

TEMPERANCE.

HINT TO MERCHANTS.

A writer in the N. H. Spectator advises every merchant in that state, who has been accustomed to sell liquors by the small quantity, to *empty his decanters and clear off his counter and resolve never again to suffer his store to become the pathway to intemperance and crime and wretchedness.*

He proposes that this riddance be effected on the *first September next*; perhaps, however, there is no call for delay till that time. For this wholesome advice, he assigns the following cogent reasons.

1st. The thing *must be done* at some future time, and probably can never be done with so good a grace as then. None can think hard, because you can refuse to subject yourselves to such a penalty unless you first show them that you *dare* not do it.

2d. Your store will at once assume a more cleanly and wholesome appearance, and your better and more respectable customers will not be annoyed, as they frequently have been, by the fumes and belchings and oaths of the intemperate.

3d. You will soon find your *bad debts* lessening and will have less cause to be on the alert lest some grog-customer should take a moonshine flight and leave a long account for *gills of rum* unsettled.

4th. You will have no occasion to keep a fire and lights burning till a late hour of the night merely for the profits you get on a gill or two of rum.

5th. You will be a means of saving, and probably increasing the earnings of your grog-customers, which will better enable them to procure the necessaries and comforts of life for themselves and families.

6th. You will preserve many of the rising generation from intemperate habits, and prevent much sorrow and anxiety of heart to their parents and friends.

7th. You will diminish sheriff sales, imprisonments for debt, poverty, pauperism and all their attendant evils.

8th. You will also lessen the number of crimes that are committed, indictments, convictions and punishments. It has been found to be a fact that *seven eighths* of the commitments, at some of our prisons, are for crimes which originated in intemperance.

9th. You will promote morality, industry, peace, health, and plenty in the community.

Let intemperance be banished from our land and more than half the evils we now feel will be at once removed—the beauty of Eden will bloom around us, and wasting and want and violence be scarcely known.

Bridgewater, Ms.—We learn by the Philanthropist, that two companies of Militia in this town have voted that they do not wish ardent spirits to be provided for their refreshment. In one company, there was but *one* dissenting voice; in the other, there was a minority of about one third of the members, who expressed however their ready and cheerful acquiescence. The writer adds the following cheering facts: "A similar vote was passed a few months since, at the annual meeting of our engine company, with but slight opposition. Two of the principal retailers in this town have lately informed me, that, during the last four months, they have not sold more than a *quarter* of their usual quantity of ardent spirits. A third informs me that he has not sold more than a *tenth part*."

A Temperance Society has recently been formed in the town of Catlin, Tioga County, New-York. The fifth article of the Constitution requires that an address on the subject of intemperance be delivered at the annual meeting.—It is stated that *all* the merchants of the village of Trumansburgh, in the same state, have had a meeting, and pledged themselves not to sell any spirituous liquors to be drunk in their stores.

Phil.
The Ladies.—The Editor of the National Philanthropist proposes the formation of Female Temperance Societies; and offers to furnish gratuitously one copy of his paper to every such Society in New-England, which is now in operation, or shall hereafter be organized, for the active promotion of Temperance, to consist of not less than 12 members. He believes that "the multiplication of such bodies would confer a lasting benefit on the country, and add fresh lustre to the patriotism and excellence of the female character."—Whether this proposal is a good one, the ladies must determine. We would only say, that the gentlemen reformers want the concurrence of the ladies often, in regulating the customs of the family and the social circle; and that even the ranks of the fair sex have sometimes been invaded by the destroyer intemperance, by the injudicious use of stimulants instead of medicine or exercise.

Suicide.—We learn that Abel Fletcher, of Acworth, N. H. committed suicide on the 9th inst. by cutting his throat. He did not at first succeed in separating the larger blood vessels, but upon finding that a physician was sent for, he seized a small penknife, and separated the wind-pipe. He lived about two hours. He was an habitual drunkard.—*Keene Sentinel.*

What say the Doctors?

At the Annual Meeting of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, held at New-Haven on the 14th and 15 days of May, 1828, the following Resolutions were passed.

1st. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Convention, the use of ardent spirits is unnecessary in health—that the habitual use of the same is destructive of private health and public morality; and that their excessive use is one of the most frequent causes of incurable disease.

2d. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Convention, although the moderate use of wine, cider and malt liquors, is not injurious, the immoderate use of the same articles, is like ardent spirits, injurious to health and good morals.

3d. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Convention, ardent spirits have no tendency to protect the system from disease; that on the other hand, they render the system more susceptible of contagion and other causes of disease; consequently, that it is the duty of physicians to abstain entirely from the use of ardent spirits in their intercourse with the sick, and to recommend the same rigid abstinence to nurses and attendants.

4th. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Convention, the habitual use of ardent spirits not only renders the human system more susceptible of diseases, but increases their violence and renders them more fatal.

5th. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Convention, the use of ardent spirits, by puerperal and nursing women, has an injurious effect upon their offspring, and is frequently the cause of disease and intemperance in both the mother and child. SAMUEL B. WOODWARD, Sec'y.