

# R E P O R T .

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

COMMITTEE ROOM, *March*, 1849.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire whether any, and what, Legislative measures can be adopted to repress the evils growing out of Intemperance, have agreed to make the following Report:—

Intemperance leads to crime, to insanity, to pauperism. One-half of the crime annually committed, two-thirds of the cases of insanity, three-fourths of the pauperism, are ascribable to intemperance. No other form of words would have been sufficiently comprehensive to express the deliberate convictions of Your Committee. Having thus in the outset tendered their own testimony, Your Committee would remark that, without incurring enormous expense, they could not have procured the attendance of witnesses from a distance. They have, consequently, examined none but persons residing or sojourning upon the spot. Your Committee will, therefore, present to Your Honourable House a picture—certainly not an over-charged picture—of the condition of the City of Montreal in relation to the subject of intemperance.—Every individual Member will have it in his power to compare the state of his own neighbourhood with that of this city, and to form his own conclusions. For the purpose of this reference, too, it may be justly assumed, that the parties, who have presented the several Petitions referred to Your Committee, are witnesses in every respect worthy of credit. They amount to several thousands from every section of United Canada, and it is to be presumed that they have been moved to appeal to Your Honourable House by evils affecting their own respective localities. While, therefore, the Petitioners will, no doubt, be able to make a beneficial application of the facts elicited and recorded by Your Committee, the latter are entitled to submit the contents of the Petitions as a