

Results of Emancipation in the West Indies.

Some proprietors may have suffered by emancipation, but the great mass of the people have been benefited by it. Thus, as is reasonable and just, the interest of the few have given way to the rights and welfare of the many. From the effects of slavery, the whole body social and politic was diseased, resembling the human frame, under the influence of paralysis; now, wealth or the means of its attainment being generally possessed, liberty, and health, and happiness are enjoyed by all, by the poor as by the rich, by the slave as by the tyrant. Hence we have prosperity, as well as social health and happiness, among our labouring classes. Many of the once slaves have by these advantages and their industrious habits advanced themselves in the towns, to tradesmen, and in the country to freeholders of from one to five, ten, and twenty acres each, and are thus rapidly forming that middle class which slavery precluded, and without which no country can flourish.

With increased means there has been a demand for increased comforts, and thus civilization has rapidly progressed. There has been a great improvement as to the style and manner of living among the peasantry in general—as to their cottages and furniture—as to their habits and dress—as to their appearance and general bearing.—These circumstances it is but natural to suppose, have not been without their influences, on the commerce of the island. The imports during the three past years have been unprecedented, and are still increasing; whilst, with the exports of the last year, the West Indian trade has been admitted both by merchants and ship owners, to be the most profitable of any at the present day.

Interesting and important as these consequences of emancipation have thus been, that event has been attended by results still more interesting and glorious. By the blessing of God on the instrumentality employed in connexion with the enjoyment of liberty, morality and religion have been greatly extended. None of the villages under the superintendence of the missionaries, I think I am warranted in saying, are desecrated by a vender of spirituous liquors; nor do they exhibit scenes of quarrelling, revelling, or immorality of any kind. The children attend the day and evening schools, which are in most cases established for their benefit, most of their parents are members of some Christian church, and all, it may be said, are in the habit of attending to the outward means and ordinances of the gospel. Thus the colony in general is in the possession of peace, as well as of comparative happiness and prosperity.

—London A. S. Reporter.

PROGRESS OF THE CAUSE.

ST. LAURENT TEMPERANCE TEA PARTY.

The friends of Temperance having resolved to have a Tea Party to advance the interests of the good cause in this village, met in the School-House, on the evening of March 29th, Mr. William Boa in the chair—prayer, by Mr. Gemmill. After refreshments, (prepared in excellent style,) the much excited Barley question was discussed at full length, and caused much interest. Some resolved to traffic no longer with either brewer or distiller, while others took a different view of the subject, and thought if they delivered their produce to the brewer or distiller the responsibility of its being converted into a bad use, did not rest upon them. Others still advanced the opinion, (without attempting to prove it,) that if distillation should cease, their barley would not bring them six pence per bushel, and the hope of their gains would be gone, and of two evils, they would choose the least. They were told if the principles of Temperance should be embraced by all, that many, who were now destitute of the means of subsistence, would have money to buy meat instead of rum; and their barley used to fatten swine, &c., might yield them even a greater profit; at present, Lower Canada sells her barley and oats to the distiller, and gives the money to Ohio for pork and flour. The immorality of the practice of making and selling spirituous liquors was urged upon

their consideration. Who would take the last morsel of bread from furnishing children? Who would cause the weeping mother's anguish over a drunken husband? Who would enrich him: Is by the price of that drunkard's soul? Who would, (or who did,) take the money that was paid for the liquor that caused Hugh Cameron to murder his wife? Appropriate speeches were made, and a few signatures added to those previously obtained. A Society was then formed, denominated the "St. Laurent and Côte des Neiges Temperance Society." The following office-bearers were elected: Thomas Turnbull, President; Robert Boa, Vice-President; Wm. Boa, Treasurer; J. P. Sutton, Secretary. During the evening, several Temperance Hymns were sung, and the party broke up at a seasonable hour, highly delighted with the evening's entertainment. May this small one become a thousand.

—J. P. SUTTON, Sec.

FIXVAL, April 10.—At a meeting on the first July last, the Rev. S. Griffin strongly recommended the Total Abstinence pledge, and after some discussion seventeen persons signed it,—then the moderate pledge was proposed, allowing only the moderate use of wine and cider; and seven signed it, making a total of twenty-four signatures the first evening; after which we proceeded to elect officers for the current year, viz: L. Fowler, President; G. Metcalf, Vice President; H. Wood, Treasurer; S. McCartney, Secretary, and a managing committee of seven. The meeting then adjourned till the 24th January, when about eighty persons assembled, were addressed by the Rev. S. Griffin, twenty-eight names were added. Second Monthly Meeting held on the 8th February, was addressed by Rev. Leonard D. Solsbury when twenty-eight names were added. Two meetings were held in March, the former was addressed by the Rev. S. Waldron, and the latter by the Rev. S. Griffin, and twenty names were added, making a hundred members, viz: on Total Abstinence Pledge seventy-five, and on the Moderate Pledge twenty-five members. There are two Temperance Societies besides this in the Township of Southwold. We hold monthly meetings, and are happy to state that the cause is steadily progressing.—S. McCARTNEY, Sec.

[We strongly advise the above mentioned twenty-five moderation men to join the tee-totalers, and go forward as a united Society. Ed.]

STOUFFVILLE, April 21.—We commenced our efforts in the beginning of last year under great discouragement, but by steady perseverance gained in influence and in numbers, and, through the abundant labours in the Gospel of our chief lecturer during the last winter, we have not held our regular meetings, and, consequently, there has been a sensible decline. Drunkenness, however, is not so prevalent among us as it was, and our chief merchant, who is also our post-master, and who formerly dealt largely in intoxicating drinks, is about giving up the business; there is a Temperance house, also, to be established here, which, we hope, will receive the patronage of the Temperance part of the travelling community.—H. WIDEMAN.

BARRIE, April 23.—The cause is still progressing a little, and we hope we are the means of doing some good; our present number is about 130 in the Barrie Society; our officers for this year are—Mr. Richard Carnev, President; Mr. Andrew Graham, Vice President; Mr. Wm. O'Neil, Secretary; and a Committee of ten persons. I have conversed with several intelligent friends on the subject of your proposed change in the *Advocate*, and they all approve of your plan; it has been the poor man's paper, and I hope it will continue so. I hope you will make all gratuitous receivers pay their own postage; I will exact it from them here, if you wish it.—R. WILLIAMS.

[All that is done in the way of circulating gratuitously any paper in Britain or the United States, is to give the paper for nothing. None, except *The Canada Temperance Advocate*, are given gratis and the postage paid too. There are about 1,500 ministers and school teachers regularly supplied, and one shilling from each, on account of postage, would be very acceptable in the present depressed state of our funds. We would rather, however, that each procured a few paying subscribers.—Ed.]

GLOUCESTER, April 25.—Our anniversary meeting took place on the 9th July last. Mr. John Carson in the chair, when the following office-bearers were elected:—B. Rathwell, President; J. Carson, Vice President; Wm. Glasford, Secretary; and a Committee of Seven. We have been much indebted, through the