the services of duly qualified and efficient teachers of youth in more wealthy countries where talent was better rewarded; but it ought to be remembered, that the system contemplated would be quite new to the Colony; and the amount proposed, was as much as we could afford, and that, therefore, it would be unreasonable to expect, that provision and regulations should be made, as it were in one day, for its satisfactory and successful operation in every particular. It could not be denied, that the remuneration now received, by many of the Teachers in the Island, particularly amongst such as had not qualified under the last Act for the encouragement of Education, was quite as much they could fairly be considered entitled to. Many of these old Teachers would, however, be removed, by death or otherwise, before long; and, it was to be hoped, that, under an improved and more encouraging system, a more deserving and efficient class of Teachers would arise to fill their places; and, it might be, also to enjoy the benefits of a more liberal provision for their important services, when the increased financial prosperity of the Colony should warrant its being made. The honorable member then referred to a notice of the annual Report of the Normal and Model Schools of Upper Canada, in a New York newspaper; and, after briefly adverting to some of the statistics therein contained, he called the attention of the Committee particularly to the fact, that the Free School System is finding favour with the public in Canada. Some of the other facts to which the honorable member also directed the attention of the Committee, were: That the number of children attending school has been regularly increasing every year, under the operation of the improved system in Upper Canada, the number of children attending School last year being 151,891, being an increase of 14,258 on the preceding year: That in 1850, there were 3197 school sections, being an increase of 371 over the preceding year: That in each section there is always one school, and sometimes both a male and a female School: That the average attendance of children is 49 at each School, while the number of children, in each section, of what is called school age, that is from 5 to 16 years of age, is 76: That, during 1850, the number of teachers employed, was 3476, of whom 2697 were males, and 779 females; 291 of whom, had been trained in the Normal Schools: And that the average Salaries of the male teachers in the country, were only from $120 to $240; and those of female teachers, from $100 to $200; that is from £37 10 to 75, and from £31 5 to £62 10 of P. E. Island Currency. Now, observed the honorable gentleman, if we provide salaries to the amount of £50 or £60 a-year, for well-qualified Teachers, and to the amount of £45 a-year, for those of inferior qualifications, we shall make a very good beginning. The honorable member for Belfast (Mr. Douse) whilst seemingly wishing to have credit given to him for great concern for the interests of education and much anxiety to prevent any increase of the burdens of the tenantry, had been very unfortunate, as respected the observations by which he wished to manifest such concern and anxiety. He had objected to the scheme, that the proposed Salaries for Teachers were too small; and, further, that the tenantry could not afford to pay the small tax of 4s. 2d. per 100 acres, by which those salaries were to be raised: but he had failed to suggest any means by which either more liberal salaries might be provided, or (be their amount which it might) by which they might be raised without any imposition, for that purpose, upon the tenantry. His (Mr. Douse's) real objections to the measure were, however, well known; they had their origin solely in the proposal to impose the tax upon all lands alike; and not, by any means, in his dread that the passing of the measure would increase the burthens of the tenants, as respected the support of the Teachers; for it could not be otherwise, than quite clear to him (Mr. Douse), that the measure would have a quite contrary effect. The fact was, he (Mr. Pope) verily believed, that the honorable member (Mr. Douse) did not dare to vote for a land-tax: he rather dreaded the drawing down upon himself the displeasure of Lord Selkirk, than the offending of his constituents here or going contrary to their interests, in voting for so moderate a tax as that of 4s. 2d. per 100 acres, for the purpose of affording free education to all the children in the Colony. If the contrary were the case, it would be easy for him to prove his independence. The honorable member (Mr. Douse), in objecting to the proposed mode of providing the means for carrying the educational scheme into operation, had said he objected to it because it was proposed to tax the wilderness lands at a higher rate than the cleared or cultivated lands. That such an assertion was altogether erroneous, had already been shown by his honorable friends who had spoken before him (Mr. Pope;) but he would remind the honorable member for Belfast (Mr. Douse), that the old tax upon wilderness lands was a penal tax, laid on, not only with the consent of the Home Government, but in pursuance of the advice of the Colonial Secretary of the day, for the express purpose of compelling the proprietors to settle their lands, or otherwise by the penal tax, to make them conducive to the public benefit. That tax had always been distinct in its character, and had no connexion with other land-assessments for general or particular purposes; and the present Colonial Secretary was so far convinced of its justice and propriety, as to suggest the policy of its increase, with a view to the diminution of the impost on some of the dutiable articles in most general and necessary use, without a consequent diminution of the revenue. He (Mr. Pope) was not, however, one of those who thought, that all public burthens, whether ordinary or extraordinary, should be borne by the land; and, although with respect to the question of Free Education, he approved of providing the greater part of the means by an additional land-tax, he would prefer the legitimate means, if he knew how they could be found. In one of the Petitions, bearing upon the question, which had been presented to the House, it was recommended to provide increased means for the encouragement of Education, by imposing higher duties upon all Wines, Brandies, or other Spirits, whether imported, or distilled in the Colony. But, as the Petitioners who recommended such a source of revenue for the purposes of Education, regarded the articles not as luxuries, but as most pernicious to general morals and the well-being of Society, he knew not how they could reconcile it with their moral perceptions of right and wrong, to make the unquestionable blessing of a good education, in any way dependent upon the extent to which others might indulge in what they held to be, at the best, a dangerous, degrading and vicious practice. To him, at any rate, it appeared to be very improper to entertain the idea of legalizing vice, by imposing upon it a tax for the support of any object, however, otherwise laudable and desirable in itself. Vice or immorality, might occasionally be checked with respect to its open or public course, by legislation; but it could never, with propriety, be made a subject of taxation. Neither did he think, that it would be just; as the same Petitioners proposed, to increase the duty upon fine imported cloths for the purposes of general education. The Petitioners who recommended that, seemed to think, that English broad-cloth was a luxury, and that in this country, it was worn only by those who were wealthy. To think so, however, was greatly to mistake the fact; for, as to the generality who wore it in common, and who did so from regard to that respectability of appearance which it was, in some measure, positively required of them to maintain, it was already no slight tax upon their means to be obliged to purchase it. That the Proprietors of land should be taxed to a reasonable extent for the education of the children of their tenants, was quite just; and he knew that in Scotland, a country which had, for centuries, enjoyed the advantages of general education to a much greater extent than any other, the principal portion of the Schoolmasters' Stipends were paid by the land, and the rest made up in the shape of tuition-fees, by parents. The scheme of taxation for the purposes of education then under consideration, was in principle, similar to the mode of providing education in Scotland; for whilst it was proposed to draw a portion of the means from the proprietors, it was also intended to impose a slight assessment upon the tenantry for the same object. He did not like class-legislation for any object; but, although the chief object of the present movement was to afford education to the children of the poor who could not provide it for themselves, it did not, by any means, propose to shut out the children of the more wealthy from the advantages to which the circumstances of their parents might justly be considered as giving them a claim—the advantages resulting from an education, if not extending to the knowledge of Latin and Greek, carried at least much beyond mere reading, writing, and arithmetic; but for such, and, for the children of the poorer classes as well, the benefits even of a classical education are intended to be provided; for the scheme proposes an additional allowance of 10s. per annum to teachers for every pupil in the higher branches of education; and, by means of such encouragement, the son of the poorest man in a settlement may obtain such an education, as may eventually qualify him usefully and honorably to fill one of the highest offices of trust or emolument in the Colony. A Bill, framed on the principles recognised in the Report under consideration, not providing the requisite means by an imposition on any one discriptition of property, but by a reasonable tax on tradesmen, shopkeepers, and holders of small properties, so as to fall equitably on all, with from £2000 to £3000 from the general revenue, would be hoped, when once tested, meet with public approbation. If they raised £6000 a-year by direct taxation, they ought not, he thought, to hesitate to take £4000 out the general revenue, even if they had to replace it by a loan to that amount: £200 a-year would be but a small sum to pay for so great a benefit as it would ultimately confer upon the Colony by affording good education to the rising generation. He confessed, that his personal views had always been in favour of making the Act as perfect as they could, and then printing it for public information; by which means, he felt assured, that they would carry the country with them in its favour, which he held to be essential to its success: And he would thus defer in some degree to the wishes of his constituents, many of whom, he regretted to say, were not in favour of the measure. They would, however, he believed, give him credit for his desire rightly to discharge his duty in this important matter; and whether the Bill should finally pass this Session or not, the honor of having originated it would belong to the present Government.

Mr. WIGHTMAN. His hon. colleague and himself had, during the recess, spared no necessary pains to make themselves fully acquainted with the sentiments of their constituents with respect to the contemplated system of education; and he was happy to be able to say, that it met with their general approval. At first, he had been of opinion, that the requisite means for the support of the system could not be provided, unless by the imposition of a land-tax of 8s. or 10s. per 100 acres; but even to that they were willing to submit. He had since, however, been enabled to inform them that the whole tax would not exceed 4s. 2d. the hundred acres; and he had the satisfaction to know, that they were prepared cheerfully to acquiesce in the imposition of it. They were nearly all rent-payers, and some of them found it a very difficult matter to make provision for the discharge of their obligations to their landlords; but whether they could pay their rents or not, they were well disposed to pay the moderate tax proposed as the means of extending to their children the benefits of education. The hon. member then adverted to the great moral, social, commercial, and political benefits which Scotland had, for centuries, derived from the superior educational training of her youth, through the efficacy of her admirable parochial school system; and, in alluding to the efforts made by the people of Massachusetts, by whom £10,000 sterling per annum, were devoted to the imparting of a good education to the children of the State, the hon. member observed, that education was the only certain source of true power and prosperity; and just in proportion as it was promoted or neglected amongst a people, did they rise or sink in the moral scale. The hon. member then concluded by eulogizing, in the highest terms, the leader of the Government, (the Hon. Mr. Coles), declaring him to be justly entitled to the gratitude of the whole country, for having originated the measure under consideration; from the operation of which, he observed, the greatest positive benefits could not fail to result to the Colony at large. The time was not far distant, he hoped, when our schools would send forth young men eminently qualified to fill every public office in the Colony; and when it would no longer be necessary, on account of the paucity of educated natives, to have such offices conferred upon gentlemen from the Old Country.

Mr. DAVIES explained that his reason for refusing to sign the Report, was not because he believed the measure recommended by it to be one with which the people would not be satisfied; neither was it, because it proposed the imposition of a moderate tax for the support of education, for he believed the people would not object to pay it: but it was because he thought there were other means available for such a purpose, which, if fairly laid hold of by the Government, would tend to the lightening of public burthens, and perhaps altogether obviate the necessity for any further imposition upon land. But as since then, he had been assured by individual members of the Government, that those means would be looked after, and made available as speedily as possible for the public service, he would not oppose the measure recommended by the Report. His hon. colleague (Mr. Douse) had spoken rather disparagingly of the schoolmasters of the Colony: he had, in fact, done them positive injustice. He (Mr. Davies) had occasionally conversed with different district teachers, and he was persuaded that they were possessed of much discernment and intelligence; and, as to qualifications, he believed theirs were quite as high as those of the generality of teachers in England, about two or three hundred years ago, when education was much less common, and the modes of instruction much more imperfect, in that country than they are now.

Mr. LAIRD was decidedly of opinion, that it would be perfectly just to cause the proprietors to pay ½d. an acre, for the support of education, on the lands which they had leased, as well as on those which they kept in a wilderness state. In the New England States, education was provided for by a property tax, and the absentee proprietors were taxed equally with the resident ones—they who, on account of non-residence, received no direct benefit, from the education afforded by a State, as well as they who, as residents in the State, directly participated in it. The great land-proprietors, whether their estates were leased or unleased, should be made directly to contribute, on account of their estates, either to the support of education or of the government; and, unless they should be taxed, in some shape or other, for such purpose, he could not say, that the proposed measure would have his support.

Mr. MOONEY was opposed to the Report in its present shape. He had the honor of being one of the Committee, appointed by the House to draw up the Report, but he had refused to sign it. His reason for refusing was, that there was a class of men who, if the Report should be carried into effect, would get off scot-free; and that, he thought, would be very unfair. According to the recommendation of the Report, the proprietors of wilderness lands would have to pay 9s. 2d. per hundred acres, and the tenants 6s. 8d. But there was a class of gentlemen who had their lands actually leased or let by agreements, dragging from the Colony annually whatever amount of cash their agents could collect to remit to them, in the shape of rents; and these gentlemen, forsooth, were not to be touched, lest they should speak against us in Downing Street. Now this he called a mere absurdity and the height of injustice to the the inhabitants of Prince Edward Island. He held in his hand an amendment to the Report, based in justice. But it should speak for itself. It was to impose a tax of a half-penny an acre on the lands which the said proprietors had leased or let by agreements, or verbally, the tax to be paid by the proprietor or proprietors into the Treasury of the Island, for the purposes of general education. He might be told that this was impracticable. If it was, where was the feasibility or practicability of it in the last Session, when they passed a Bill for a similar purpose, but which unfortunately got the *go-by* in the Council. That Bill was to impose a tax of one-farthing per acre on all lands of the extent of 500 acres and upwards, owned by one individual. That Bill was barked in the Council, though he was led to believe, that it would be otherwise. He would not, therefore, trust them again. He would, if he could, tie the two measures together, that the fate of the one might be the fate of the other. If he could incorporate his amendment with the Education Bill, he would go with it; but not otherwise. This measure should not have been brought forward, until after the Government should have settled the all-absorbing question of the Fishery Reserves. Let us see what benefit the people will derive from the proceeds of these Reserves, before we tax the people already overburthened. Bring, said the hon. member, all the resources of the Colony to bear—Crown Lands and all Reserves—my Resolution and all—and then I will go with the Government hand and glove.

Mr. MONTGOMERY was opposed to the additional tax of one half-penny an acre on all lands. With respect to the tenantry, they were already taxed beyond what they were able to pay. It was well known, that many could not pay the present tax of 2s. 6d. per hundred acres: they had no way of raising the money to do so. Besides, such was the poverty of many of the tenantry, that even if free-schools were established among them, they would not be able to avail themselves of the advantages offered by them for their children, owing to their inability to clothe them: They would be unable to provide them with sufficient clothing, or to put shoes upon their feet to send them to school in winter; and neither would they be able to give them bread to go in summer. And, surely, it would be most unjust to impose a tax, for education, upon those who were not in such circumstances as could enable them to avail themselves of it for their children. On these accounts, he was opposed to the taxation part of the scheme. He was also opposed to the scheme on other grounds. The amount of annual salary proposed for Common School Teachers was too small. Such salaries should be provided as would induce young men of suitable attainments to make teaching the business of their lives. The inducements, on that score, held out by the proposed scheme, were not stronger than those afforded by the existing system; under which young men generally qualified, in the Academy, merely with a view to improve themselves further, by teaching a year or too, so as to fit themselves for some other employment. Such teachers could not be expected to take any real interest in their charge; and, if they secured the payment of their salaries, they got all they cared for. The taking of £4,000 a year out of the Treasury, for three years to come, the country could not afford, if even thereby, together with the amount proposed to be raised by taxation, the free system could, for that period of time, be carried into successful operation. Supposing that at the end of three years, as the case had been put by the hon. leader of the Government (Mr. Coles), the Colonial Debt should be increased by £11,000, in consequence of the amount taken out of the Treasury for the support of education during that period, how would they propose to provide for its support in future? Would they propose still further to increase the Public Debt, and again to renew the taxation? What, to him, appeared to be the most feasible and fairest scheme to adopt under existing circumstances, for the improvement of our educational system, would be to appropriate annually, from the general revenue, the amount of £2000 or £3000, for the purpose of increasing the Government allowance to Licensed Teachers. By this means, the Government allowance to Teachers might be increased to double its present amount, so that with as much (raised by equitable assessment on property in each school District) paid to them by their employers as they received from the Treasury, the condition and circumstances of Teachers would be so much improved, that it might reasonably be expected that young men would duly qualify for the vocation, with the intention of devoting themselves to it for the remainder of their lives; and the effect of such an increased provision for the remuneration of teachers, would, he believed, in a short time, be found to tell much for the interests of general education, and would eventually secure to the country the constant services of truly respectable and efficient teachers. He set a high value upon education, and was most truly anxious to see such a provision made for it, in this Colony, as would place the blessing within the reach of all. He had no intention of offering any factious opposition to the measure; for no one could be more friendly to its object than he. But he was decidedly opposed to the land-taxation part of the scheme; for such an additional imposition as was contemplated by the Report, would, he was certain, if carried into effect, be felt as a very grievous increase of their burthens by the tenantry. Unfriendly, however, as he was to that part of the scheme, he warmly approved of the object of the contemplated measure; and, should it be brought forward, in the shape of a Bill, he would gladly afford all the assistance he was capable of rendering in regulating its details.

Hon. Mr. COLES. The reasoning of the hon. member for Princetown (Mr. Montgomery) was, he thought, any thing but sound or conclusive, either against the scheme propounded in the Report, or in favor of his (Mr. M's) own proposition. The hon. member was surely very well aware that, under the present system, the amount generally paid for the schooling of one child, for twelve months, was forty or fifty shillings; and yet he argued as if he thought it would be easier for the tenants to provide schooling for their children, at that rate, than for each of them to have his family educated on account of his paying a tax of 4s. 2d. a year towards the support of the proposed free system. This was truly absurd. And, again, he (Mr. Montgomery) was scarcely one whit more fortunate, with respect to his own proposition; that the amount which he proposed should be raised by assessment on the property of individuals in each School District. £30 or £40 per annum would impose upon the tenantry, at the least, double the amount of taxation contemplated by the Report. The hon. member (Mr. M.) had said that, owing to the inability of parents to afford suitable clothing for their children, it would be impossible for them to send them to school. He (Mr. Coles) had no doubt that many instances might be found of parents, among the tenantry, at present, who were not able both to clothe their children in a suitable manner for school, and also to pay their share of the salary paid to the Teacher by his subscribers. But to accomplish both these objects—the clothing of their children and sending them to school—under the contemplated system, would be much easier than it was at present; for, instead of having a subscription of 40s. or 50s. a year to pay for the schooling of one child, a parent would have to pay only 4s 2d. a year, and the balance would be left to provide clothing. But it ought to be remembered that not more than one half of the tenantry held more than 50 acres of land; and, therefore, that, to one half of them, education for their children would be provided in return for the payment of a tax of 2s. 1d. per annum. And it should also be borne in mind, that it was not now, as it was twenty years ago, when cash could not be procured for produce. American vessels now frequented all our outports, and were ready to take all the produce offered them for cash; and such tenants as might have to pay the tax for 100 acres would easily be able to provide for it by the sale of two or three bushels of oats; whilst those who had to pay for only 50 acres could do so by the sale of a bushel and a half. The contemplated scheme would confer an especial benefit upon the poor; but it would also operate greatly for the benefit of the rich, although in and about Charlottetown, the owners and holders of property would have to pay very heavily, as much as 16s. 8d. a hundred acres, besides the present Tax. He himself would have to pay £7 10s. a year, but that he disregarded; for in his propositions relative to the question, he had overlooked all considerations of self. But, to return to the proposition of the hon. member for Princetown, (Mr. Montgomery,) and that of some of the Petitioners from Prince County, a very little consideration would, he thought, make it quite obvious that there was a much stronger and much more valid objection to it, than that which he had already brought forward against it on account of the higher taxation which it would entail upon such as might become subject to it. The objection to which he alluded was, that although in School Districts in which the inhabitants were comparatively wealthy, the proposition might, in effect, suit very well: yet, were it to be adopted, as the general system for the promotion of education, its effect would be to deny to, or withhold from, all the poorer settlements, the benefits to be derived from schools: for, according to it, schools, in which the teachers would be entitled to the Government allowances, could be established only in the districts, in which the inhabitants were able and willing to provide as much by assessment of their property, as the teachers, according to their qualifications, should be entitled to receive from the Public Treasury. As a proof that the Petitions which had been sent to the House against the contemplated measure had had their origin in misrepresentation and misconception, he would just instance what had occurred the other day, with respect to such a Petition. A person who had brought to Town a Petition against the Free Education System, called upon him with it; and, in conversation with him, he found that he and others who had subscribed the Petition had been induced to believe, that the contemplated system could not go into operation without imposing upon the tenantry an annual tax of 30s per 100 acres. He, (Mr. C.) however, gave him such an explanation of the scheme, as quickly convinced him that any opposition to the measure, on the part of the people, would be perfectly groundless, for, in every point of view, it was calculated to prove a blessing to the Colony—not only in providing good common education for the rising generation, but in providing it, at an expense to parents, which would be little more than nominal. The individual accordingly took the petition home with him again; and he (Mr. C.) was convinced that, had similar explanations been afforded in time to others who had petitioned against the measure, the explanations would have had similar effects.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. His opposition to the tax had not had its origin in any consideration of his own individual interests; nor yet did it arise from any immediate concern for those of his own constituents; for the tax could not be an object of much moment to them; and the scheme would be a relief to many of them, in materially diminishing the amount annually paid by them in aid of education. To himself, for instance, it would be a benefit; for, ever since he had been a resident of New London, he had subscribed yearly to the amount of £5 or £7, towards the payment of a Teacher's Salary. But he was opposed to the land tax, on account of the great hardship which the payment of it would be to great numbers amongst the poorer class of settlers. In the back settlements, it was no uncommon thing for a poor man to have to travel, for a whole day, with a bag of grain upon his back, before he could sell it for as much as would enable him to pay his present land tax. Were an additional assessment to be imposed upon land, it would prove, to all such, a very serious grievance. It was idle to talk of the benefit which would be conferred upon them, in return, by the educating of their children; for, as he had said before, they were not able now to provide sufficient clothing for their children: and, with an additional tax to pay, it would be still more difficult for them to clothe them decently for school.

(To be continued.)

TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.

An interesting Meeting of the friends of Temperance was held in their spacious Hall, in Charlottetown, on the evening of Tuesday, the 17th instant. The Chair was taken by the Rev. David Fitzgerald, G. W. P. who, after the singing of a hymn, and the offering up of prayer by the Rev. Mr. Keir, opened the proceedings with an appropriate address.

The following Resolutions were then submitted to the Meeting, and unanimously adopted, the movers and seconders eloquently sustaining the principles embodied in them with able and effective addresses.

Moved by John Lawson, Esq. seconded by Rev. J. Narraway,—

1. *Resolved*, That the common use of Intoxicating Liquors is a tremendous evil, and MUST be abolished.

Moved by Capt. Orlebar, R. N. seconded by Rev. S. T. Rand,—

2. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this meeting those now engaged in importing, exporting, making and vending intoxicating Liquors, do more than any other class, to retard the progress of the temperance reformation, and have an awful amount of responsibility resting upon them, not only for hindering the good work, but also for the direct agency they have in creating and perpetuating the evils and sorrows of intemperance.

Moved by J. Arbuckle, Esq. seconded by Mr. John Boyer,—

3. *Resolved*, That the common use of Intoxicating Liquors, being so detrimental to the temporal and eternal welfare of man—so productive of misery and poverty, crime and ruin in the community, ought to be abolished by law.

In speaking to the 3d resolution, Mr. A. remarked:—

Mr. President,—When I was notified, this afternoon, that the Committee who drafted the resolutions submitted on this occasion, had decided that I should propose the *suppression* of the liquor traffic by law, I must confess, I considered they had assigned the schoolmaster a perplexing proposition, by calling on him to "teach our senators wisdom. I will not deny, Rev. Sir, that the risk of committing a *breach of privilege*, disturbed my equanimity; nor will I conceal my suspicion, that my worthy brother near you, (Mr. Rider,) has given a significant hint of my knowledge, of the sentiments and feelings of many of the members of our Parliament in relation to intemperance. He has a fertile fancy, and very probably it occurred to him, as I am the only member of your Fraternity, who has been the subject of legislative action for indulgence in that debasing and enslaving vice, that I am a fit and proper person to ask for legislative interference in the suppression of the evil, and to propose, that our present House of Assembly would do unto all dealers or drinkers, as a former one did unto me, (cheers). My friends, it is true, the schoolmaster had been sent abroad by authority; and in virtue of that memorable *expulsion*—intended "to teach the Young idea how to shoot"—I may consider myself entitled to the indulgence of speaking freely and faithfully on a subject which the Legislature forced on me for my serious consideration (loud applause). That degradation has eventually been the means of my elevation—through the mercy of God—to the honorable rank of Grand Worthy Patriarch in the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

Ladies and Gentlemen—If the speakers who have preceded me have succeeded in establishing on your minds the convictions of their own, in relation to the nature and magnitude of the terrible scourge we are desiring to abolish, as well as of our individual dangers and responsibilities connected therewith; you have already determined, that something ought to be done for its removal. What shall be done? What can we do, that may encourage us to hope that we shall ever be exempt from the guilt and misery of drunkenness in the land.

I know well, that many are ready to cry, "*You cannot prevent it. Do what you will and all that you can, and men will sell rum and drink it, and be drunkards!*" Certainly, as long as such an opinion is entertained, we cannot annihilate this mischief, because we cannot agree to use the necessary efforts with that degree of energy and perseverance that is indispensable to success. "But, my dear Sir, there is no *can't* about it. The causes and sources of this abomination are known, are within the reach of human influence, and may therefore be removed by the determined wills of freemen; or the belief in man's capability for self-government, is unfounded, and our Responsible system of Legislation is a delusion.

Sir, this is not "the pestilence that walketh in darkness," but "the destruction that wasteth at noon-day." Mankind are liable to terrible diseases, which cannot be detected or prevented, as their contagion is mingled with the atmosphere—such as cholera—but there is no mystery about whiskey, rum or brandy. Indeed the causes and sources of drunkenness are so very patent, that when one sees on the streets an intoxicated man, the mind at once reverts voluntarily to the tavern or groggery at which he obtained the poison that unmanned him; and, without waiting for the verdict of judge or jury, immediate sentence of condemnation is pronounced against the vile business that thus degrades and injures our fellow-men; and on the individual who debases himself, in consenting to become the voluntary agent of such misery and mischief. Is it asked, why not destroy the dens in which such woe and infamy are perpetrated? Because it would be against law. Do you say then, let us amend our laws, and have their sanction to scatter such fatal nuisances in fragments to the winds of Heaven.

If society may not protect itself from such wrong and outrage, what avails the extension of our political privileges? But there is no question about our ability and right to remove this giant evil; so soon as the sober, moral and christian portion of the community are prepared to do their duty in the premises. Let the people will it, and the shield of authority will speedily be removed.

The erection of this elegant edifice, and the generous donations given us, is unmistakeable evidence of public opinion in our favour.

Eloquent addresses have been frequently delivered before numerous audiences in town and country. We have influential admirers, indefatigable adherents. Much has been achieved, but much more must be done than has yet been attempted, before the direful scourge is removed. The traffic must be prohibited by law, and the law must be sternly and steadily enforced; the penalty of its violation must be more than the paltry fine of a few pounds; it should be in proportion to the enormity of the offence. There are few offences against the peace, safety, and the best interests of society; in my opinion, of a more grave nature, and which demand a more stern penalty than that of furnishing to reckless men, the means of intoxication. All other causes united do not occasion so much annoyance and mischief in this town, as the sale and use of strong drinks. The traffic, so far as concerns the supplying of it as a beverage, is not called for by any necessity of man or society; and as it is productive of such incalculable misery and mischief, it should be at once and for ever prohibited.

It is urged against this principle of prevention which I propose, That we cannot control the appetites of men by law, and it is therefore idle to attempt it. We do not propose to attempt it; but, we recommend to control the *traffic*.

Have we not in our statute book, laws to regulate trade—traffic between man and man? How the notion got into the heads of men, that the business of selling rum, should be an exception to the general rule that applies to the regulation of the traffic in other articles from which fraud or mischief may evidently be anticipated, I know not. But the objector may reply, that the law in other, cases, does not attempt to *prohibit* the sale, but merely to regulate it. Well! what is meant by *regulation*? I suppose that term is used to signify such a control of the traffic in any particular article, as shall secure the community against injurious results. Restrictions are imposed on the trade in gunpowder, to prevent explosions that may destroy life and property. We ask for such a regulation of the traffic in spirituous liquors. Let such a law as that be passed, and properly enforced and more good would result therefrom to P. E. Island, than from all the laws ever enacted in the country. Traffic in these articles to be employed as an intoxicating stimulant for men in health, can never be regulated; for, all such *traffic* is, in its very nature, an irregularity, a nuisance, a curse to the community.

Another common objection against this measure is, that the Legislature as now constituted, is opposed to us; but I consider this anticipation to be a gratuitous assumption. Have they not lately given generous proof of their distinguished consideration of the interests of the Sons of Temperance? They are, at this moment, devising a liberal provision for the establishment of Free Schools, and such a scheme has a legitimate tendency to diminish intemperance in all its protean forms; moreover, is it reasonable to surmise that they cherish no sympathy for their fellow-men, when we are aware that they last week passed an Act imposing salutary restrictions in relation to the sale of fox-poison, for *injuries* done to *pigs*, *dogs*, and *cattle*? I am not here as their apologist, but I am retained to excite and enlist their sympathy in behalf of suffering humanity.

Reference has been made to the emancipation of Negroes; the slavery of drunkenness is more ruinous in its results. Would it not be more expedient to allow reasonable compensation for any loss arising from the prohibition of the manufacture of ardent liquors, than to sanction any longer their sale and use, to the prejudice of the vital interests of society? I am confident, the House of Assembly, will promptly take up this matter, when properly brought before them. Again, some persons say to us, "you are getting on very well in your enterprise; you have accomplished a vast deal of good;" and they ask "why are you not satisfied with doing well." We answer, because we wish to do better. We do not wish to be employed through life in pulling men out of the fire, and all the while be silent spectators of the efforts of others who are continually pushing them in. While we are content to pursue the course recommended to us, and confine our efforts to the lifting up of those whom the traffic has degraded, even the rum-sellers will deign to compliment us, "There now," say they, "is true temperance," such labours do good; but if an unfortunate brother should relapse, some of them are too apt to rejoice at his downfall. We are anxious to cut off, the sources of future mischief—Sir—this we desire to accomplish, by prohibiting by law, the business of furnishing men to intoxicating liquors, to be employed as a beverage.—Humanity, as well as the eternal principles of right and justice demand it.

Mr. A— addressed a few words to moderate drinkers, and resumed his seat amidst great applause.

[The speeches of the other gentlemen who spoke on the occasion, have not yet been furnished to us.]

English Mail of February 7.

From the Halifax British Colonist, February 23.

The Royal Mail Steamship Cambria arrived this (Saturday) afternoon at half-past two o'clock, in a passage of 14 days from Liverpool.

Parliament was opened by Her Majesty on the 3d inst.

It is difficult to judge accurately of the internal state of France. It cannot be concealed however, that numerous arrests continue to be made in all parts of the country. We hear daily of the apprehension, or deportation of a great number of persons, but the ultimate fate of those arrested scarcely ever come to light from the recesses of a dungeon. Mr. Cabet, the famous Icarian chief, has been sent to England. In the higher circles of Paris the most disgraceful system of espionage seems to prevail. Reports of the interference of the Prefect of Police with the amusements, and even conversation of the frequenters of the Parisian salons, develop a state of social servitude and degradation more humiliating than even that which existed in the days of the famous Fouche.

With regard to the foreign relations of France, we need only say that Spain has been threatened, and a demand made for payment of the debt for the war 1823. Belgium is overawed, and its honorable minded King has been forced reluctantly to interfere with the press, and otherwise to do the bidding of the ruler of France. The *Bulletin Francais* has been seized at Brussels. In Switzerland matters are assuming a serious aspect; and it is generally believed, that, to overawe the Radical party, a French and Prussian army of intervention will occupy Switzerland. France ignores the claims of Prussia upon Neufchatel whilst, on the other hand, Austria would not permit two neutral powers to approach so near her frontiers. But Switzerland once in the power of France, she can threaten

Italy, Austria, and Prussia, and wh
is disposed to make war, he will no
the glory and aggrandisement of F

By telegraphic despatch we learn
of the Queen of Spain was made on
believe was the day appointed for h
first airing to the church of Atocha
accouchement. Her Majesty was
pistol shot, but at present the woun
gerous.

Since our last we have fresh new
December. Nothing decisive had
termine the issue of the war. Sir H
King William's town for the last te
frequently said, has been virtually
Kafirs, who unmolested till their f
the garrison. It is said that the ch
tures to ascertain upon what terms
der.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 6.—In the
the Lord Chancellor, in reply to
hurst, stated that the Bill for the re
would embrace only the proceedin
of that tribunal.

The Duke of Wellington, intr
Kafir war, expressed his approbati
taken by Sir H. Smith in the cond
his gallant friend had fallen into
done before him. The operations
carried on by the occupation of
or bush but in reality, the th
found anywhere. The Kafirs re
the plunder, on which they existe
assailants at great odds, and cau
moved away with more or less cel
succeeding in carrying off their pl
it taken from them. Our troops
nesses—they were useless to them
them, and the consequence was, t
them the enemy took them, and t
repeated, the Kafirs always retiri
original fastnesses. The only re
was that whenever any one of tho
ed and captured, it should be t
opened up to permit the movement
be told that such a measure as thi
of time, and occasion considerable
true, but the war at the Cape had
such a plan was adopted there co
the world—there could be on enjo
of civilised life. It might take t
expense could not equal one te
campaign.

The Lord Chancellor brought i
first time, founded on the report of
to inquire into the courts of law
ordinary proceedings in the cou

ROYAL ARSENAL.—Fifteen thou
to be immediately packed ready
the different ports throughout E
is daily expected; many of the n
tional men and boys are to be en
registered.

CHATHAM, Feb. 2.—Volunte
barracks for the depots of the Rifle
and 69th regiments, and upwards
for the home regiments. It is e
will become general in Chatham
have recently been sent to differ
Ireland.

Four regiments of the Line, wi
as rifle corps; and the light comp
to be armed with the rifle—a nece
corps are now in India; the Cape,

Great Floods in Yorkshire and La

HOLMFIRTH, February 5.—Ho
the West Riding of Yorkshire,
town of Huddersfield, has this day
most terrific catastrophes we have
the bursting of what is called the
situated in a part of the locality a
to answer as a feeder to the mill

By the recent heavy rains (whi
of water upon it) it burst this mo
The rush of water was tremend
flowed resistlessly upon the vil
devastation and destruction of
houses (one row alone having
carried away by the water; and
levelled with the ground. The s
with the ruins of houses, warehou
of the destroyed houses (most of
into eternity while asleep uncons
destruction were the first objects
after body was recovered and wi
sixty were found.

More than seventy lives have
write it is impossible to tell th
approximate to it correctly. Wh
and there are none left to tell the
at the several public houses along
the mangled appearance of ma
torrent which swept them before
covered were found fourteen mil
reservoir (the cause of this awful

PARIS, February 4.—The bol
Government astonishes every one
continued, they will some time o
To-day the *Moniteur* contains a
have the force of law, and which
right and justice at defiance.
judgments pronounced by the m
December, and creates a peculi
inquiry in each department, whic
political detenus, according to a
of in the penal laws, and against
no appeal.

DESPOTISM I

The London Examiner contain
vote of 7,439,215 in favor of the
census returns, it is shown that
inscribed as electors capable of v
the number who are asserted to
titious character of the returns is
monstration.

A London paper of the 14th u

We have had letters from the
ment, of which the population to
leon, and which the soldiers have
beyond any cruelties known in t
dragoonades of Louis XIV. Th
in the Var, comprised 1100 elect
Of these 1100, certainly 1000 to
leon; the result has been, that
ged off from prison to prison, so
ed. Upwards of 200 are fugitiv
woods and parishes. Knowing
every one, by learning from the
1100 electors of Luc, 650 voted
by Louis Napoleon."

UNITED

The Alabama Senate have pa
troduction of slaves into that St
The Androscoggin and Kenne
any liquors over their road.
The directors of the Peninsul
sion Company have decided on
ance principles.
During the last three years, th
taken to the Massachusetts Stat
cester, in consequence of their
The late severe weather has
vicinity of St. Louis.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—A memor
in this city, addressed to the se
tives of the United States, pray
interference with foreign power
best interests of the United Stat