

**ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF
TEMPERANCE, AND THE
PHYSICAL CAUSES OF
MORAL SADNESS, PART I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649433698

On the Philosophy of Temperance, and the Physical Causes of Moral Sadness, Part I by
William Moore Wooler

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WILLIAM MOORE WOOLER

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BY
WILLIAM MOORE WOOLER,
SURGEON, DERBY.



PART I.

"EXCESS IS THE VITAL PRINCIPLE OF ERROR."

"IN NECESSARIIS UNITAS, IN DUBIIS LIBERTAS, IN OMNIBUS CARITAS."

LONDON:
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL AND CO.

1840.

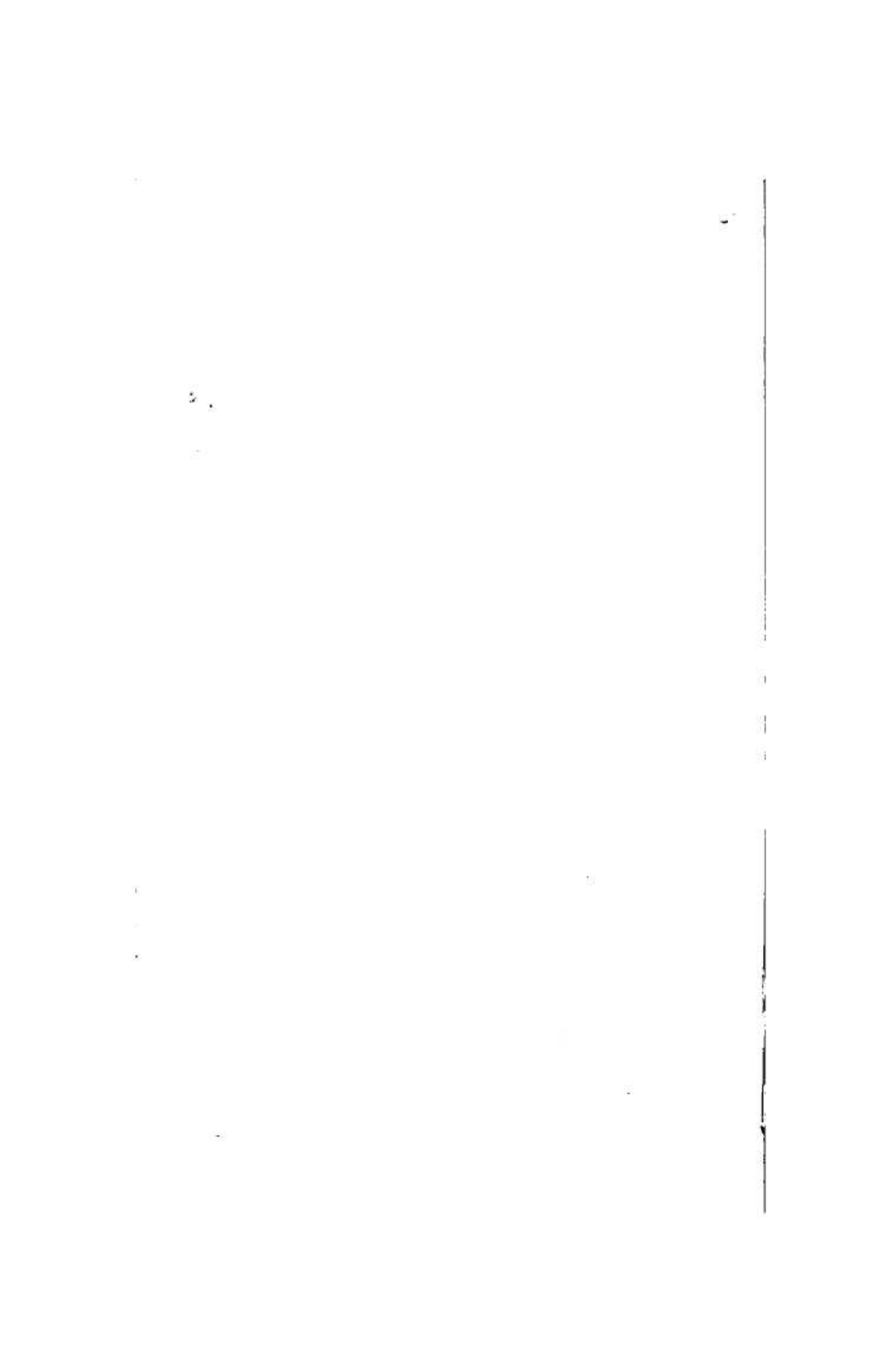
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T ALBUT,
PRINTER, HANLEY.

TO
THE FRIENDS OF TEMPERANCE AND TRUTH,
AND THE
LOVERS OF MANKIND,
WHO PREFER THE SMILE OF HEAVEN,
AND THE
TESTIMONY OF A GOOD CONSCIENCE,
TO EVERY THING ELSE;
AND WHOSE GREAT CONCERN IS,
TO PROMOTE
THE HAPPINESS OF MANKIND,
THIS WORK IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,
BY
THE AUTHOR.

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P R E F A C E.

To dispel the mists that have long obscured the study of Temperance—to communicate blessings, the concealment of which is little less than criminal—to direct the affluent and the indigent, the learned and the illiterate, in the road to health—to conduct them through the journey of life with as little pain, and as much satisfaction, as the complex mechanism of the human fabric, ever subject to disorder and infirmity, will permit—and to remind mankind of the higher obligations to the great Author of their existence, who, in the midst of his judgment for their transgressions, has remembered mercy, and condescended to pour balm into their wounds, by implanting in their bosoms, the seeds of a “new affection:”—these have been the principal objects of the Author, in preparing the following sheets; which are submitted to the public, in the expectation, that, with a reasonable degree of attention, they must be beneficial; and can, by no possible means, prove injurious to a single individual.

In the discussion of this important and momentous subject, the Author has felt anxious to conduct it in

such a way, that the magnitude of the end proposed, should suffer as little as possible from the weakness and infirmity of the means employed. To effect this object, he has ventured, when he has thought it likely to consolidate the argument, not only to adopt the sentiments, but to use the language of certain writers of distinguished merit to the purpose of the inquiry. He has dared to venture upon topics, where there is a risk of being mistaken, and misrepresented; where motives will be ascribed to him, by which he was never actuated; and sentiments fastened upon him, which he never advanced. He anticipates these difficulties; but, conscious where his strength lies, he feels within himself, a spirit, which is adequate to surmount every impediment.

Conciseness, on every subject, has all along been with the Author, a *sine qua non*. He concedes the point, that "a great book is a great evil." Horace has told us, where words abound, sense is thinly spread—as a tree, overcharged with leaves, bears little fruit. However, be that as it may, it is hoped the public will accept what is well meant, though perhaps ill performed. Should that be the case, the subject will be resumed in a Second Part.

Derby, Jan. 1, 1840.