THE TEETOTALLER,

AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.—Rox. c. 14, v. 21.

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OMS

SYDNEY, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1843.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Tyro's communication is received and under consideration

THE GROG TRAFFIC, THE RUIN OF

THE GROG TRAFFIC, THE RUIN OF ALL LEGITIMATE COMMERCE, AND THE GREAT DISORGANIZER OF THE MONETARY AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTRY.

To the Merchants and Settlers in the Colony of New South Wales.

Gentlemen,—The pecuniary embarrassment and real distress in which many of you are involved, have now assumed so serious an aspect that we deem it unnecessary to make my apology for addressing you in terms of unfeigned sympathy, of earnest appeal, and of pher counsel. We readily admit, however, that you have made no direct application to us for this, except it be in your oft-repeated anmuncement, that the colony is ruined—is mined—thereby meaning, we presume yourgives; at least, including yourselves in the general catastrophe which, you say has come over us. But though you have made no direct appeal to us; and though we admit still farther, that we are probably among the very last, to whom you would think of coming for advice, get, we shall cheerfully give you the benefit of he Divine injunction—to which we consider it a pleasure as well as a duty to yield implicit bedience—"Weep with those who weep." Besides, you are now in adversity; and as alversity is one of the best of teachers-paricularly when it disposes the mind to reflection, and brings it to take a dispassionate and just view of its past transactions, and to a radiness and willingness to abandon that which my have caused or occasioned its downfall, ind to embrace that which may lead to a recovery of its lost prosperity on a stable and lasting basis—we are not without a faint hope that some of you will give us a candid perusal, and award us, at least, honesty of intention to benefit you.

We are well aware that several of the conductors of the public press have already been very liberal with their advice and assistance, in pointing out what they consider the great causes of your pecuniary embarrassments, and nggesting various remedies in the form of in-fallible specifics, or panaceas for all your mo-matry ills; and had we the same faith in these, which they seem to possess in them, we should not trouble you with any new advice. But, as we happen not to possess this, and belive that, if the blind lead the blind, both laders and led are very likely to fall into the ditch, we proceed to show you our opinion also. And, as we do this without either fee or expectation of favour, all we ask of you is, that you will give us a fair and patient hearing, and follow our counsel, if you think it will befor your good, and the good of the com-

It may be stated as a generally admitted but, that a great part of your embarrassment as arisen from the large amount of imports into the colony. But, whilst we give our essent to this as a correct view of the case, we differ entirely from most, if not all of our conemporaries in regard to some of the specifications on which this opinion rests. Thus, mong the imported articles which are speciled as having caused this embarrassment, we and various necessaries of life enumerated mch as bread stuffs and salt provisions; but wthing, we feel persuaded, can be more errowous than to view them in this light. And for this reason :--You yourselves have admitted that you could not heretofore produce them at cheap a rate, as you have had them thus bought to your very doors; and by means of hem you have been able to live cheaper, and support your establishments cheaper, than on could otherwise have done. By means of dem also, you have been able to employ a reater amount of the effective labour of the ountry in producing your only really profiable exportable materials than you could therwise have done; whilst all vessels en-Aged in the colonial whaling and coasting ade, have been provisioned at a cheaper rate an they could otherwise have been; all of hich, has been an actual saving in the expense

connected with producing what has hitherto been your exports -which exports have been your only available means of bringing money into the colony. To represent these imports, therefore, as in any sense the cause of your embarrassment is, we feel most thoroughly persuaded, a gross mistake, which your own common sense should have led you long ago to detect, if it did not altogether protect you against it. But, whilst we pass by these as no cause of your distress, and others, though no doubt injurious to your interests, yet altogether of too insignificant a character to have been the production of such serious mischief as that which has come upon you, we beg to call your serious attention to the traffic in grog as the ruin of all legitimate commerce, and the great disorganizer of the monetary affairs of

By legitimate commerce among nations, we mean the exchange which takes place between them of their superabundant necessary—useful —and profitable productions; that is, such productions form the materials of a legitimate commerce between nations; as all, who engage in it, will be sure to receive a necessary, useful, and profitable equivalent in return for what they part with. And, unless such an equivalent be received in return, no wise man will, as a matter of course, engage in it. Or, if he should unhappily do so, it must be at a certain loss; which loss will be continually accumulating the longer he perseveres in it. Or, if he parts with his productions for that which is not only useless and unnecessary to him, but proves a fruitful source of mischief and ruin, it is quite obvious that such commerce cannot be persevered in without sooner or later affecting him in all his interests, as regards his general comfort, his ability as a producing power, and his competency as a purchasing power. Now, the grog traffic is precisely such a commerce as we have here supposed; for it is not only an unnecessary and useless article to us, when viewed as one of common use, but one that has universally proved itself to be the most fruitful agent that exists in producing all the ills which affect the common weal. The history of grog indeed —thereby meaning all intoxicating liquors—is little else than the history of disease, of general degradation of character, of neglect of business, of wild and reckless speculation, of poverty, of dreadful disasters, of crime in all its forms, and of vast multitudes of premature and awful deaths. To part then with useful and valuable commodities, or money, in return for that which is universally known to be the most powerful agent that exists for producing all these, is certainly not an action which comports with wisdom, or with any regard to individual and general well-being. Had you done so, however only to a trifling amount, we readily admit that your prosperity may have been such as to have in a great measure raised you above it. But, it is not so, but far otherwise. The amount indeed which you have long been annually expending upon them, has been of the most appalling character; more, probably, by a great deal than many of you are aware of. Thus in the year 1838,-39,--41, the liquors which you imported are stated in the Custom-house returns, which give only the invoice price of them, to have amounted to £1,186,831. But, in order to approximate to the real amount which has been thus expended, we must add a considerable sum to this for freight and charges, and to allow for smuggling. Now, the right way to look at this matter, is this. During these years—and they are only a fair sample of what has been your common course-you parted with this large amount of your wealth for that which was not only useless and unnecessary, but which has proved the fruitful source of the various evils, to yourselves and the community at large, to which we have just referred. And, can it be-think you-that you could thus extract so large an amount from your wealth, and spend it for that which was constantly producing only evil to you, without in the end feeling it affecting all your interests, and throwing them into disorganization and ruin? The thing is impossible.

Some of your political wiseaeres have attri-

buted your distresses to the amount that was paid out of the colony, during five years, for emigration. This, they have stated at £829,840; but, how stands your Foreign Grog Bill during the years 1840 and 1841? Why, during these two years alone, you spent on Foreign Grog—at the invoice price, without allowing any thing for freight and other charges—£22,229 more than you did during these five years on emigration! Yet, these political wiseacres could see this, and still never refer to it, as a cause of your ruin! "Blind leaders of the blind," you followed them; and where have they led you but "into the ditch?" It is indeed high time that the Legislative affairs of this great country, were in other and wiser hands. What consummate nonsense to represent your emigration as the cause of your ruin, and to pass by unnoticed the amazing amount of your Foreign Grog Bill! It is not saying too much of the men who did this, that they manifested a degree of intellectual incapacity, or of ignorance, which quite unfitted them for grappling with the difficulties of their situation as Legislators of this colony. No, Gentlemen; your Emigration has not ruined you; but supplied you with much effective labour, which you might have turned into a fruitful source of wealth. But, your Grog—your Foreign Grog Bill has robbed you of your wealth—has burdened you with an overwhelming load of debt-and has paralized your efforts, by taking away the money to pay for it which ought to have been expended in increasing the outlay connected with your enterprises for bringing out the resources of the country. This, you have not the means of meeting as you ought to have, and might have had but for your Foreign Grog Bill. Thus, by your own act, and deed, you have most seriously injured your capabilities as a producing power; and, so long as you allow the Grog Importer to absorb your wealth in supplying you with that in return which is indescribably worse than nothing, your power also to purchase those articles which are really necessary and useful to you, will be diminished; and, just in proportion as these are affected, will the interests of legitimate commerce be injured, and your monetary affairs, and those of the colony in general, will be thrown into confusion; and ultimate ruin, should you unhappily persevere in your present Grog-importing, and Grog-drinking course, will be sure to overtake you. Indeed, without any exaggeration, it may truly be affirmed that, the traffic in Grog is the greatest foe, or obstacle, which exists, to all legitimate commerce between the nations of the earth. Wherever it prevails, the demand and the capability of paying for any thing else, will diminish; so that the traffic in intoxicating liquors is the great disorganizer and ruin of all the branches of legitimate commerce. And, if Great Britain would have her general commerce to prosper, she must stop her traffic in Grog; for, just in proportion as she carries on this, will she pervert her own resources into mischief, and diminish the capabilities of her customers to purchase her superabundant productions of a necessary and useful character; for, as drunkenness in the individual, who is addicted to it, is sure to lead to poverty, so the same effect will be sure to follow from it to the community, in which it prevails; and, as poverty pervades a community, just so in the same proportion will its ability as a profitable consumer of Foreign produce be affected. Your pecuniary interests therefore, viewed collectively, as well as individually, are most intimately connected with Teetotalism. If you embrace this, and put forth your energies as a virtuous and Teetotal community, you will yet rise like a Phœnix from her ashes, and your path will be onward to a state of prospeperity and happiness, such as Australia has never yet seen. But, if unhappily you should still, through some strange infatuation, persevere in your drinking course, your ruin is inevitable.

That God may give you the wisdom, and the resolution, for ever to renounce the use of all intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, and yet bless you with prosperity and happiness, is the sincere and fervent prayer,

Gentlemen,
Of your sincere well-wisher,
THE TEETOTALLER.

WHO AMONG THE GENTLEMEN OF AUSTRALIA WILL FOLLOW THIS NOBLE EXAMPLE?

"An old man of more than four-score years, afflicted with a bodily infirmity, for which he had been advised by a physician, to use ardent spirit as a medicine, was presented with a constitution of a Temperance Society on the plan of Total Abstinence. He read it, and said, That is the thing to save our country; I willjoin it." "No," said one, "you must not join it, because ardent spirit is necessary for you as a medicine." "I know" said he, " that I have used it, but if something is not done. our country will be ruined; and I will not be accessary to the ruin of my country, I will join the Society." "Then," said another, "you will die." "Well," said the old man, "for my country I can die;" and signed the constitution, gave up his medicine, and his disease fled away. It was the remedy that kept up the disease; and when he had renounced the one, he was relieved of the other."-" Temperance Anecdotes and Facts."

Who the noble-minded man was, who gave utterance to the above sentiments, we know not. Did we know his name, we should propose that it find a most conspicuous place in the roll of the Patriots of his native land, and that his noble resolution should be held up to the imitation of the World. Men of Australia! Intemperance has brought your country to the verge of ruin, and something must be done, or that ruin is inevitable. Embrace and practice the principle of Total Abstinence, from all intoxicating liquors, and you may yet be able to roll back the tide of ruin which threatens to sweep every thing before it; but if you will not do this, your destruction seems inevitable!

(From the Maitland Mercury.)

DEATH BY DROWNING .- An untimely death, caused, as it is in most cases, by the accursed habit of drinking, took place last week in our district. A shoemaker named Bryan Egan, a lately arrived immigrant, was found drowned, after a search of five days, in the Cockfighter's Creek. On enquiry by the police magistrate into the particulars of the man's death, it appeared that the deceased had been drinking with some other men until a late hour, at a short distance from his own home. When he started to go home he was accompanied by one of the party with whom he had been & inking, who subsequently left him by the way side, helplessly drunk, at a short distance from the scene of their debauch. It is supposed that the deceased afterwards attempted to cross the creek, which lay between him and his home, and that he fell in and perished. As the man who left him to his fate did not appear at the inquest, he was brought by summons before the bench on Tuesday last, where he underwent a strict examination, and his conduct was justly censured in the strongest terms by the magistrate.

The run on the Saving's Bank which continued during two days of last week, and which would no doubt have gone on, had not the Bank Directors interfered and required the legal notice of the withdrawal of Deposits, seems to have been the result of a malicious hostility against Mr. Miller. By those who are well acquainted with the Sureties which this Bank holds for its Loans, and whose knowledge of the state of things in general in the Colony. enables them to form an opinion which may safely be depended upon, it is stated that no just cause whatever exists for the excitement which was got up on the subject. For the sake of the real interests of the industrious Mechanics and labourers who have money deposited in it, we earnestly hope that they will not allow themselves any longer to be made the dupes of the designing, whose only object, at least their is reason to believe in some instances, is, to induce them to squander their money in the Grog Shop, in place of keeping it up for days of sickness or adversity.

PÓETRY.

ON GIN.

O, Gin! thy very name implies. Thy latent, treach rous qualities, Thou cheat'st us with our open eyes, Though of thy wiles aware! With smiles thou woo'st us as a friend, And we, like fools, on thee depend; But, ah! we find out in the end. Thou art, indeed, a snare!

We take thee as care's antidote. And rashly pour thee down our throat To keep our sinking heart afloat, And life's sad ills t' endure Our mental wounds thou can'st not heal, Thou can'st not stifle what we feel, Thou may'st, indeed, our senses steal, But not effect that cure!

Right well we know thou art our bane, But yet, for all, we can't refrain From taking, now and then, a drain, To keep our spirits up.

And so, indeed, thou dost awhile. We drink !-although we know the guile That like dear woman's syren smile, Plays sportive round the cup.

With subtle, sly, insidious stealth, Dost thou not rob us of our wealth? And what's far worse, fair fame and health. Transforming men to brutes!! The drunkard all the world offends, Affronts his dearest bosom friends; While recklessly his means he spends. And damns his best pursuits.

Then, surely, it is time that I From thy seducing smiles should fly, And seriously myself apply To weightier affairs: Lest I should be for ever wreck'd, And ruin'd, from my own neglect, What pity, then, can I expect For the lost sot !--who cares !

Reform! is everywhere the word, By ev'ry one 'tis hail'd and heard; My own reform too long deferr'd. I'll heartily set about
What the world thinks I value not: Be total abstinence my lot, Then in my grasp the means I've got To work it firmly out.

. . .

If, while the glowing stuff we drain, We could th' uplifted hand restrain, And from the unhallow'd glass refrain That blinds our reason quite. Why, then, indeed, we need not fence, Or seek beyond ourselves—defence, But rest upon our own good sense To gain th' unequal fight.

But, ah! we know the fatal end-That resolution's not our friend: That on ourselves we can't depend, Then be the pledge my plan! With God-like reason for my guide-Judgment shall o'er my feasts preside-I'll thrust intemperance aside, And be the sober man!!

R. GOWLAND.

THE STAGE COACH CONTINUED.

" Although we had not then such means, as are derived from the principle of association, yet the village of Micklefield presented no contemptible example of local reform. Clergymen are eminently the fuglars or exemplars of their parishioners, and accordingly they lie under a fearful responsibility. I continued, by example and by precept, to operate upon the feelings and upon the reason of my flock; and my success was beyond my most sanguine anticipations. Though temperance societies and temperance pledges were, at that time, unknown, the mischievous effects and the utter inutility of every intoxicating liquor as a beverage, were well understood, by those, who considered the subject with attention. Sensuality and selfishness inculcated a different and a more popular doctrine. It was almost futile to war against a people, whose very habits so obviously tended to clevate the creature, and depress the Creator, - with such weapons alone, as the spiritual armory affords. At first, and before the pervading spirit of temperance itself had prepared the way for the higher and holier influence of the gospel, the success of my efforts scemed mainly to depend upon a correct demonstration of such temporal evil, as springs manifestly from intemperance. Loss of money, and land, and comfort and respectability, and health, and domestic happiness, and friends, and reason and life considerations were simple and intelligible, and readily traced to intemperance as their source. I found it of much advantage even in my sermons, to ntroduce the opinions of vriters, who delivered their sentiments long before the first concep-tion of such a thing as a Temperance Society; and upon whose pages may be found the great leading features of total abstinence. I often said to my people,

Many imagine hard labor cannot be supported without drinking strong liquors. This is a very erroneous notion. Men, who never taste strong liquors are not only able to endure more fatigue, but also live much longer than those, who use them daily.'*

"Long before the great temperance reformation arose in our land, Micklefield enjoyed a reformation of its own. So manifest were its advantages, that, al-though, for the two first years, my parishioners in-flicted the petty municipal inaignity upon their pastor by electing him hogreeve of the village, the attempt to repeat it, for the third time, was resisted by a large majority, who were already sensible of their increasing happiness. In the course of seven years, the fires of three distilleries were extinguished. At the present day, no license is granted in this village; and it would be no easy matter to find a town in the same comonwealth more remarkable for its industry and sobriety than the willage of Micklefield. My good old friend, Deacon Anthony, who is yet living, at a very advanced age, has thanked me a hundred times for my resolution, in remaining with my parishione s. Years have gone by, since he abandoned his cheerless occupation, and besame, in fact, that, which he had long been, only by

profession, a sincere Christian deacon. A short acount of his conversion shall close my narrative of the parish of Micklefield .- About four years after my severe illness, I received a message from old Gabriel Kelly, requesting me to visit him, as he was thought to be dying. I made my way with all possible expedition to his miserable dwelling. I reached the door almost at the same time with Deacon Anthony, who appeared somewhat embarrassed by the meeting.—
'Kelly is dying,' said 1.—'O, no,' said he, 'he'll live a good many years yet, I guess. I've come here on a little business, and, if you're going in, I may as well stop on my return.'—'There must be some miskelly is not dying, there is no reason why I should remain, and I will immediately return. — 'Pshaw, Mr. Meredith, he's no more dying than you are,—he's only drugh, 'oright he description." drunk,' cried the deacon, opening the door.-We entered together. Gabriel Kelly was stretched upon his straw-bed. Dr. Snuffler, was sitting upon a broken chair. Gabriel's wife, manifestly in liquor, endeavoured chair. Gabriel's wife, manifestly in liquor, endeavoured, upon our entrance, to draw forward a chest, that we might be seated. Their son Gershom, a young man, about nineteen years of age, was lying, apparently dead drunk, upon the floor. The only member of this wretched family, who seemed to be capable of self-government, was a daughter, about fifteen years old.
She had the reputation of being perfectly correct in her habits; and, though misery appeared to be written in broad, deep lines upon her features, their expression was amiable, and, under other circumstance, she would have been accounted pretty.—'How is he, doctor?' said I.—'He can't live through the day', replied the doctor; 'they've been giving the old man rum, though I forbid it, and it will carry him off a little said the woman.—' Two quarts!' cried the doctor.—' No,' she replied, 'we got about two qua—quarts.''—' No,' said the doctor, 'how much did he drink?'— ' He-he drinkt all that wasn't left in the-thewhat he drinkt.'

"'Gabriel,' said the doctor, putting his hand on the dying man's shoulder, 'Mr. Meredith has come to see you, with Deacon Anthony. —He opened his eyes, and called for cold water. The doctor said he might take just what he pleased. He drank a little, and in a feeble voice addressed the deacon nearly as follows: 'So you've come to see the old drunkard die'-'No. Gabriel,' said the deacon; 'I came because you sent for me.'—' I didn't,' said he.—'Your son Gershom', said the the deacon, came to my shop this morning, and said if I would let you have two quarts of rum, and come down myself this forenoon, you'd settle our account, and that you couldn't go out.'—' He and the old woman plotted it, I 'spose,' cried Gabriel, 'and they're drunk, no doubt;—settle the account with a vengence! What an account you've got to settle in t'other world, deacon! I'm a-going afore ye, for one of your vouchers. Settle the account, to be sure! Ask the minister, that's setting on the chest with ye, what he thinks you'll look like, when your called up to for a set-settlement, yourself."—'Kelly,' said the deacon, 'you're light-headed.'—' Well,—maybe so, but I a'n't light-hearted any how.—Settle the account! You made me a drunkard,-aud the old woman there,-and Gershom,now I want you to make a solemn promise to a dying man.'—'You're so abusive, Kelly, that you have no right to ask any thing of me.'—'Well, well, deacon, do promise a dying man; it won't touch ye in your substance,—so ye needn't be scared, deacon. Now, if you'll promise, I'll tell ye something for your advantage.'—' Well,' said the deacon, hoping to shift the topic, 'I'll promise, if the thing isn't unreasonable.'

- That's a good deacon,' cried Gabriel. 'You see
Alice there, my daughter;—now promise me you'll never make her a drynkard.'—The old man would not desist, though he was evidently growing weaker, until the deacon had made him a solemn promise, that he would never furnish Alice Kelly with a drop of intoxicating liquor.—'And now, Deacon Anthony,' said he, 'I feel myself a-going, and I must be short, but I'll keep my word, and tell you something for your advantage. It'll be for your advantage, deacon, to know jest what folks thinks on ye,-and I'll tell ye. Last new year's night. more than twenty on us was together down to Kendall's tavern, and we was all unanimous, that Deacon Anthony had made more drunkards in Micklefield than any other rum-sellers beside.'—At this moment, old Kelly was seized with a fit of coughing, which put an end to the deacon's persecution.—I asked the poor old sinner, if I should he replied, that it was of no use, but he thought it might be well for me to pray for Deacon Anthony. I inquired why he had sent for me. He said he wished me to be a witness of the deacon's promise, that he would not make Alice a drunkard. The doctor observed that his pulse was failing .- 'How long can 1 live?' said old Gabriel.—'Not long,' said the doctor.
—'I forgive ye, deacon,' said he, 'and hope God will, but I should die something easier, I think, if you was out of the house.'-The deacon had never undergone such a trial before. He went out in silence. effect of this interview was greater than I could have expected. About a fortnight after old Kelly's death, which occurred on the evening of that day, Dr. Snuffler which occurred on the evening of that day, Dr. Snuffler informed me, that he was in the deason's shop, when a customer called to have his jug filled with New England rum, and the deacon informed him that he had done selling spirit. From that time, he became a truly respectable deacon. He more than redeemed his pledge to Gabriel Kelly; for he received Alice into his own family, where she remained, until she married a worthy mechanic. But it is time for me to offer you my apology for this trespass upon your patience."—" Vell, mynlieer," said the Dutchman, "dat ish vat I calls a vary goot shtory; and who ish to tell denext von? Here," continued he, addressing the daughter of the Emerald Isle "vat have you got to

WHAT BREWING AND DISTILLING ACCOMPLISH.

zay apout dish temperance pisness, eh, voman ?

The difference between distillation and fermentation s, that by the application of heat the distiller obtains larger quantity of spirit from the saccharine base than does the brewer. Fermentation is necessary to precede distillation, otherwise there would be no alcolol to extract. In wines and beer you have a portion of the grape, or malt held in solution, but in ar-

dent spirits you have nothing but alcohol and water.

Gin, rum, brandy, whiskey, &c., when pure, a e
nothing but alcohol and water; and the fiery spirit in
each of them is obtained by heat and fermentation
from various sambarine substances. Gin, whicky,

and British brandy are distilled from grain: rum from sugar, and molasses; and foreign brandy from grapes; but in neither of these is there the least particle of nourishment. It is the aim of the distiller to convert every atom of the substance he distils into spirits. The more he can attenuate his liquor, the lighter it is, the thinner it is, the less it has of anything like nutrition, the greater his success and profit. He has not the least idea of leaving anything in the form of food for the stomach of his customer. An inflammatory, sti-mulating, poisonous liquid is all that he produces, and to obtain this he destroys millions of bushels of wholesome grain.

Alcohol was unknown to the ancients. They appear to have known something of the distillation of plants and flowers, but nothing whatever of the modern art of obtaining spirits of wine, or pure alcohol; from the grape, or from grain. The ninth century is the earliest period at which any mention is made of alcohol; and spirit did not come into general use until the latter part of the sixteenth century; previous to that period it was confined to the shop of the apothecary. It is well known that grapes adapted to produce the strongest wines will not yield more than eight per cent.

ale. France is said to be the most suitable climate in

the world for the growth of a grape that will produce

of spirit, and therefore not be stronger

a strong wine, yet the French wines are generally spo-ken of as weak. The fact is, the strongest wines which ken of as weak. The fact is, the strongest wincs which the pure juice of the grape would yield by fermentation would be comparatively weak, and therefore, until distillation was discovered, and pure spirit was obtained to mix with wines, the most potent alcoholic drinks were far from being strong. In warm countries the grapes were too sweet to produce much alcohol. We all know that sweet apples will not yield strong cider, consequently the wines of all very warm countries must have been very weak indeed. The analysis just given shows that nalm wine, which was the shacar, or "strong drink," of Scripture, contains less than five per cent. of alcohol, and therefore, is only about half as strong as our ale, and yet this "strong drink" is supposed to have been more potent than their common wines. It is highly probable that the strongest grape wines of the ancients had in them a less quantity of alcohol than our common table beer. But the analysis given above shows that modern wines contain, some fifteen and some twenty-nine per cent. of spirit. Port, which is one of our favourite wines, ranges from 21 to 25 per cent.; a very considerable proportion of the sherry that is drunk would be found to be equally potent. And this large amount of strength, liquid fire, or poison, is obtained by mixing them with brandy, or some other spe-eies of alcohol, a filthy sort of brandy called "old strap," is added to port and other wines to render them acceptable to our English palate. For it should be observed that we are the most drinking people alive, and foreigners, knowing our taste for potent liquors, add agreater quantity of alcohol to the wines imported to this country than to those which they prepare for any other nation. Our home-made wines have generally a portion of brandy added to them, and when this is not the case, many of them are the mere result of sugar, yeast, and water, and therefore, neither British nor foreign wines can afford us any criterion by which to judge of the character of those drinks which are the simple and genuine product of the juice of the grape. Still, the fact that port, sherry, &c., must be brandied to impart unto them a sufficient degree of alcohol to please our vitiated appetite, is a cogent proof that we are far from being satisfied with the unadulterated produce of the grape. The fermented juice of the vine is not strong enough and intoxicating enough for our palate; how dissatisfied then should we be with the wines of Scripture! Those who tell us that the Bible recommends wine, would do well to get us some of the wines mentioned in the Word of God: until they do this, it is useless to attempt to convict us of running counter to the voice of Revelation. We believe that oil, pulse, &c., are spoken of quite as highly in Holy Writ as wine, and yet our opponents are so wicked as never to taste any of these substances; we know also that water is highly recommended by our Creator himself, and yet our very sanc-timonious lovers of strong drink are impious enough to laugh at water drinkers as persons who are beside themselves. Weighed in the even balances of the sanctuary, the tee-totaller, who rejects the brandied wines of modern times, and which have scarcely the least resemblance to the wines of Scripture, would be found to be quite as good a christian as he who rejects the oil and the water of which the Holy Spirit has spoken in terms of such high commendation. The stroi est wines of hot countries, if they had any, could have in them but a very small portion of alcohol, and could not have been brandied, because distillation was then unknown; but we have seen that port and sherry are mixed with this fiery poison, until very frequently they are full one fourth spirit, and therefore are five, six, or seven times stronger than any of the drinks of anti-quity could have been; and, supposing it were our duty to drink the latter, will any man say that we are under an obligation to partake of the former? will presently prove that their is not a single text of Scripture which ever invites us to taste of intoxicating liquors; but could one be produced, still it would not follow that, if the Word of Godrecommends us to drink poison at the rate of three or four per cent., therefore we ought to take it at the increased ratio of twenty or twenty-five per cent. One is almost ready to conclude that a little of the stupefaction of alcohol must have been felt, before any person would have reasoned that an invitaton to drink weak wine would put us under an obligation to become bibbers of those which are highly adulterated with a strong and acrid "poison."

We have said that sugar is the base of alcohol. This saccharine matter is generally found in the grape, though not always in the same degree; in malt it is produced by the process of malting; and because saccharine matter is deficient in our own native fruits, in making wine from them we add a large proportion of

It should be borne in mind that sugar holds the third or lowest rank among nutrient vegetable substances. and can bear no comparison with the farina of wheat, the hordein of barley, or the starch of potatoes. Majendie fed a dog on sugar; it did very well for a few days, but in a short time it became weak and diseased and in less than three weeks died in a most pitiable condition. No labouring man would be able to pursue his daily calling, were you to allow him no other ali-ment than sugar. Now the design of malting is to change the very nutritive hordein of barley into sugar; that is, to convert a highly nutrient grain into a substance not one tenth so nourishing; and then the object of brewing is to change this sugar into a poison.
But this is not all. In the production of alcohol the

sugar is decomposed, and the carbon, oxygen, and by drogen which constitute its elements, undergo a new chemical combinantion. Carbon and oxygen to the amout of forty-eight per cent unite to form carbonic acid, and in that form are wasted; while fifty-two per cent. combine in the form of alcohol or poison. This the sugar, which is less nutritive than barley, is after all wasted at the rate of nearly 50 per cent. for the purpose of producing a poisonous stimulant. Here then, we have human ingenuity exerted in the work of destroying the bounties of Providence to a most right. ful degree, and this, too, is done in a country in which thousands have not bread enough to satisfy the care vings of nature. Hordein, a most nutritive species of farina, is to a great extent changed into a sacchaine substance containing not one-tenth the same amount of aliment. The frost malts our potatoes, and renders them more saccharine, but are they improved? The sugar into which a portion of the barley has been changed, is by the brewer dissolved and converted into two poisons! the one in the form of carbonic acid is allowed to escape, and the other in the form of alcohol is retained to be drunk, and destroy men's reason morals, health, and prospect in both worlds; and then, as if to perfect this wickedness and presumption, we are gravely told that these poisons are "the good creatures of God!" Much has been said by some con-cerning the quantity of gum or mucilage which male contains beyond barley, and which is said to be held in the beer in a state of solution. But, unfortunately for this theory, the testimony of Dr. Paris, a zealous advocate for the use of beer, completely overturns in this words are, "Hops constitute the most valuable ingredient in malt liquors. Independent of the flavour and tonic virtue which they communicate, they preci-pitate, by means of their astringent principle, the very table mucilage, and thus remove from the beer the active The gum or mucilage principle of fermentation." therefore, instead of being held in solution and admit ted to the stomach as an article of nutrition, according to the high authority of Dr. Paris, is "precipitated" to the bottom of the cask, and in most instances thrown away. God placed in the barley in its natural state gum to the amount of four per cent.; officious man changes this arrangement of Providence, and by malting, increases the gum from 4 to 15 per cent, and then in his prodigality "precipitates" nearly the whole of this mucilage, and afterwards in most cases washes it down the common sewer.

It is also sometimes stated that the quantity of starch in malt is greater than in barley. This is granted; but still it has been shown that the drinker of beer is not benefited by this circumstance; for, in the first place. what is gained in starch is lost in hordein, which is an exceedingly nutritive element of barley. In the grain you have starch 32, hordein 55, total 87. In malt, starch 56, hordein 12, total 68. So that the barley has after all an advantage over the malt to the amount of 19 per cent. Then in the second place, supposing that malting actually increased the nutritive properties of the barley, yet he who drinks beer will not be benefitted by the change; for it is admitted by all, that starch is one of the most insoluble of bodies, and therefore is not dissolved in the wort, but it is partly left in the grains and partly precipitated to the bottom of the cask, and eventually thrown away alone with the gum or mucilage which the hops precipitated. According to Sir Humphry Davy, barley contains 92 per cent. nourishment; but according to the best analysis, beer does not contain 6 per cent., a plain proof that there is but little starch, gluten, gum, or mucilage, in the malt liquor for which the poor man pays so dearly, and to manufacture which good wholesome grain has been wasted to the amount of 86 per cent. And what is worse, all this prodigality is practised for the pur-pose of producing a spirit which all scientific chemists and medical men have branded as an acrid poison We utter our bitterest execrations against the wretch who adulterates bread; yet in the manufacture of beer, wholesome grain is to a fearful extent wasted, and what is allowed to remain is either mixed with a poison or converted into a most deleterious spirit. The public fountain is poisoned, for by means of brewing, water, one of the choicest gifts of God, is rendered intexicating and pernicious to men's health and morals; and then a thousand allurements are adopted for the purpose of inducing all ranks among us to come and drink this destructive beverage.

ATTACK OF THE NATIVES AT THE ISLE OF PINES ON THE SCHOONER 'CATHERINE'

"The 'Catharine,' Captain Bannatyne, returned on Wednesday last, from the Isle of Pines, in a most delapidated state, her decks having been blown up during an affray with a party of the natives, who had been left on board, while the captain, and a part of the ships company were on shore. Mr. M'Leod, a passenger on board the vessel, gives the following account of the dreadful scene :-

While parleying in apparently a most friendly manner, we observed the fore-topsail loose, and a flag at the fore; Captain Bannatyne having coolly asked for a cocoanut, and obtained it, said something which I did not understand, and waded to the boat. One of the men was coming on shore for the last pieced sandal wood, and said, quietly, "Mr. M'Leod, we are going off, sir." "Indeed!" I said, and again invited Joe to come with me, proceeding myself towards the boat. He came a step or two, but what he did afterwards, I cannot tell. I got to the boat at last, by dist of hard swimming, in my clothes. On nearing the vessel, we perceived that the blacks had possession of her, two of the crew being in the fore-top, or rather on the fore-topsail yard; we hailed them, and were told all hands were murdered except themselves, and that we had better keep off, which Captain B. did, although most anxious to board at every disadvantage. The natives, on our rounding the stern, threw large billets of timber at us, either for the purpose of sinking the boat, or murdering us; and brandishing their tomahawks and axes, gave us clearly to understand that they were prepared for us the moment boarding was attempted. Unfortunately, this morning we had no fire-arms in the boat. We manœuvred with the boat, occasionally hailing the men on the yard; at last we heard one shot, then another, and a shout from the men on the yard, who acquainted us that we blacks had fallen dead; soon after, a third and fourth shot were heard, and the vessel blew up. The native were either thrown, or jumped into the water, having previously cut away the whaleboat, in order, I imagina, to reach the shore, their own canoe being useless; their uplifted axes they never left, even in the water The ship was now on fire, and every exertion was requisite, without loss of time, to save her, and the live who pro

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* Buehan, p. 85, Coffin's Ed.