

Mines, we may say we have opposed to us at least *sixty* grog shops and taverns, many of them of the vilest and lowest character, where our young men spend the night in drinking, gambling, and worse. Take courage, Chester; you are highly favoured, and ought to be a model of temperance.

Since my last communication, Rum has been doing its work here; hurrying more of its poor victims to an untimely grave. I am aware your columns are crowded with valuable matter, and will not take them up with details of the sickening, horrifying spectacles, which the traffic has lately exhibited to our gaze.—Suffice the last one, as an example. A few evenings ago James Shea left town for home, a distance of some twelve miles, on a sled. His horse arriving home without him, search was made, and he was found frozen to death by the side of the road. He is to be buried to-day. Of course the man who sold him the liquor is not to be blamed. He is pursuing a lawful avocation, in fact is specially appointed by law to sell liquor, and will refer you to the government if you complain of his doing so. He is a favoured individual. He is selected as a "good moral character," *qualified* to "kill both the body and the soul according to law," while the rest of us are '*prohibited*' doing so under a heavy penalty, actually have our inalienable rights to ruin our fellow men denied us, by our wise legislators, who are so sensitive on this point, and so afraid (in theory) of encroaching on these rights!! Query—Are they really such blockheads? As I am aware your columns will be full this month, I conclude.

C. H. H.

NEW GLASGOW.

NEW GLASGOW, Jan. 1st, 1857.

MR. EDITOR,—

The friends of Temperance having a common object in view, the suppression of one of the greatest evils that has ever enthralled mankind—an evil which lies like an incubus on the population, paralyzing our energies, benumbing our faculties—we ought to be firmly united, and to encourage one another in the cause, making known to the fraternity our views, prospects, and intentions.

In accordance with these views, I will endeavour to lay before you some of our encouragements, difficulties, prospects, and efforts in New Glasgow, and adjacent localities in the year 1856.

I am happy to inform you that the Sons of Temperance in New Glasgow and Albion Mines are in good working order, active and energetic. There has been quite a revival among the different

Temperance Associations this autumn in New Glasgow. The old Temperance Society, like an affectionate mother, invites her children of every name to her bosom. At her meetings they stand on common ground, and discuss general subjects. She enjoins Love, Purity, and Fidelity, upon her young and more sanguine Sons and Daughters. The Old Lady is somewhat lax in her principles, perhaps somewhat deficient, as phrenologists would say, in the organ of order. But her benevolence none dispute. She warns and exhorts her erring children, and the returning Prodigal is received with joy. She enrols the Clergyman among her most zealous advocates, who frequently address Temperance meetings, and preach Temperance Sermons on the Sabbath. Their efforts in the cause have had much effect in stemming the tide of intemperance. James Carmichael, Esq., is President of the institution. I have also the happiness to inform you that the Magistracy of New Glasgow have the confidence of the different temperance organizations. They are men of sterling worth, and we have no doubt, from past decisions, will execute the law for the suppression of drunkenness and illicit sale of spirituous liquors as far as prudent and practicable. The Watchmen Clubs are not a numerous body in New Glasgow, but are active, talented and energetic. We, as Sons of Temperance, view them as parasites growing out of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, impairing our vitality, weakening our strength; but, as younger brothers, active and zealous as ourselves for Temperance and Prohibition, with whom we are on the best terms. The Cadets of Temperance have been re-organized, and are a numerous and hopeful band. A most interesting meeting was held lately in Primitive Church, New Glasgow. The three Orders—Sons of Temperance, Watchmen Clubs, and Cadets of Temperance—attended in regalia, along with members of Temperance Societies. Each of the bodies was represented by one of their Order in a speech of ten minutes—between which the odes were sung—after which an animated general discussion was opened. Four Justices of the Peace attended and spoke in favourable terms of Temperance and Prohibition. The Church was very crowded, the speeches were excellent and practical, evincing determination.

So much as respects our present prospects. Allow me to give a sketch of what has been doing for the past year. In answer to the prayer of a petition last winter the Court of Sessions did not grant any Licenses for the County of Pictou, but did not appoint a person as Clerk or Public Prosecutor. The friends of Temperance felt this was a serious oversight. Though this did not prevent

any private individual prosecuting, there was a delicacy felt among Temperance men as to their proceeding against their Rumselling neighbours, as private individuals, for what they believed to be a crime against the County. The New Glasgow Division were determined to test the Law of Prohibition as far as prudent, appointing a Vigilance Committee and one of their number as Prosecutor. Two of the most notorious Rumsellers were indicted and found guilty.—One of the parties appealed, and, owing to some alleged informality in the writs, the Division are required to pay the expenses. In the other case, property could not be got whereon to levy the fine. The only good of these proceedings was to make the notoriously bad houses more cautious, and to stop two of the comparatively decent houses to suspend sale, one of which has resumed the business, the other is reported to have abandoned it for good. During these prosecutions the Rumsellers felt their craft was in danger. The person who preferred the charge against them had a fine orchard cut down. Others had ornamental trees cut: others their windows smashed during the night.

The Vigilance Committee, finding so many difficulties in the way, gave up their efforts for a time. The result is, the drinking dens have multiplied and drunkenness triumphs. To oppose the growing evil, several gentlemen of high standing and influence, under the auspices of the different Temperance organizations, have formed themselves into a Committee, with a view to suppress those sinks of pollution. How far they will succeed time can only tell: every true friend of Temperance there wishes God speed.—This half way Prohibition is not the thing. Lawful and dutiable in importation and in the sale of large quantities—unlawful and punishable in the sale of small quantities—is humbug. Importation and sale ought both to be prohibited. If the law allows importation, it ought not to prohibit the sale. Temperance men and Prohibitionists are in no better situation for carrying out the reform, in my opinion, than before License was withheld. Such is the state of things in Pictou.

The manufacturer and importer form the root. The ten gallon dealers are the trunk. While we are nacking at the branches, new ones spring up quicker than the old ones are put down. Let us strike at the roots, importations and manufacturers. To attempt the prohibition of the Rumseller at present is like pumping a leaky ship and making no attempt to stop the leak—continual work and no security.

Yours in L. P. and F.,
A SON OF TEMPERANCE.