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"Let Temperance be thy companion, so shall health
sit on thy brow."

TRANSMIGRATION.

We believe in the doctrine of transmigration. Perhaps "the wish is father to the thought." Be it so; we intend to propound the matter gravely, and to urge it as our dying song. We advocate the passage of spirits from one body to another. Not the vulgar transmission of spirits from an outward-bound vessel to the colonial cutter, and from the cutter to the dray, nor the subtle transmission through sealed doors, but the true Pythagorean metempsychosis. The doctrine is ancient, although it may have assumed whimsical forms; we, therefore, do not hold with the Paganic cycle, lest we should find ourselves labouring in another temperance reformation ten thousand years hence: but we take it in its genuine majesty, as it fed the imaginations of the fathers of the Hindoo mythology, as it animated the master mind of Pythagoras, or as it is elegantly propounded by Bunganree, or any other aboriginal sage in the simple formula of "Tumble down black man, jump up white man." But we do not apply it to the souls of individual men: concerning their condition, we have higher and better authority; but to the souls of Editors—the mysterious and mighty *we*, of the Press. The law which regulates these spirits is peculiar, and we are convinced that their immortality is secured by transmigration. Having gained a peculiar personality, this personality is perpetuated through a series of vehicles. The pen may be laid aside by one, but it will be taken up by another: the journal may expire, but its principles will revive. The principles make the Editor and the Journal, they are the soul; the title, and the paper, and the ink, and the writer of to-day, constitute the perishable body. We hold, therefore, that the soul of an Editor, committed to great and true principles, never dies. The Editorial errorist may perish like the brute, or may descend to animate creeping things, or animalcules unappreciably minute, but the spirit of the child of light shall endure as long as the sun sheds his beams, and shall start from the human to assume the angelic form. Truth may be obscured, but cannot die: and the truthful soul banished from one corporeal bond, shall still survive and appear in another and more illustrious investiture, "You kill a goose to-day," said one endowed with the prophetic spirit which inspires dying men, "but a swan shall rise in my stead!" and he was a true prophet: the principles for which he died shook Europe, and still prevail.

We are dying. We boast no martyr's death. Neither persecution, nor the exhaustion of labour, nor disease has slain us: we die of starvation. Friends now lament our departure, they proffer food and restoratives, but they are of no avail; we have received our mortal blow, we gaze upon this mundane state and the gorgeous sunset of Australian skies for the last time. It is enough that we have not lived in vain, and that we can speak hopefully in the hour of dissolution. The spirit is ready to depart, and wafted from this body shall hover a little while over familiar scenes, to descend upon some new and more powerful corporeal structure, and carry on the work of temperance to a triumphant issue.

Light and love will never perish, and when you, our subscribers, behold some potent, comely, and majestic embodiment of these principles, renewing the face of colonial society by the complete establishment of temperance, recognise, we beseech you, the transmigrated soul of the 'Temperance Advocate.'—Farewell!

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETIES.

Monday was a high festival day among the adherents to the cause of Total Abstinence in Sydney. They had two processions through the town, and a very comfortable and substantial dinner in one of the market sheds. In the evening, a numerous and respectable public meeting was held in the Hall of the Sydney College, at which the president of the society, George Allen, Esq., took the chair, surrounded by a number of gentlemen. A series of resolutions, in support of the same, were also proposed and adopted by the meeting.

The following was the order of the procession:—1st. Two blue flags. 2nd. The boys who are members of the society. 3rd. Two blue flags. 4th. The girls who are enrolled. 5th. Another pair of blue flags. 6th. The adult females who are enrolled, followed by the band. 7th. The original banner of the society, with the banner of the Total Abstinence Society. 8th. The committee and members of the Benefit Society with ornamented aprons. 9th. The second banner of the Total Abstinence Society, followed by the committee and members. 10th. The banner of St. Patrick's Total Abstinence Society. 11th. The committee and members of the same society.

The members of the Benefit Society assembled at Vercoe's Temperance Coffee-room, Pitt-street, about 11 A. M., and marched from thence to the Old Court-house, Castlereagh-street, where the procession was finally arranged, after which it passed south, along Castlereagh-street, turning down Liverpool-street, thence into Sussex-street, up Erskine-street, into Clarence-street, crossing Church-hill, and moved north through Kent-street, thence through Windmill-street, up Fort-street, and Southward along George-street east, through Market-street, thence along Pitt-street to Bathurst-street, from which they again turned into George-street, and entered the Market-shed A, where they dined. After dinner, the procession again formed, and marched along George-street, Brickfield-hill, and Parramatta-street, and turning at the Boundary-stone, passed in front of Carter's Barracks, and from thence to the Sydney College.

The following were the inscriptions on the small flags:—"Good Example is better than Precept." "Train up a Child in the Way he should go." "Thus we hope to prosper." "Drunkenness kills more than the Sword." "Put no faith in Drunkards." "Drink not, lest you fill a Drunkard's Grave." The inscriptions on the banners were as follows:—(on a white ground, in gold letters, on both sides) "Total Abstinence Society, established 1st. September, 1838."—2nd. On a similar ground: "This is not the Cause of Party or of Faction, but every Lover of his Country." On the other side—

'Tis drunkenness only we seek to destroy:
And truth is the weapon we'll always employ.

3rd. On a dark ground—"Sydney Total Abstinence Benefit Society, established January 4th, 1840." Beneath this inscription there was the colonial shield, surmounted by the rising sun; the upper quarters of the shield were occupied by a bee-hive and the horn of plenty, and the under quarters by a representation of the gospel and the emblems of friendship. The Colonial Crest on the right was supported by the figure of a gentleman, having in his right hand the flag of "Sobriety;" on the left by that of a female holding the flag of "Domestic Comfort;" between these figures and the shield were figures of the kangaroo and emu, underneath the shield the figures of a boy and a girl were painted, supporting a scroll containing the words—"Be thou faithful unto death;"—under which, on a blue ground, appeared in golden letters, the declaration,—"In God is our trust;"—on the obverse of this flag was the figure of a cherub blowing a trumpet over the words "Mercy and Truth are met together."

4th. A banner having the figure of St. Patrick inscribed on it, surmounted by the words—"St. Patrick's Total Abstinence Society, established at Sydney, May 16, 1841;" on the obverse was a half-length portrait of the Rev. Theobald Mathew, enclosed by the rose, thistle, and shamrock; underneath which is the following inscription, (the Society's pledge):—"I promise to abstain from all intoxicating drinks, except used medicinally, and then only by order of a medical man, and to discountenance the cause and practice of intemperance."

MR. STEEL'S INFANT TRAINING SCHOOL.—The annual examination of this interesting school took place on the 22nd instant, in the Independent Chapel, Pitt-street, in the presence of a very large concourse of ladies and gentlemen, who were anxious to witness the working of a system which has accomplished so much good in the mother country, and where the utility and value of it is so highly prized by the rich and the great. It was indeed a pleasing sight, to behold so many little faces beaming with joy and happiness, when the hymns were sung. In the different lessons gone through, the children shewed their intimate acquaintance with Holy Writ, and also with subjects of daily import. The Responses (as they were called) upon natural history and geography, displayed the vast amount of knowledge that had been communicated to the minds of the children during the year. We were much pleased with the temper and manners of Mr. Steel, so apt to conciliate, and so anxious to win the affections of his youthful charge. Upon the whole the examination throughout reflected very great credit indeed upon the talents and patience of the teacher, the application of the children, and the superiority of the system. At the end of the exhibition, Dr. Lang, who presided on the occasion, presented the silver medal and books to the children, either as tokens of proficiency or marks of encouragement.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

The Queen's speech delivered by the Lords Commissioner, on opening the new Parliament, will be found in another column.—An amendment, expressing want of confidence in the ministry, having been moved to the address and passed by a majority of seventy-two votes in the Lords, and ninety-one in the Commons; Lord Melbourne in the Upper House, and Lord John Russell in the Commons, declared their resignation, and that Her Majesty was about to form a new administration.—For this purpose Sir Robert Peel had been sent for to form a new Cabinet, but no

authentic list of the new ministry has arrived.—It is stated the Government were about to form a settlement at the Falkland Islands.—An Anglican bishop had been appointed for New Zealand; the Roman Catholic Bishop was about to leave New Zealand, for France.—The Queen had created several baronets; among whom we note Isaac Lyon Goldsmid, Esq.—The Corn Law question has been taken up as a topic of benevolence by a large number of ministers of religion, both of the Anglican Establishment and the Roman Catholic; and dissenting interests. The Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel has published a sermon thereon entitled a Plea for the Poor.—Spain and France were in an unsettled state.

The following facts in reference to the progress of teetotalism, are furnished in a letter from Ireland, dated February 15.

One of the largest Dublin distilleries is now an extensive oatmeal mill. The Excise stores are, I understand, filled with whiskey; and it was lately stated to a friend of mine by a brewer, that one brewery would be abundance for all Dublin. A large distillery near Clonmel is to be given up, and probably turned into a woollen or cotton mill. The Enniscorthy brewery is entirely closed. The distillers of Dublin do not appear to attempt to conceal that their property is reduced in value 50 to 70 per cent: the malt factors, that their business is greatly lessened, and the Irish business is worth nothing. I should remark, that doublets many other breweries and distilleries in Ireland are closed also. Those I have alluded to have come casually to my knowledge. I know the trade is generally in a very suffering and hopeless state. It is much to be desired that the distillers and brewers, who are a very wealthy and influential class in Ireland, would at once determine to "go with the tide," and instead of seeking out new channels of demand, which can only be obtained by the spread of demoralization and crime elsewhere, convert their extensive premises into flour mills, bakeries, or manufactories for woollen or cotton goods, for all which there must be of necessity an increased demand.

Our public hospitals bear abundant evidence also of the improved health of the people. I was informed lately by a young surgeon, that the want of broken limbs, &c., &c., is severely felt, as subjects for young practitioners; also that there is a greatly increased difficulty in getting bodies for dissection. In our largest hospital there has been but one case of delirium tremens (whisky fever) for several months past, and even that a doubtful one, although formerly it was not uncommon to have twenty or thirty at one time. Deaths from fever have greatly decreased.

Nor less gratifying are the proofs of improvement amongst the people, as evidenced by the increase of members to our Mechanics' Institution. The rooms are now quite too small, and an energetic attempt is being made to raise £5,000 or £5,000 for a new building, to which the Lord Lieutenant has kindly offered £100; and Lord Morpeth £50. About £1,200 is already subscribed.

As a proof of the elevated moral feeling which is springing up as a new feature in our population, I may add, that one of the weekly meetings at our Royal Exchange is now changed, on the first Wednesday in every month, to an Anti-Slavery meeting, and is largely attended. The people are also beginning to reject the use of tobacco and snuff, as useless. I understand a society of 800 is formed in one place for their disuse, and we have some delightful examples of noble sacrifice and self-denial on this head. Thus I could go on detailing the march of improvement, but I have already addressed you at unreasonable length. My apology must be, the deeply interesting character of the subject.

There is one drawback. The rich and influential are still holding back. This is really most discreditably to them. The poor man gives up cheerfully his one gratification. The rich man clings most selfishly to his many. Unhesitatingly, I say, if there is a reaction from the happy state of things which exists in Ireland, awful will be the responsibility at the doors of those "who knew how to do good and did it not." If the temperance movement fails it will be for want of the influential class showing that sympathy and cordial co-operation towards it which it so eminently deserves.

LADIES' CORNER.

TO LADY GIPPS,

As seeing her name at the head of the Ladies' Temperance Album.

I.
First in the list of dames who nobly dare
To cast our manners in a mould severe;
I hail thy signature, thou Southern queen!
Empress of courtesy and domestic scene!

II.
No diadem need deck thy virtuous brow,
Gems brighter than the pomp of regal show
Surround thy head, example from thee shines
With sheen more lustrous than the gold of mines.

III.
Thou art a mother! thy maternal love,
In sacred deeds its holy force shall prove.
Thou art a wife! with thee, the solemn tie,
Is one of public—private sanctity.

IV.
Lady! thou art the guide of fashion's van,
Exalted more as guide to erring man:
Thy hand I treasure, as it heads the scroll,
Where foes to vice their banded names enrol.

WOMAN.—Perhaps one of the most indispensable and endearing qualifications of the feminine character is an amiable temper. Cold and callous must be the man who does not prize the meek and gentle spirit of a confiding woman. Her lips may not be sculptured in the line of perfect beauty, her eye may not roll in dazzling splendour, but if the native smile be ever ready to welcome and the glance fraught with clinging devotion or shrinking sensibility, she must be prized far above gold or rubies. A few moments of enduring silence would often prevent years of discord and unhappiness; but the keen retort and waspish argument too often break the chain of affection, link by link, and leave the heart with no tie to hold it but a cold and frigid duty.

GOING TO COLLEGE.—On a fine morning about the middle of October, behold our young aspirant at the door of the White Horse, Fetter-lane. He will be surrounded with ten or twelve more on the same errand, all laden with huge bales of luggage, and with admonitions, paternal and maternal, the one not to study too little, and the other not to study too much. The expression on their countenances is somewhat comical, something like what one would imagine to be that of an old Greek newly arrived in the Elysian fields, conscious of a new life, of which they don't know whether to be glad or afraid, and scanning their comrades to see what they can make of them. In the midst of these will be a triton among the minnows—some old college stager—only one, because the freshmen go up some days before the rest—a man in a bear skin coat with six pockets, and with all the ease which a consciousness of so much lumber room naturally gives one. Observe his air of importance as he jostles the new fry out of his way to and from his own luggage—how he has already secured the best place with the coat aforesaid—how proud he is of his privilege to speak familiarly to the coachman—with how knowing an air he takes his seat not a moment before the coach sets off. His next feat is to exhibit to his admiring fellow travellers the newest machinery for lighting cigars, not always easily understood, and having satisfied himself by a few puffs that the weed is fairly ignited, he takes it out of his mouth, and of serves that "he thought in the morning it would rain like bricks, but that now he believes the clouds will turn out a failure," expressions on the beauty and peculiarity of which he leaves his auditor to ruminate at leisure. There is nothing more distinctive than a Cambridge man's slang, and it has its use too, for it serves to give a knowing air to many conversations which would be flat enough in all conscience without it. "Like bricks" is the commonest of their expressions, or used to be. There was an old landlady, at Huntingdon, who said she always charged Cambridge men twice as much as any one else. "Then, how do you know them?" asked somebody. "Oh, sir, they always tell us to get beer like bricks."

JAMAICA COPPER.—The Directors of Mount Vernon copper company met yesterday at the new Court House, upon business of the company. Mr. Burger laid before the meeting a communication from his excellency the Governor's secretary, with several inclosures from the right honourable the secretary of state for the colonies and the president of the geological society, relative to some samples of ore that had been forwarded to Sir Charles by Mr. Burger, and by him sent to Lord John Russell. The communications were of the most satisfactory nature, and go to show that the undertaking is likely to prove exceedingly profitable to those engaged in it. The president of the society alluded to in his letter to Mr. Vernon Smith, the under secretary, says—"Your letter of the 23rd February, with inclosures and specimens, having been submitted to the last council of the geological society, was referred to me as president, and having since then obtained the opinion of an eminent miner, Mr. John Taylor, (one of our officers), I have the honour to acquaint you with the result of his examination and my own. The copper ores from Jamaica are rich above the average. They are imbedded in a matrix of carbonate of lime, in which respect they differ from the Cornish minerals, and closely resemble the copper ore of the great mine at Ecton in Staffordshire, from which such very large profits were obtained." There being no longer any doubt as to the quality of the ore, the only question is, will the quantity be abundant. The appearances are in favour of the opinion that it will be, and under these circumstances it was deemed advisable to push the operations with more vigour. The directors therefore resolved upon the importation of a few skilful miners from England, and upon increasing the funds of the company, by offering the remaining shares for sale.—*Jamaica Morning Journal.*

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Temperance Advocate.

SIR,—In looking over some Reports of the Prison Discipline Society, of London, I fell in with a striking statement, respecting the propriety of immediate abstinence from their usual stimulus, by habitual Drunkards. As the testimony thus given is strictly impartial, and not open to suspicion, I have extracted the passage; and I send it (bodily) to you, for the information of the squeamish, and ignorant in such matters. Let us hear no more twaddle, about the necessity of "keeping up the system;" and all that nonsense.

The Prison spoken of, I should tell you, is one lately established, on the plan of the justly celebrated one at Auburn, in the United States.

Your's,
AQUA-VITÆ.

[EXTRACT ENCLOSED.]

The food of the convicts is one pound of beef, one pound of bread, as many potatoes as they may require, being about five bushels to a hundred rations, to which is added for supper, a porridge made of ground peas and corn-meal, so regulated that each shall be amply supplied, and with very little variation the same throughout the year. The drink, while in health, is cold water only. To the sick and indisposed, coffee, tea, milk, and other proper food and drink.

"The opinion," says the Physician, "which has so long and so extensively prevailed, that spirituous liquors could not be suddenly abandoned with safety, has, in the experience of this Institution, been completely refuted. Of the 106 convicts committed to the prison since its establishment, ninety have acknowledged themselves to have been intemperate, or are known to have been so. Some of these were veteran drinkers, and one in addition to spirits had for seventeen years used large quantities of opium. These prisoners were deprived of spirits at once, without a substitute. Those individuals in whom the habit was long confirmed, suffered a temporary loss of appetite, and almost overwhelming anguish, for the want of their accustomed stimulus; which seemed for the time to supersede every other evil connected with their confinement. But by attentive watching, the use of nutritious and wholesome diet, the appetite was soon improved, and, after a while, greatly increased; the craving for spirits gradually subsided; and after some time had elapsed, they acknowledged an improvement in their feelings, an increase of bodily strength, and vigour of mind. These facts are important; and it is hoped will have an influence in correcting a very general mistake that is prevailing, that the peculiar diseases of drunkards are liable to come on suddenly, if spirits be suddenly abandoned. With this erroneous impression, many have resorted to substitutes, which only changed the stimulus without removing the habit."

THE FIRST AND THE LAST DROP.

To the Editor of the Temperance Advocate.
Sydney, December 20, 1841.

SIR,—"Hope I don't intrude,—just dropped in!" so says Paul Pry. But busy, prying people do intrude sometimes on family concerns. "Hope I don't intrude,—just dropped in to have—a drop;" so says SWAB TO PUB.—Oh! no, not at all—quite welcome this Christmas time," is the disinterested answer.

Now, the little word "drop," a mere monosyllable, carries with it a great scope of meaning, according to our best lexicographers, and add but either of the monosyllables "first," "last," the interpretation becomes still more elaborate. Hence, "the cove what drops the Rings," and so forth, in London streets, will assail the Yorkshireman with his prize, but "I see hees Yorkshire too."—it is the last drop of the thief, for he becomes "tagged" to Sydney Cove. The poor disconsolate mother drops her infant at some well-known street door, for which act and deed she generally drops into the hands of the parish beadle, or within the precincts of the Penitentiary, and thenceforth drops tears of sorrow. "Just drop astern," sings out Jack to an hovering enemy, "or I'll drop it into you." It is the last signal of warning. There is the bailiff, who makes a very unceremonious "drop in" upon goods and chattels,

with his *fi. fa.* and *fiery face*, and this worthy performs his last office by not leaving you the least drop. "Come my friend, drink it up, it is but a drop," so says the sporting character—the gamster—the black leg—all ready for the last "drop on" their prey. The "lapsus lingue," or the dropping of the tongue, is peculiar to "cayes droppers,"—scandal-talkers, character-defamers, and the like—and these good folk have frequently to drop at last their sterling into legal coffers. Taking a mere exhilarating subject:—in former times, and even now, (and honour be to the memory of the lyrist,) the gay and merry "trip on the light fantastic toe," was, and is still accompanied by "Drops of Brandy O!"

From these drops flow a few of the characteristics in the drop scene of life, affecting the moral and social order of human beings. But we are disposed to be less facetious in the illustration of the words, "first and last drop," and in which "spirituous" doings are so much involved.

We have then the "droppings off" of trade or of business, and the "dropping in" of poverty—beware of the *first drops*.

We have the "droppings off" of health and vigour, of friends and respectability, accompanied by the "droppings down" of consumption's waste—draining the last drops of life, and the "dropping into" an early grave—because of the *first drops*.

There is also, the "dropping down" by sudden death,—apoplexy has seized its victim, with all its malignity engendered by the *first drops*.

There are the tear-drops of anguish, sorrow, and of remorse, of the victim of drink; and the widow and the orphan drop their tears over his grave, because of the "first and last drops" of the bitter cup.

And who will withstand the dying criminal's attestation,—"that the 'first drops' brought him forth a public spectacle on the *last drop scene* of the executioner.

Ambition, proud-crested fiend, has drained millions of drops of human life, on the embattled plains, but that worst fiend of man, ALCOHOL, has drained and yet drains infinitely more.

And whence the *first drops*? Does the brutal nurse first tamper with the palate of the helpless infant with the incipient draught by way of narcotic? Often and often is the crime perpetrated by these vile wretches. Does the poor thoughtless mother drag her burden into the gin-palace, to participate with her of the poison?—there are records innumerable. Do the examples of parents, and masters and mistresses, give the first taste and relish of the drops of liquid fire to their children and servants?—Frequently: and how bitter are the last drops of all.

Thought expands to the infatuated and slavish convivialities of the present season, so incompatible with the great master design we have to commemorate. Because one came to seek and to save, and for that purpose shed His precious blood, are we to do dishonour to His glorious advent, by incessantly pouring out libations of poison, and drinking the bitter drops and dregs thereof, and living in revelry and wickedness, to our endless destruction? O! what a delusive appellation—"The merry bowl of Christmas!" whilst at the bottom thereof is engraven a 'death's head.'

But the excitement of this season in England is also heightened by the general inclemency of the weather. People palliate the use of drink by way of keeping the cold out, nor was it a bad *jeu d'esprit* of Sheridan, written at the moment, and presented to George IV. during one of these seasons—

'Tis very cold, the Prince exclaimed,
And still he pled the Bummer,
Till swallow after swallow came
And brought the heat of summer.

Here we are, at the antipodes of the mother-country, both in locality and climate. We are in the very height of summer, and the swallows are skimming the air, where, then, is the palliation for drink to keep the cold out; Perhaps it will be, "that the swallows are dry."

Temperance drops her tears over the depravities of human nature, unconsciously bringing on a hoary winter. How many "first drops" will be taken this season? and at the number of last drops which will have been sipped, before another Christmas, apprehension stands aghast! But one thing is certain, the scene-curtain of life will very soon drop, and our bodies drop into the dust of the earth. And when

the curtain of a new existence shall be drawn up, what a sight will Eternity reveal to, and what a sentence judgment will pronounce on—the DRUNKARD. Then where will be the drop of cold water to cool the parching tongue? And then will come the last drop of the vial of Almighty wrath and fiery vengeance.

ABSTINENCE.

TEMPERANCE AND THE REVENUE.
(From the New British and Foreign Temperance Magazine.)

Temperance, is rapidly effecting a great moral improvement in the world. When the labourers in the cause of temperance first went forth to proclaim the value and importance of abstinence from intoxicating drinks, they had many difficulties to encounter, prejudices to remove, sordid interests to overcome, and sensual gratifications to subdue. Intemperance, like the upas tree, shed its deadly poison far and wide; spreading misery, privation, disease and ruin among its thoughtless and devoted victims. Actuated by the high principles of chaste benevolence, the promoters of temperance, by devoting their best energies for the prevention of drunkenness, seek the amelioration of the moral and physical condition of man. The seeds of temperance have been anxiously sown, and a glorious harvest is already apparent. The consumption of intoxicating drinks has greatly diminished; and the revenue arising from the duties imposed on the drunkard's drink, has decreased in proportion. The loss to the revenue during the past quarter, upon spirituous liquors, amounts to more than £40,000, which, at the same average, for one year, would amount to upwards of £160,000. Now, if to this amount of duty, saved by temperance, we add the cost of producing the liquors, with the profits of the rectifier and retailer, we shall find that the members of Temperance Societies, have saved themselves from an outlay of nearly one million sterling, during the past year. Add to this the deleterious influence of ardent spirits upon the duration of human life; the diseases that are induced by imbibition; the evils resulting therefrom to society; the precious time wasted in drunkenness—but released by temperance for useful pursuits and scientific recreations; and we shall find it impossible to calculate the amount of benefit, social, domestic, and religious, conferred upon families and society, by the operations of Temperance Associations.

The consequences of abstinence are already strikingly manifested in the improved health, habits, and domestic happiness of its returned votaries.—Every Temperance Society, and every teetotaler's fire-side, bear ample testimony to the benefits conferred by temperance. But these great gains on the side of temperance, are, of course scoffed and sneered at by the dealers and producers of ardent spirits. The publican is alarmed and angry at finding a deficiency in his profits. The distiller's ledger exhibits a diminution in business; in several cases so large as to induce the proprietors to abandon their trade altogether. To embark property in public-houses is, confessedly, a ruinous speculation; and, the business of a publican, once highly profitable, has now wholly changed its character. The decreoted "gin palace," often changes its proprietor, and the owner of the less pretending public-house, after spending his capital, quits it an insolvent. Under these considerations, the advocates of temperance will make great allowance for the feelings that dictated the following remarks, which appeared a short time since, in the Morning Advertiser newspaper:—

With respect to the excise, there is a decrease on the quarter of more than £40,000, but this decrease is easily to be accounted for, on two grounds,—

First. The imposition of extravagant and injudicious duties on the sale of spirits, and—

Secondly. The establishment and hypocritical pretences of Temperance Societies. Respecting the first of these causes there can be no doubt, for increased taxation invariably carries along with it decreased consumption; and with regard to the latter, there can be no question that in endeavouring to reform intemperance, they have done immense mischief to the revenue. This is, however, only the mania of an hour. Father Mathew may preach abstinence from the good things which Providence has provided for his creatures, and Mr. O'Connell may sup cold water instead of the sparkling champagnes and generous wines to which he has been accustomed; but, we repeat, that the mania cannot long prevail; and that ere twelve months have passed over our heads, the charm will have been broken, and the people will have returned to the sense of knowing what nature meant for them, and what is best adapted to their constitutions.

Such is the prediction of the sapient writer in the Advertiser, which is well known to be exclusively dictated to the interests of the licensed victuallers. Will the friends of temperance permit this prophecy to be verified? We answer, they will not. T. S.

INTEMPERANCE AND PAUPERISM.—By the return just laid before Parliament, moved by Mr. F. Mantle, it appears that the gross total number of persons relieved in England and Wales, during the quarter ended Lady-day, 1840, (including the places not yet brought under the Poor Law Amendment Act, &c.) amount to 1,201,344. The proportion of in-door and out-door paupers relieved, to the population of the same period, was 56-10ths per cent.—So far, is the statement of the daily press. But if we regard the subject further as illustrative of the amount of intemperance, and its attendant—want, in this country, we shall find, also, upon Parliamentary authority,—that the amount of known inebriety, among the poor, just amounts to one million of individuals; or one in twenty-five of the entire population. Reason is the lot of man, it is that which distinguishes him from other animals; a man without reason, is little more than an organized body, which only retains the shade and figure of a man.—*Combe.*