

**OUR DRINKS; OR, THE NATURE
AND PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF
FERMENTED LIQUORS, AS AN
ORDINARY BEVERAGE**

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Our Drinks; Or, The Nature and Physical Effects of Fermented Liquors, as an Ordinary Beverage by A. Gilmour

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A. GILMOUR

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the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2)$ is defined by

$$\mathbf{f}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{g} is defined by

$$\mathbf{g}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{h} is defined by

$$\mathbf{h}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{i} is defined by

$$\mathbf{i}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{j} is defined by

$$\mathbf{j}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{k} is defined by

$$\mathbf{k}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{l} is defined by

$$\mathbf{l}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{m} is defined by

$$\mathbf{m}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{n} is defined by

$$\mathbf{n}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{o} is defined by

$$\mathbf{o}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{p} is defined by

$$\mathbf{p}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{q} is defined by

$$\mathbf{q}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

and the \mathbb{R}^2 -valued function \mathbf{r} is defined by

$$\mathbf{r}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 \\ x^2 - y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

OUR DRINKS;

OR,

THE NATURE AND PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF FERMENTED LIQUORS, AS AN ORDINARY BEVERAGE

BY

A. GILMOUR,

MINISTER OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION OF
GREENOCK.

"Nam in hoc quod patres corrupti sunt, generant filios corruptis complexionis, et compositionis; et filii eorum eadem de causa, se corrumpunt; et sic derivata corruptio a patribus ad filios."

BACON, *Epist. de Secretis Artis et Naturæ.*

"Hærii gignunt ebrios."

PLUTARCH.

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1856.

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OUR DRINKS ;

OR,

THE NATURE AND PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF FERMENTED
LIQUORS, AS AN ORDINARY BEVERAGE.

It is now more than twenty-five years since our attention was first drawn to the use of fermented liquors as an article of food. After carefully and patiently examining the subject, as far as we were able, in the light of science, of political economy, of ethics, and of Scripture, we felt constrained to condemn their *non-medicinal* use. We do this, not merely on the ground of Scriptural expediency—a principle which all men avowedly hold, and yet a principle which has notoriously failed in reclaiming the drunken and in preserving the sober, which lets every man act according to the desires of his own heart, however corrupted, and according to the dictates of his own mind, however unenlightened—but we condemn their non-medicinal use, on the firmer ground of science and of Scripture.

It is long since the political economist has denounced the enormous expenditure of our country

in fermented liquors; it is long since our magistrates and our judges have declared that our drunkenness is the cause of the largest portion of our pauperism and wretchedness and crime; and it is long since our clergy have addressed us in the language of Eli; "How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee."*

The chemist, the physician, and the medical jurist, have classed alcohol—the intoxicating principle in all fermented liquors—with the poisons. And yet the great majority of these very men have continued to drink—no doubt moderately, but yet they have continued to drink—as if the practice were free from both suspicion and blame. We fear that their only excuse for doing so, is that of the bard, when he says;

"Sed trahit invitam nova vis, aliudque cupido
Mens aliud suadet. Video meliora proboque
Deteriora sequor."†

It is better, however, to listen to the apostolic injunction, and to act upon it; "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil."

It requires no argument to show that the non-medicinal use of fermented liquors is the prolific source of poverty and wretchedness and crime.

* 1 Sam. i. 14.

† My reason this, my passion that persuades,
I see the right and I approve it too,

Condemn the wrong, and yet the wrong pursue,

—*Ovid Met.*, lib. vii. 19.