaiah tells of the shepherds of Israel, of his day "Come ye, say they uspicion, we will fetch wine, and fill ourselves with strong drink; ountenant and this was a time when the "beasts of the field devourer of pas ed God's heritage," when "the righteous perished and though 2. The no man laid it to heart." See also Is. xxviii. 7.

Wine is also noticed in the prophetical books in connect the institution with the sins and defections of Israel, and its use stated appeared to be a cause and accompaniment of the decline of piety proper "Woe unto those that rise up early in the morning, the

e to intoxicating may follow strong drink; that continue until night, of the wrath wine inflame them; and the harp and the viol and In Ps lx. shret and pipe and wine, are in their feasts. But they ies. ole had made the egard not the work of the Lord, neither consider the terally "reeling perations of his hands." "Woe unto them that are ake the wine clighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle all the nations trong drin..." Is. v. Here we find that those who d they shall dring tinue long at wine, and have wine in their feasts, e same book li. exlect to consider the dealings of God to his people and the hand of the world; and in the context we are told that when drunken of have become mighty to drink wine, they become power-Such expressions for all good. "Their root shall be as rottenness, in ancient timber blossom shall go up as the dust." The prophet ministered to clicah concludes a powerful description of the wickedan scarcely, houess of God's professing people, and their disregard of the e the wine is normalism, with these words: "If a man walking in the s or fury, such pirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophecy unto The excit hee of wine and strong drink, he shall even be the proons. of that infatuationet of this people." A man who should predict an the providence bundance of intoxicating drinks, or become eloquent in heir praise, would be the favourite prophet of the people. when ministerin as not the christian church in like manner seen, in t drink wine chany instances, the use of intoxicating drinks leading to

tabernacle of thill these evils.

hee, lest ye die The statements of the Scriptures to which I have referes lamenting an ed under this head, sufficiently show that fermented or Isaiah tells untoxicating wine is regarded at least with very strong ome ye, say they uspicion, by the inspired writers; in truth actually disith strong drink; ountenanced. We must now, however, refer to a numthe field devourer of passages, which unless properly understood, may ous perished and thought to neutralize the force of those above quoted. 2. There is a kind of manufactured wine countenanced xviii. 7.

books in connect the inspired writers of the Old Testament. This will l, and its use statot appear surprising, when we reflect on the very differe decline of piety nt properties of the various kinds of wine noticed in the he morning, the atroduction. We should, however, expect these more harmless wines to be in some way distinguished in the passage words of Scripture from the stronger beverages, noticed natural under the preceding head; and though both are named "yayin," we shall find that the points of difference are noted, at least in some places.

The first passage which I shall notice under this head is Prov. ix. 2 & 5, where wisdom is said to have "mingled her wine" and to invite all to a feast of which this ming led wine is a part. This is a figurative passage; but yet there must be a reference to some beverage in common use and probably highly esteemed. It cannot be that kind of wine which is forbidden in other parts of the same book. It is not said to be red or to give its bubble in the cup, but it is "mingled," and the only two kinds of mingling employed by the Hebrews were mixing with drugs and diluting with water or milk. The first of these. is plainly condemned wherever it is mentioned; it must therefore be dilution that is meant here. The wine approved of in this passage is therefore wine diluted with water, and as we have already seen, the only wine usually drunk in this way in ancient times was the thick boiled wine, which possesses scarcely any intoxicating power, and is not therefore of such dangerous tendency as ordin ary fermented wine; especially when mixed with water Another passage of a very similar kind is Isaiah, lv. 1 "Come ye to the waters; And he that hath no money come, buy and eat, yea, come buy, wine and milk." Here the association with water and milk, leads to the belief that the harmless wine usually mixed with these substances is intended, and employed as an emblem of spiritual In Psalm civ. and 15, the Psalmist, in enumerating the natural bounties of God, mentions "wine that maketh glad the heart of man and oil that maketh his face to shine;" or, as the latter part is more correctly rendered in the margin of the authorized version, "maketh his face to shine more than oil." This is the only

natural natural probably it, howe which m perty be lic produ ises, wit a right t to harm the Song of less d boiled a in the C teemed, incapabl from the the intr taste of preserve peared f spect the worse th however will be a

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under this head o have "mingled which this ming passage; but yet rage in common cannot be that er parts of the o give its bubble only two kinds vere mixing with The first of these. ntioned; it must

The wine ap

ne diluted with nly wine usually the thick boiled exicating power, ndency as ordin xed with water is Isaiah, lv. 1 hath no money and milk." Here ads to the belief th these substanlem of spiritual salmist, in enunentions "wine oil that maketh s more correctly l version, "makhis is the only

inguished in the passage in which I find Yayin mentioned as one of God's verages, noticed natural bounties; and as it occurs in a psalm where both are named natural blessings only are referred to, the word is here of difference are probably used for the whole produce of the vine. Taking it, however, as it stands, the kind of wine meant is that which maketh the face to shine, or fattens; and this property belongs to the saccharine, not to the purely alcoholie products of the grape. This passage therefore harmonises, with those already noticed. I think that we have a right to apply the light given by the above references to harmless wines, to Amos ix. 14, and a few passages in the Song of Solomon in which wine is mentioned in terms of less direct approval. We may therefore conclude that boiled and sweet wines are permitted and even approved in the Old Testament, evidently because they were esteemed, and justly so, delicious and nutritive; and were incapable of producing the lamentable effects flowing from the stronger beverages. It is to be regretted that the introduction of distilled liquors has so vitiated the taste of men, that boiled wines and the juice of the grape preserved by being heated, have almost entirely disappeared from the list of ordinary beverages. In this respect the so-called Christian world of modern times, is worse than ancient Israel in its worst days. We may however hope that a time is approaching when the grape will be applied to better uses, when men will drink of the wine which is mingled by wisdom, and abandon the inebriating draughts which bring so many woes both physical and moral.

3. There are a few passages which appear to approve of intoxicating wines, but in reality have no such tend-The first of these which attracts attention is Deut. xiv. 54, where the Israelite is allowed to bestow his money for wine or strong drink; and to drink them in the tabernacle before God. This injunction occurs in the following circumstances. The people were commanded

to bring the tithe of their corn, vintage fruit, &c., and be ascr them before the Lord in the tabernacle; but if their reclude, the dence was so distant that they could not do this, the inte were to convert the tithes into money, and having the colour paired to the place of the tabernacle, were there to les to milk such articles of food or drink as they chose and to fe3d with a Here therefore therenpare the on these instead of their tithes. a permission to use wine and strong drink as substitud Rev. xi for the vintage and other fruits; and as the word yarran, we is used in the law without any qualification, we are red with infer that the kind of wine was left to the discretionnepress o the offerer, regulated however by the other precepts e, in no the word of God, and probably also by the obvious everages. sideration that what approached nearest to the vint4. I may fruit, instead of which it was taken, was to be preferrow light It is evident, however, that this permission of wine on The first especial occasion has little bearing on questions regards, is in unkennes ing its habitual use. In Ecclesiastes xix. 7, we greed him exhorted to "drink wine with a merry heart." phrase a merry heart does not however necessarily imprid of se that intoxicating wine is meant; and besides, it appene; a less from the context that the preacher is here rather statl at the o the opinions of a large class of worldly men, than givi Adam's i This passage therefore in no respect conte of the f dicts the strong admonitions given in other places by st offende represen same writer. unkennes

Another very remarkable passage is in Genesis x 11 and 12, where the Shiloh, predicted to arise from tribude tribe of Judah, is said to have "washed his garments wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes," and said to have "Eyes red (dark or flashing) with with teeth white with milk." In reference to the latter profit of this quotation, I may remark that the idea of rednotes or flashing from a free use of wine, cannot be intended in the properties of the same appears of the same appears of the same which Solomon attributes to the drunkard, shot do, in late the same appears of the same which Solomon attributes to the drunkard, shot do, in late the same appears of the same which Solomon attributes to the drunkard, shot do, in late the same appears of the same which Solomon attributes to the drunkard, shot do, in late the same appears of the same appears

erry heart."

e fruit, &c., and to be ascribed to the Redeemer. We must therefore e; but if their reclude, though with or from wine is the literal reading, not do this, the intention is to compare the darkness of the eyes ey, and having the colour of wine. This view also makes the referwere there to 136 to milk intelligible, since the teeth cannot be whitchose and to fead with milk; but may be white like milk. therefore therempare the first part of the passage with Isaiah lxiii., rink as substitud Rev. xix. and 15, which are descriptive of the same as the word yarran, we shall find that the garments are represented fication, we are red with wine, because the Redeemer was to tread the to the discretion nepress of God's wrath. This part of Scripture, thereother precepts'e, in no way recommends the use of intoxicating by the obvious everages.

rest to the vint. I may now notice a few historical passages which

vas to be preferrow light on this subject.

ssion of wine on The first appearance of the word yayin in the Scripquestions regards, is in Genesis ix. where we are informed of the es xix. 7, we unkenness of Noah. The good man, whose faith supnrted him as the sole preacher of righteousness in a r necessarily im orld of scoffers, debased himself in his old age with besides, it appe ne; a lesson surely to good men in every age. Noah' here rather statl at the outset of the post-diluvian world reminds us y men, than givi Adam's in the Antedeluvian; and it is singular that no respect conte of the first results in each case, was that a son of the other places by st offender became an outeast. Cain and Ham seems represent each other; and thus the first instance of is in Genesis x unkenness formed the initial step in the reduction of to arise from e of the three great families of men to barbarism and d his garments rvitude It has been urged in extenuation of the congrapes," and let of Noah, that he was probably unaware of the thing) with wioperties of wine. This is quite possible, as he seems to to the latter pive been the first cultivator of the vine; and we have the idea of redn account that he afterwards gave way to intemperance. annot be intend is possible also that Noah's wine may have been very same appeared, and may have run on further in drunkard, shot elcoholic fermentation, than it was usually permitted do, in later times.

There are a number of historical notices, which she that wine was in common use among the Israelites and neighboring nations. When the Israelites assembled that applist approximation is a second of the sec make David king, wine is mentioned among the article and is the on which they feasted. David is said to have had "win Samson w cellars," though there seem to have been store houses for his mothe the whole produce of the vineyards. Solomon sent very large quantity to Hiram king of Tyre, along with other articles for the provision of the Tyrian wood-cut the food a ters, in Lebanon. Nehemiah prepared once in ten day tion of he "wine of all kinds" for the princes who feasted with him I need not enter into any particular examination of these of abstine passages, since they afford no information respecting the cestor Jel precise kinds of wine used, and can in no way change the meaning of the more didactic portions of Scripture. There are however some passages which go far to shew, that their atte wine of any kind was used but in small quantity by the ed with good men of Israel. For instance, in the present of food temperar and wine made by Abigail to David, the proportion of wine is very small, even when we assign the largest possible dimensions to the skin bottles employed; and in been interested that of Ziba, made when David was fleeing from Absalom, time. still smaller (1 Sam. 25, 18.; 2 Sam. 16, 1.)

The historical parts of the Bible afford some instances three yo of total abstinence which are worthy of attention. first of these is the institution of Nazaratism, or separation in a peculiar manner to God. From the terms in which this institution is referred to by Moses, it may be inferred that it existed in some form prior to the institution of the ceremonial law, and was merely regulated by The vow of the Nazarite included abstinence from wine even of the most harmless kinds, and it concerns our present subject only as showing, that, under the old dispensation, a vow of this kind was favourably regard by the divine law. Nazaritism existed for a long period. Amos represents God as saying, "I have raised up of

your youn wine to d which the drink, tha a distinct

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re raised up of

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ces, which shew your young men for Nazarites but ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink," and this was one of the sins against e Israelites an which the people of that time were warned. John the tes assembled to Baptist appears to have followed the rules of Nazaritism, ong the article and is the last Nazarite we read of in the Scriptures. have had "win Samson was a Nazarite; and it is worthy of notice, that store houses for his mother was directed to abstain from wine and strong Solomon sent drink, that that her son might be a Nazarite from birth; yre, along with a distinct recognition of the well known principle that yrian wood-cut the food and drink of the mother influence the constituonce in ten days**tio**n of her unborn child.

The Rechabites furnish another historical illustration nination of these of abstinence. They had been commanded by their ann respecting the cestor Jehonadab the son of Rechab, to abstain from wine, way change the and had scrupulously obeyed the injunction. Scripture. There adduced by the prophet as an example of obedienc. ar to shew, that their attention to the advice of Jehonadab being contrastquantity by the ed with the disobedience of the Jews to God. present of food temperance is therefore not the primary object of the ne proportion of prophet's approbation, though no disapprobation of it is the largest pos expressed; and it is not unlikely that this also may have ployed; and in been intended as a rebuke to the intemperance of the g from Absalom, time.

Another instance is, the abstinence of Daniel and his some instances three young companions in the palace of Nebuchadnez-They refused the Royal delicacies and wine offered tism, or separa to them, and adopted a vegetable diet and water; and the result was that their countenances appeared "fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat of the king's meat." We are not informed that there was any miracle in this ease: it was merely the consequence of a simple and unstimulating diet.

> I have now, I believe, stated all that is material to the testimony respecting the wines known to the Hebrews by the name yayin; and it must have been observed, how different that testimony is from the character given

to the harmless "Tirosh," vintage fruit. Vintage fruit is always a blessing, "yayin" most frequently an occasion of evil. The utmost that can be said in favor of the latter, is that those kinds, as the boiled wines, which have little or no exhilerating power, are countenanced. The stronger and more inebriating kinds, which approached more nearly to those of modern times, are warned against, used as emblems of divine wrath, and stated to be occasions of declension in Israel.

7. SOBHE.

This word is derived from the verb Saba, to drink freely or tope: and the nature of the beverage to which it refers is not well ascertained. It would seem to have been a drink highly prized by the luxurious in the worst times of Israel; but whether of high intoxicating power or not, seems uncertain. It occurs only in three passages (Is. i. 22; Nahum i. 10; Hosea iv. 18.) and as these neither throw much light on the nature of the substance, nor are material to our present subject, they may be passed by without further consideration.*

8. "MESECH"—MIXTURE

Is derived from Masach to mingle, and is usually rendered mixture or mixed wine. It was customary in ancient times, especially with those who were regular winebibbers, and required some additional stimulus for their jaded palates, to mix their wine with odoriferous

ces when Psalm la drink ou probably wrath to wine is that is, ture," p

of it.

Havi lated w useful v ous mix dence r ment. dried, a the ins uable g contai: are co Third wines writer excep ticed given neith stine wine the s gives

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^{*} Must boiled till only one third remained, was called Sapa by the Romans, and the same name is still given in France to the grape conserve, called Raisine. It has been supposed that the Hebrew Sobhe may have referred to something of this kind, but its derivation and the connection in which it occurs, rather lead to the conclusion that it was a strong wine, used in an unmixed state by intemperate persons in the days of Israel's declension. Gesenius understands the word in Hosea iv. 18, to denote a carouse.

Vintage fruit nently an occaaid in favor of boiled wines, or, are counteg kinds, which orn times, are ne wrath, and ael.

aba, to drink rage to which seem to have s in the worst xicating powin three pasional as these of the subject, they may

s usually rencomary in anwere regular stimulus for odoriferous

Sapa by the Rogrape conserve, ew Sobhe may and the connecit was a strong the days of Isea iv. 18, to denot to a great extent; and is reprobated in the few places where it is noticed (Prov. xxiii. 29; Is. v. 32.) In Psalm lxxv. God is represented as making the wicked drink out to the dregs a cup of mixed wine, and this is probably the strongest form of that comparison of God's wrath to wine, previously noticed; for it is said that the wine is "red," or more literally "turbid or foaming;" that is, in a state of fermentation; and it is "full of mixture," probably of intoxicating drugs; and all the wicked of the earth are to wring and drink the very dregs of it.

Having thus noticed the various Hebrew words translated wine, in the English Bible; proceeding from the useful vintage fruit, in regular gradation, to the poisonous mixed wines; I may shortly sum up the general evidence respecting wine as mentioned in the Old Testa-First, it is evident that the grape both fresh and dried, and its unfermented juice, are highly valued by the inspired writers, and numbered among the most valuable gifts of God to man. Secondly, that boiled wines, containing little spirit, and usually diluted when drunk, are countenanced, and were esteemed even by good men. Thirdly, that efferveseing and other highly fermented wines, were regarded with distrust by the inspired writers, were not used, or used in very small quantity, except by the dissolute; and are in several places noticed with strong disapprobation, and earnest warnings given against them. Fourthly, that the Old Testament, neither by precept nor example, in any way opposes abstinence from wine. Fifthly, that since the ordinary wines now in use, contain as much or more spirit than the strongest of those known to the Hebrews, the Bible gives us no reason to regard such wines as useful beverages, much less as blessings bestowed by God.

SHECHAR,—STRONG DRINK.

This is in some respects a doubtful word, though herely retestimony respecting the use of the article intended w no mes it is not obscure. It is derived from the root Shakar the remains be satiated or drunken, and from the meaning of relathic cerem words in other languages, it may be inferred that Shacle, app char originally meant some sweet liquid; but there e Chechar be no doubt, that as generally used in the Hebrew Scr. he bount tures, it is the name of an intoxicating beverage, or beaction w erages, different from wine. Various opinions have bethe latter entertained respecting its precise nature; but withelen to Pr entering into the controversies which have been rais Nazarites respecting it, I may state, that the most probable vieprophets, is, that a drink prepared from the juice of the palm trwithout a This substance in its recent state is a swethe estin and agreeable beverage, and by evaporation a kind held. sugar, called in India Zhaggery, is obtained from it. Btresses be fermentation it may be converted into a kind of Beer the song Palm wine, now used in some parts of the East; and bachechar distillation a kind of arrack or ardent spirit may be of David th The fermented palm wine is probable scoffing tained from it. the liquid most commonly meant by the Hebrew Sh in distre char; but as we are informed by Herodotus that at a deficient early period a distilled liquor was obtained from the pala ject of h juice in Babylonia, it is probable that palm arrack of 1 have spirit may sometimes be meant.* There is no evidence a sufficihowever that the art of distillation was practiced by the used in Israelites themselves. Whatever the precise strength of drink, o this beverage, it cannot be questioned that it is unfavor without ably regarded by the inspired writers.

The only passage in which it is permitted, is Deut. xiv. distille 24. where it is allowed to be used as a substitute for the ing of

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^{*}Beer made from barley was in use in ancient Egypt, and it is just possible that this also may have been included under the term Shechar.

DRINK.

ined from it.

orm Shechar.

ithe of fruits. Without entering into the question wheher an intoxicating drink is meant in this place, I may word, though therely remark that this permission, in one especial case, rticle intended y no means implies approval as an ordinary beverage. the root Shakar the remarks already made respecting the use of wine in neaning of relathis ceremony of the presentation of tythes in the taberinferred that Shacle, apply equally to "shechar."

uid; but there a Shechar is never mentioned as a blessing, or as one of the Hebrew Scr. he bounties of Providence. It generally occurs in conbeverage, or beaction with wine, and this always in passages in which pinions have bethe latter is discountenanced: for example, it is forbidure; but withelen to Priests, (Lev. x. 9.) to rulers (Prov. xxxi. 4.) to have been rais Nazarites (Num. vi. 3.) and it is denounced by the later ost probable vieprophets, (Is. v. 11. &c.) One passage in which it occurs of the palm trwithout any mention of wine, is alone sufficient to show nt state is a swethe estimation in which it and those who used it were oration a kind held. In the sixth Psalm, David in pouring out his dis-Itresses before God, concludes with the complaint, "I am a kind of Beer the song of the drunkards," literally of the drinkers of the East; and hashechar." It is evident, therefore, that in the time of spirit may be of David those who drank strong drink were viewed as wine is probable scoffing and ungodly men, ready to mock at a good man the Hebrew Sh in distress, and perhaps, like some modern tipplers, not dotus that at a deficient in the power of making his calamities the subed from the pala ject of humorous songs to enliven their social meetings.

palm arrack a I have now examined in a summary, though I trust in e is no evidence a sufficiently careful and candid manner, all the words practiced by the used in the Hebrew scriptures to denote intoxicating ecise strength of drink, or so translated in our version; and I think I may at it is unfavor without fear leave it to the conscience of any good man to decide whether the use of the strong alcholic and ted, is Deut. xiv. distilled liquors of modern times, accords with the teachbstitute for the ing of the Old Testament. We must now proceed to enquire, whether the revelation of greater light and libt, and it is just pos. erty contained in the New Testament, is less strict in its requirements than the older dispensation, or more in ac-

well as i somethin question.

why? I had arriv

cordance with the drinking usages of modern nation cumstand calling themselves christian.

THE NEW TESTAMENT.

In entering upon this branch of our subject, we might likely es be led by the results of our inquiries into the testimon whom th of the Old Testament, to expect a still more decided an afterward precise disapproval of intoxicating drinks. In this, how attention ever, we would in some degree be disappointed. The had not New Testament, though a clearer revelation of God bound to will, deals much less in minute details than the old. I can at on enunciates great general principles, and leaves their ap son, and It seek in part at plication to the mind enlightened by the Spirit. to renew the inner man, that his deeds may not be evil farther in not to regulate every minute part of his conduct that at wine to be outwardly good man may be made up of these details that in ar In the New Testament, therefore, we have few direct teemed. references to wine; but we have broad general truths wines, pr which should guide the christian in his conduct in rela portion of tion to it. Before proceeding to the consideration of they are these, however, it will be necessary to notice some partinearly d cular references to wine, which are supposed by many to this occa be adverse to total abstinence. in genera

1. The first passage of this class to which I shall direct have bee attention, is the narrative of the Marriage of Cana, where men. We our Saviour turned water into wine, thereby apparently aculously not only sanctioning its use, but giving it the character if any act of a "good creature of God." Before deciding on the extion, the act significance of this miracle, in reference to our subject, because it will be necessary to attend to the circumstances in Some we which it occurs. Like all Christ's miracles, this was for less of intended to "manifest forth his glory," and to cause men ing that to believe on him. We generally find, however, that the had been wonderful works of the Saviour were performed in circuit the

modern nation comstances which made them direct acts of kindness, as

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appointed. have few direct teemed.

nd to cause men ing that it was the custom to reserve bad wines until men wever, that the had become so far intoxicated as to be unable to distinrformed in eir-guish them from good. We cannot, however, suppose

well as illustrations of his power; and indications of something of this nature will be found in the case in question. We are told that they "wanted wine"-but why? The most probable answer is, that more guests had arrived than had been provided for, and the most ubject, we migh likely cause of this was, that the presence of Jesus (to to the testimon whom the occurrences at his baptism, and the intimations nore decided an afterwards given by John had perhaps already attracted s. In this, how attention) had drawn together a number of persons who The had not been expected, but whom the bridegroom was elation of God bound to entertain. If these were the circumstances, we than the old. I can at once account for the appeal made by Mary to her l leaves their ap Son, and for his readiness to remove an embarrassment, Spirit. It seek in part at least occasioned by his own presence. may not be evil farther informed that the ruler of the feast declared the conduct that as wine to be good or excellent; now we have already seen of these details that in ancient times the sweetest wines were most es-The most valuable kinds were the thick syrupy general truths wines, prepared either from boiled must, or from the first conduct in rela-portion of must which oozes from the ripe grapes before consideration of they are pressed, and which is very saccharine, and ptice some partinearly destitute of ferment. If the wine produced on osed by many to this occasion had been an alcoholic wine, like those now in general use there can scarcely be a doubt that it would ch I shall direct have been pronounced bad and unfit for use by sober of Cana, where men. We must therefore infer, that the wine thus mirreby apparently aculously produced, was remarkably sweet, and of little it the character if any acoholic strength. It is also deserving of attending on the extion, that the ruler remonstrates with the bridegroom e to our subject, because he had not presented this good wine at first. reumstances in Some writers, ignorant of the customs of the period, or acles, this was for less creditable reasons, have explained this as mean-

that a practice so opposite to the precepts of the Old Testament, could have prevailed in the time of our Saviour, or if it had, that he would have sanctioned it. The real nature of the custom is very different. age feasts usually lasted seven days, during which guests were going and coming, and the quantity of wine required depended on their number. In these circumstances, hospitality required that if a bridegroom had wine of d'iferent qualities, he should offer the best as long as any of it remained; when it was exhausted, if his guests were not all satisfied, he might be obliged to present an inferior quality. If on the contrary he gave the worst first, he would subject himself, to a charge of niggardliness or selfishness, in offering the worst to his friends, and desiring to reserve the best for his private use. probably for this reason that the ruler desired an explanation of the tardy appearance of the good wine.

It thus appears that the miracle of Cana exhibits the approbation only of the sweet and harmless wine, which we have already seen is countenanced in the Old Testament. The moderate drinkers of our day must therefore banish their strong and brandied wines, and confine them selves to such a beverage as a conscientious Israelite of that time would call good wine, before we can allow them to derive any encouragement from the marriage of Cana

2. In Math. xi., and Luke vii., we are informed that the Jews accused our Saviour of being a wine-bibber and a glutton. "John came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and ye say he hath a devil." John's abstinence gave them no ground for accusing him of intemperance but his austere life in the desert enabled them to accuse him of being a demoniac. Jesus on the contrary, came eating and drinking, partaking of the hospitality and eating at the tables of all classes of people, and hence they accused him of being "a man gluttonous and a wine-bibber," that is, a free drinker of wine. The Jews

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ots of the Old ie time of our e sanctioned it. Marrifferent. ng which guests of wine requircircumstances, m had wine of t as long as any f his guests were esent an inferior e worst first, he niggardliness or friends, and dete use. It was sired an explan-

d wine. ana exhibits the less wine, which n the Old Testa y must therefore nd confine them tious Israelite of e can allow them narriage of Cana re informed that wine-bibber and bread nor drink ohn's abstinence of intemperance, d them to accuse e contrary, came hospitality and ople, and hence gluttonous and a vine. The Jewi

knew that wine-bibbing was incompatible with the character of a prophet; our Savour, however, treats the accusation as a calumny, not originating in his conduct, which was temperate and blameless, but in their own disposition to find fault. He tells them that wisdom is "justified" or vidicated by all her children. The circumstances and mission of John required one mode of life, those of Jesus another, and to those who were guided by true wisdom, both would appear equally proper. quite possible that this reference to wisdom may have been intended to remind the auditory of the beautiful passage in Proverbs already noticed, in which wisdom is represented as mingling her wine and inviting men to her feast,—a different kind of wine and a different feast from those of wine-bibbers and gluttons.

3. In Luke v., we are incidentally informed that "no man putteth new wine into old bottles (or skin bags) else the new wine will burst the bottles;" and also, that "no man having drank old wine straightway desireth new, for he saith the old is better." This passage has little direct bearing on our subject; but it has been applied to it, and is besides not very lucidly explained by a number of commentators. Some doubt rests on the nature of the custom referred to. The Jews as we have already seen put their new wine into skin bottles before fermentation was finished, in order probably that the pressure of the bag might impede the process and preserve the sugar as far as possible unchanged, and in this way they probably produced sweet or effervescing wines; but they were also accustomed to bottle up must, either recent or boiled, to preserve it from contact with the air, and prevent it fermenting or becoming acid. Now in either case it would be improper to put the new wine into old bottles, because the inside of the old skin would be coated with the yeast and dregs of former wine, or its surface might be in a state of partial decay, and thus the new wine would

be placed in contact with substances which would prote to old duce or accelerate fermentation, and cause a strain which we age. the hide weakened by age would be unable to bear. The nex The new wine therefore, of this parable, might have of the been either pure must, intended to be kept sweet, for to the must, in incipient fermentation, bottled, to moderate a most ehr retard the process. Let us now attend to the object attion, and meaning of the parable.

It had been objected to Christ's disciples that they k, can th not fast, whereas John's disciples and the pharisees fast most pr often. In answer to that part of the objection whidmit mo referred to John, the parable of the bridegroom and swer my "ehildren of the bride-chamber" is given; that which tle invest ferred to the fasts of the pharisees is answered in lling to parable now under consideration. I cannot better gricating its meaning than in these words of Scott. "They (ry outset Jews) wanted to mend the pharisaical religion, whented v was as an old worn out garment, with the gospel; an ant is use put the "new wine" of the gospel, into the "old botth pleyed t of the antiquated ceremonies of the Mosaic law, and it there are traditions of the elders." The gospel is compared to pper was wine, and it would not do to put it into the forms and is now, as emonies belonging to the older dispensation, or devistom of t by the Jews themselves, and which would corrupt wened by eventually destroy it. The concluding sentence of ay use st parable merely carries out the same figure. Men lis exclus had been accustomed to drink old fermented wine we words o not relish the juice of the grape in its fresh or slighth chapte fermented state, and in the same manner, the Jews mented ing been accustomed to a religion contained in the bottles" of pharisaical forms, could not readily appl Two Hebre ate the superiority of the gospel. If the above be a of these see rect view of the parable, it is evident that we carh coour in F infer from it either an approval or disapproval of vome late w on the part of our Saviour, unless the circumstantin are regard the gospel being compared to new wine and the Jews at the

which would press to old, should be viewed as unfavorable to the latter use a strain whiterage.

unable to bear. The next event to which I shall allude is the instituable, might han of the Lord's Supper. It would be unnecessary to e kept sweet, for to this great christian ordinance, were it not that I, to moderate a most churches fermented wine is used in its administ to the object a ation, and that some well meaning persons adduce this

an argument in favor of intoxicating drinks. They iples that they k, can that which our Lord selected as the emblem of he pharisees fast most precious blood, be a deleterious beverage? and objection whidmit most fully that, if it were really so, the inevitable ridegroom and tswer must be, that it cannot be injurious. A very en; that which tle investigation must, however, convince any person answered in lling to be informed, that it was not necessarily incannot better gxicating wine that was used on that occasion. At the Scott. "They (ry outset of the inquiry, it must appear singular if cal religion, whented wine, which both in the Old and New Testathe gospel; an is used as an emblem of God's wrath, should be to the "old bott ployed to represent his greatest gift to fallen man. Mosaic law, and it there are other and more direct proofs. The Lord's is compared to pper was instituted at the feast of the Passover; and o the forms and is now, and seems to have always been, the prevailing nsation, or devistom of the Jews, to exclude from that feast not only would corrupt wened bread, but fermented wine, instead of which ng sentence of ay use steeped raisins or other unfermented liquors. e figure. Men is exclusion is founded on a literal interpretation of mented wine words of the original institution in Exodus, 12th & its fresh or slig th chapters, which in their strictest sense forbid all nner, the Jews mented things.* We have no intimation that our

not readily apply Two Hebrew words are translated "leaven" in the authorised version; the above be a of these seems to mean soured dough, the other ferment in general.—

lent that we can be occur in Ex. xiii. 7, where it is said "there shall not be seen with a fermented things."

lisapproval of come late writers while admitting that fermented drinks made from

the circumstantiare regarded as forbidden, and that raisin wine is commonly used by wine and the JevJews at the Passover endeavor to find evidence in the writings of vari-

Lord deviated from the usual practice; but on the con trary we nowhere find even the general term wine a plied to the beverage which he used. It is called the cup, that is the usual cup of the passover, and the "fruit (or produce) of the vine," an appellation quite as likel to be given to the boiled juice of the grape, or any other unfermented drink prepared from it and used at Passover, as to fermented wine. The reference made permit the our Saviour to drinking this fruit of the vine "new" the kingdom of his father, also seems to imply the versy re it was a preparation that was best when fresh, or imm diately after the vintage, whereas we have already see that in the opinion of those who drink fermented win "the old is better." We have therefore every ground believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted with unfo mented wine. **of th**e lea

These reasons, which might be much extended and illustrated, show that the use of fermented or alcoholin one of wine at the Lord's Table, is not founded on his examplamong the nor on any scripture precept; but like the use of leave and in an ed bread on the same occasion, merely on conveniencwine is or a belief that the kind of wine is immaterial. Cor. 11, 12, it would at first sight appear that this prajunctions tice is of as early a date as the time of the Apostles, sin aged won

ous rabbis that intoxicating wine is permitted, provided it has quite passrulers my the vinous fermentation and has no tendency to run into the acctous; and aged ditions not easy to fulfil in any kind of wine. Such distinctions may har This last been made, but they appear by no means reasonable, for the forment wine is the same chemically and botanically also, (for it is a microscop prohibite plant), with that of other fermented drinks, and on the same princiuse a litt leavened bread might also be allowed, since in it also the fermentation is at the tin an end, and, in consequence of the operation of baking, much more certain than it is in the oldest wine. The spirit of the Passover law as explainuse a litt Thby Paul in 1 Cor. 5, 7, 8, we think fully vindicates the Jew in the entops. exclusion of fermented things, and the use of unchanged natural productally me alone. For a view opposed to that given in the text and arguments in sto revelli port of it, the reader is referred to Eadie's Bible Cyclopedia art. "Winis drunk.

reference the Lord tion seem tion, but the disor an Chur

While,

they shor this parti ritual of worship; proach th sincerity

5. Pass From the spiri and ii 3.

but on the content of the Lord's Supper. In this place, however, the connectit is called the Lord's Supper. In this place, however, the connection, and the "fruition seems to require that we understand, not intoxicated, and the "fruition, but eating and drinking to excess, in consequence of a point as likely the disorderly practices which prevailed in the Corinthape, or any other and used at the While however, the friends of abstinence should not

While, however, the friends of abstinence should not reference made by permit this argument to be used against their principles, ne vine "new" they should be aware of raising any contention or controms to imply th versy respecting the present practice of the Church in n fresh, or imm this particular. The New Testament prescribes no strict have already secritual of forms and ceremonies, but demands a spiritual fermented win worship; we may therefore rest assured that, if men ape every ground t proach the Lord's Table with the "unleavened things of ituted with unfe sincerity and truth," they will not be rejected on account of the leaven either of bread or of wine.

uch extended an 5. Passing over several warnings against intemperance, ented or alcoholin one of which (1 Cor. vi. 10,) drunkards are enrolled ed on his examplamong those who shall not inherit the kingdom of God; the use of leave and in another (Eph. v. 18,) the excitement produced by on convenience wine is contrasted with the elevating influences of From the spirit; we may proceed to notice the apostolic innaterial. ear that this projunctions respecting the conduct of Bishops, deacons, and the Apostles, singged women, contained in 1 Tim. iii. 3 to 8, Titus i. 7, and ii 3. In these passages we are told that bishops or rided it has quite passrulers must not be "given to wine." and that deacons n into the acetous; "and aged women should not be "given to much wine."h distinctions may har This last injunction of course implies that wine was not (for it is a microscop prohibited to church members by the Apostle; they might I on the same principuse a little of such wines as were drunk by the temperate so the fermentation is at the time. But if the deacons and aged women might and the sover law as explainuse a little, what is the force of the admonition to bishtes the Jew in the entops. The word paroinos, translated "given to wine," litanged natural productally means by or near wine, though it is also applied t and arguments in sto revelling, and other things likely to occur where wine cyclopedia art. "Win is drunk. The apostle may therefore mean either that

Bishops should abstain from wine, like the priests in the tabernacle, or that they should not be present at revelling or drinking companies. It is worthy of notice in connection with this injunction, that Timothy himself acted in accordance with the strictest meaning; for we find in the 5th chapter of this epistle, the apostle advising him to "drink no longer water, but use a little wine for his stomach's sake, and often infirmities." This advice, to use a little wine medicinally, proves incontrovertibly that Timothy did not habitually or ordinarily drink wine, even of those non-inebriating kinds which are not forbidden in the Scriptures. Whether we should view the abstinence of Timothy as an illustration of the apostolic precept to Bishops or not, it is evident that this abstinence, and the absence of all disapprobation on the part of Paul, who merely advises a relaxation in case of sickness, should prevent any christian from objecting to abstinence from the strong alcoholic wines so generally used in modern times.*

We have now considered the principal notices of wine, contained in the New Testament, and may I think conclude that they do not differ from the testimony of the older revelation. I cannot close this branch of my subject without remarking the contrast between the high morality of the Bible in this respect, and the intemperate habits of modern nations called Christian. Take, for example, Great Britain and her Colonies, consuming annually millions of gallons of ardent spirits, and wines so strong that the wine-growers of the South of Europe cannot produce them, without distilling a part of the wine and mixing its produce with the remainder. Not a line can be fairly quoted from the scriptures to justify the use of beverages so pernicious, or such wholesale waste of the food which the earth brings forth.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND ABSTINENCE.

The great ruling principle of this world is selfishness; sometimes calculating and even self denying for a time, at others rash and

chortsigh his discip he said, love one fellow m gence w brother's ther's we other's v allow the by so do are stron please or present Strong a ancient in socie wretche their me Christia should h are in co not a ch resulted use thes thonsan many b encoura this from nor to d offended eat no n stain fro weakne

> them w Object

> > 1st.

tice: "

In connection with Paul's advice to Timothy, it deserves notice that, just as the grape itself is found to have a remarkable effect in restoring the strength and appetite of invalids, so the boiled wines and other saccharine products of the grape anciently enjoyed much reputation on this account. This they would probably still be found to deserve if substituted for the beer and porter, or still more dangerous strong wines and ardent spirits so often misapplied as means of restoring health.

sts in the tabernaelling or drinking with this injuncwith the strictest epistle, the apostle se a little wine for a advice, to use a that Timothy did those non-inebrintares. Whether we illustration of the at that this abstinthe part of Paul, ess, should prevent he strong alcoholic

of wine, contained de that they do not I cannot close e contrast between a the intemperate cake, for example, nually millions of the wine-growers without distilling a remainder. Not a justify the use of the food which

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shness; sometimes it others rash and

deserves notice that, effect in restoring the and other saccharine tion on this account. If substituted for the and ardent spirits

shortsighted; but still selfishness. Our Saviour therefore gave to his disciples the strongest mark of distinction from the world, when he said, "by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one another." This great law of love, which in reference to our fellow men, is the fulfilling of the law, does not sanction any indulgence which may harm others, nor allow us to ask "am I my brother's keeper." It commands us to deny ourselves if our brother's welfare require it, to seek not our own but "every man another's welfare," and "bear one another's burden." It does not allow those who are strong to avail themselves of their strength, if by so doing they expose their weaker brethren to peril. "We that are strong ought to hear the infirmities of the weak and not to please ourselves." Let us compare with this exalted principle, the present drinking usages of the world, and even of Christian men. Strong and dangerous liquors much more inspriating than those of ancient times, have been produced—their use has become general in society—they have immeasurably added to the amount of wretchedness and crime—they annually rob churches of some of their members—they are a constant cause of stumbling to weak Christians—and by their aid, the children of the Church who should be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord are in countless eases trained in the nurture of Satan. not a christian in the world who does not know that such evils have resulted and do result from strong drinks; yet many good men use these beverages; persist in an indulgence which yearly ruins thousands; say by their practice that it concerns them not how many brethren stumble or are made weak; how many, perhaps encouraged by their example, altogether perish. How different is this from the declaration of Paul—"It is good neither to eat bread nor to drink wine nor anything whereby a brother stumbleth or is offended or made weak. If meat make my brother to offend, I will cat no meat while the world standeth." Paul was willing to abstain from harmless meats, even in deference to the prejudice or weakness of his brother; many christians now say in their practice: "Though I know that these drinks make many to perish, yet because I feel myself to be strong and safe, I will continue to use them while I live."

Objections are however urged by some against this application of the law of love. Two of them only are deserving of notice.

1st. It is objected that the Gespel is the true remedy for moral

evil; and that Temperance Societies offer themselves in s measure as substitutes for it, and thereby divert men's attenfrom the true way of salvation. This objection deserves respect it is based on truth and influences good men; but it has no for ation in the facts of the case. Abstinence from strong drinks not and never can be to worldly men anything more than a m outward reform, influencing their temporal welfare. To christia the agitation of these principles is a demand to consider and Find tise a gospel truth, which they have too much neglected. It de not require them to make one effort less for the promotion Chron. 31 Christ's Kingdom, or in any way diminish their probability of the 5-11 Temperance societies are not rivals to christian church 10-37 d but if churches would agree to maintain a consistent and christ 4-7 testimony on this subject, there would be little need for societ rov. 3-10

2. Some good men deceive themselves with the excuse that such 24habitually using intoxicating drinks, they are shewing the example, that of moderation or temperance. There can however. 31be no moderation in evil; the good things of this life should House 2-8 & used moderately and temperately, but when anything is found be evil, or an occasion of evil, then its use in however small degraph ceases to be moderation and becomes sin. We have already soel 1-10 that the common intoxicating drinks of modern times cannot wicah 6-15 scripturally viewed as good things, and it cannot be denied Haggai 1-1 they occasion much evil; how then can their habitual use be calcon. 9-17 moderation or temperance? But the fallacy of this objection n (2.) be placed in a still stronger light. If any man, having a region. 6-1 for his own life and reputation, should form the design of doing song 2-5 that he could by example to lead other men into intemperance afforce. 3-1 ruin, how could he best effect his purpose? He could not become a drunkard—that would ruin himself. He could only persersons 8in the habitual use of strong drinks and lead others to follow Joel 1. example; and he might be almost sure that some of them wor Instead of being the safe example which cannot hurt Amos 9-13 weakest, habitual moderation of this kind, is in reality the mDeut 32

It becomes christians then, for the sake of the world whi (In Chald should be enlightened by them, for the sake of their brethren, a Daniel 5for the sake of him who bought them, and who pleased not hims saish 25—6 to mortify this lust for strong drink, and to bestow in Christee also Je service the time and wealth which it dissipates and destroys.

destructive example which a christian can set.

(1.)18-12.

62-8

65-4-11

alm 75-(6.)

| N I | SHOWING T | HE HEBREW WORDS | BENDERED "WINE" |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| themselves in s | | ORISED VERSION OF THE | |
| | .) Tirosh. | Gen.14—18 | Isa. 24-9, 11 |
| divert men's attem 27 | -28 &37. | 19-32, 33, 34, 31 | 28—1, 7 |
| ion deserves respendent 1 | 8—12. | 27-25 $49-11, 12$ | 29—9 51—21 |
| ; but it has no foul out 7 | 1.6 1.4 | Exodus 29-40 | 55—1 |
| | —I7 | Lev. 10—9 | 56—12 |
| ing more than a m 14 | -23 | 23-13 | Jer. 13—12 |
| -1C(//) 1 1 1 | 3—4 3—51 | Num. 6—34, 20 15—5, 7, 10 | $egin{array}{ccc} 23-9 \ 25-15 \end{array}$ |
| | 3—28 | 28—14 | 35-2, 5, 0, 8, 14 |
| ch neglected. It d King | -13 | Dout. 14-26 | 40—12 |
| for the manatic Chron | s 18—33 | 28—39 29—6 | 48—33 51—7 |
| for the promotion Chron | 32—28 | 32—33, 38 | Lam. 2-12 |
| icir probability of goh. 5- | -11 | Joshua 9-4, 13 | Ezek. 27—18 |
| o christian church 10- | | Jud. 13—4, 7, 14 19—19 | 44—21 Daniel 1—5, &c. |
| onsistent and christ | -5 & 1 2 47 | 1 Sam. 1—14, 15, 24 | 10—3, we. |
| ttle need for societ rov. 3 | 10 | 103 | Hosea 4—11 |
| th the excuse that, saich | 24-7 | 16-20 | 7—5 |
| | 36—17 52—8 | 25—18, 37 2 Sam. 13—28 | 9—4 14—7 |
| There can how | 55—8 | 16—1, 2 | Joel 1.—5 |
| There can howererm. | 31—12 | 1 Chron. 9—29 | 3—3 |
| 01 bills 1110 Billstid 10808 2 | 2—8 & 9 & 22 4—11 | $12-40 \\ 27-27$ | Amos 2—8, 12 5—11 |
| , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | 7—14 | 2 Chron. 2—10, 15 | 6—6 |
| however small degree of | 9-2 | 1111 | 9—14 |
| Ve have already soel 1- | -10 | Neh. 11—1 | Micah 2—11 |
| dern times cannot Micah | -19 & 24 6-15 | 5—15, 18 13—15 | 6—15 Hab. 2 —5 |
| annot be denied (Haggai | 1—11 | Esth. 1-7, 10 | Zeph. 1—13 |
| habitual use be callech. 9 | —17 | 5-6 | Hag. 2—12 |
| of this objection m (2. | | 7—2, 7, 8 Job 1—13, 18 | Zech. 9—15 10—7 |
| an having a war Sam. | 6—19 | 32-19 | Note The Greek Oi- |
| nan, having a regi Sam. | a. 16—3 | Psalms 60—3 | nos, employed in the |
| he design of doing long 2 | _5 ₂ 1 | 75—8 78—65 | New Testament, is a ge- |
| nto intemperance a Hoses. | D—1 | 104—15 | neric term, synonimous with the Hebrew yayin. |
| | (3.) Asis. | Prov. 4—17 | In Acts 2, 13, the term |
| could only persersong 8- | - 2 | 9-2.5 | gleukos, must, equivalent |
| d others to follow Joel 1 | 49—20 -5 | $20-1 \\ 21-17$ | to the Hebrew asis, oc- curs. It may, as Mearns |
| some of them wor 3- | -18 | 23—20, &c. | suggests, have been us- |
| ich cannot hurt Amos 9 | -13 | 31—4, 6 | ed in jest by the scoffers, |
| is in reality the mDeut. 3: | .) Hamer. 2—14 | Ecele. 2—3 9—7 | who accused the apostles of being drunk with |
| Dualin b | | 10—19 | gleukos. |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 27—2 | Cant. 1-2, 4 | (7.) Sobhe. |
| of the world whi (In C | Chaldeo form) | 2-4 | Isaiah 1—22 Nahum 1—10 |
| of their brethren, a Daniel (5.) | | 4-10 5-1 | Hoson 4-18 |
| o pleased not hims saich 2 | 25-6 | 79 | (8.); Mesech. |
| bestow in Christee also | Jer. 48-11 & | 8-2 | Psaim 75-8 |
| s and destroys. | 5-8 .) Yayin | Isajah 5-11, 12, 22 | Prov. 23—29,30 Isaiah 5—32 |
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