

the description of the poet :

"Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,  
That to be ruled needs but to be seen."

They would if they could make it read thus:

"Vice is a maiden of so graceful mien,  
That to be loved needs but to be seen."

This class are very regardful of appearances, and as the Sabbath day furnishes the best opportunity for display they generally embrace it. A practised eye will easily single them out of a Sabbath morning, just as the bells of St Paul's are ringing in, and the door-way crowded with the assembling congregation, you may see one or two gents standing a little aloof at the opposite corner, most exquisitely dressed are they, and as odoreferous of musk and eau-de-cologne as if they had come out of a perfumed box; with "gold headed cane" in hand, eye-glass in pocket, they saunter about and quiz the assembling worshippers. Bye and bye, the group is enlarged with the addition of one or two more, but by the time the bells have rung in only a solitary person is *hurrying* in to church. Mr Maturin is in the desk and the confession is proceeding, an intelligent glance passes from each to each. "It would be most indecorous to disturb the congregation." "What a pity we did not think of it sooner," says a second, "but it can't be helped now." "It is a most beautiful morning," says a third, "what say you to a walk," "We may as well since it has so happened," answer they all; and, by the merest accident in the world, they set off; and what with discussing the latest news from Europe, or the present political crisis, or the likelihood of Mr Johnston's return, or the aptitude of Dr Tupper for his new position,—(Laughter)—they never know where they are till they find themselves at the door of the *four mile* house.—"Dear me, how hot it is; I declare I am in a drench of perspiration; I must have a glass of brandy and water; can't go further for the life of me. Indeed, four miles is a pretty good stretch,—after all we had better stop and take dinner." And thus, gentlemen, is the beginning of the end.

The last division of the lecture may be soon disposed of. It has been asserted that while abstinence is expedient on all and incumbent on some, it is *hurtful to none*. Now, who will deny the assertion? Who will deny it at this time of day, or in the face of the evidence of the hurtful influence of drinking which has been accumulated, and which is accumulating every day? The question of abstinence has gathered a literature around it, such as no question which has been raised within the last four and twenty years has done—a varied literature, an authoritative literature, which has commanded the worship of the high priests of literature, as is manifest from the fact that it has often furnished materials for speculation in our great European and American reviews. Is abstinence hurtful to our young men, so far as mere longevity is concerned? He adduced a fact from the tables of life assurance companies. A young man at 18 who abstains from drink has the chance of living 45 years longer; a young man at the same age has the chance of living fifteen years longer. Hear this, ye young men; and as ye would enjoy many days and see good all the days of your lives, "touch not, taste not, handle not;" so shall your eye retain its luster, and your cheek its hue, and your brawny arms their strength, and your athletic limbs their manly step. So

should you reach and enjoy a green old age, and be able to tell it, may be, to your great grandchildren, what the poet makes the patriarch declare to the enquiring youth who enquired:

"You are old, Father Williams, the young man cried,

The few locks that are left you are grey.  
You are hale, Father Williams, a trusty old man,  
Now, tell me the reason—I pray."

"In the days of my youth, Father Williams replied,

I remembered that youth would not last,  
So I thought of the future—whatever I did,  
That I never might grieve for the past."

To whom is abstinence hurtful? To our merchants—the bar, the bench, the pulpit, the Legislature, the Council Chamber, the Throne. It is not for kings, O'Leinnel, it is not for kings to drink wine, nor for princes to drink strong drink, lest they get drunk and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.

Let our new minister, with the aid of his allies, give us a liquor law that is worth any thing, and that is suited to the exigencies of the country, and really practicable; and he would venture to predict that he will leave the provincial chest when he does leave it, fuller than he found it, full though it be, and the Honorable William Young and all his honorable and right honorable friends whom he has so recently supplanted, will be quite ready to forgive the sin of turning them out, and the blunder of turning the bark so cleverly on himself.—(Great Laughter.)

The Reverend gentleman then resumed his seat. The thanks of the meeting was tendered him for his masterly and instructive lecture. The doxology was sung and the meeting was separated.

## Correspondence.

### TEMPERANCE WATCHMEN.

MR. EDITOR,—

As the columns of the *Abstainer* are open to all Temperance organizations, our Order respectfully solicits a portion of your space.

The condition of the Order. There have been thirty-three Clubs organized in this Province; twenty-four of which are known to be in working order. Of the other nine, some are known to have "gone down," others have not been heard from for some time, and there is reason to fear they too have "ceased to be."—These nine were among the first instituted in the Province. Fourteen Clubs were organized during the year 1855, six in '56, and five in '57. There are fifteen Clubs, with a membership of 505, in the county of Pictou; four, with 156 members, in Colchester; two, with 58 members, in Guysborough; two in Inverness, with 87 members; and one in Victoria with 23. Total, 24 Clubs, with 831 members. This estimate is made from Returns last sent to the Office of Central Committee.

Only 16 Clubs have yet sent in Returns for quarter ending December 31, 1856. From these it appears that 92

members were added to the Order during last quarter; that there were 29 expulsions, leaving an increase of 63 members for the term in the 16 Clubs. This, contrasted with preceding terms, shows the Order to be in a healthy and progressive condition.

Of the nine Clubs that are supposed to have suspended operations, three are in the county of Pictou, five in Colchester, and one in Victoria, C. B. The latter was once in a very flourishing condition, but, owing to some misunderstanding, it was broken up. However, the angel of Peace did not depart; and the Phoenix Club has arisen from the ashes of the Baddock. May this Phoenix become as renowned as the son of Agenor, from whom ancient Phœnicia took its name.

Of the Margaree Club, instituted April 3, 1856. Brother W. F. S. writes under date October, 1856. "Our Club numbers 28 members. We have built a new Hall for ourselves, and have held our meetings in it since the beginning of the present quarter; we have already initiated 12 members in this quarter, so that we now number 40 members. The Temperance cause is gaining ground here."

This indicates a degree of health, energy and determination, highly commendable and worthy of imitation.

In the county of Guysborough there are but two Clubs, the one at Glenelg and the other at Sherbrooke.

Brother C., writing from Glenelg in December last, says, "Our Club is in rather dull working order; but I am happy to say it is *not* owing to intemperance.—In fact there is so little intemperance in our midst, or near us, that there appears to be almost no necessity for much effort."

This is certainly a favoured locality. Would that every community in Nova Scotia could say the same!

From the list of officers from their Club, they have some "good men and true" labouring in the cause for the benefit of less favoured communities.

From Colchester tidings are by no means encouraging. Five Clubs have ceased operations.

Brother J. W. S., of Mayflower Club, writes under date January, 1857, "Brookfield has not the elements to keep up a good moral institution. In the hour of temptation they melt away like snow before an April sun. There are five or six true to their pledge; that is about all. \* \* A Temperance Society was started in Brookfield, but it shared the fate of the Club. \* \* \*

"Three or four grog shops in its midst is cause the first; the Railroad, with its withering influence, is cause the second; and the resident magistrates are dead against the Temperance cause in every form, which is cause the third. Cease then to wonder that 'Youth's Refuge'