

This society has been in existence ten years, during which time 861 have signed its pledge; of that number 234 have moved beyond its limits, 32 expelled and dropped, 14 withdrawn, 15 under censure, 27 deaths; leaving the present number of members in good standing 539. This is an army of teetotalers not to be despised, and when we look back and reflect on the state of society a few years ago, it is matter of wonderment and rejoicing that so many have been induced to forsake their drinking habits, and sign the Temperance pledge. Most of those who have united with us this winter are youth, the hope of our country. It is a rare thing that a drunkard who has so long withstood the influence of the Temperance society, is now reclaimed by our means; but I am happy to know that the novelty and allurements of the Sons of Temperance have rescued many, especially those of the more intelligent, and those who had moved in what is commonly called the higher walks of life, from the paths of drunkenness and the power of the destroyer.—I think I may safely say our prospects on the whole are brightening. The principle that alcoholic drinks are not necessary for man, and that our cause is a good one, is conceded by almost every one, and this principle is silently, though certainly, working in community, and I trust the time is not far distant when the whole lump will be leavened. May the God of mercy and love, for whose blessing we pray, accomplish it in His time.

H. W. BLANCHARD, Secretary.

Simcoe, 11th March, 1850.

There seems to be rather more interest felt in the Temperance cause here this winter than usual, and although we have had no regular lecturer among us, yet we have had some good and profitable meetings, and indeed it seems to me that such a way of carrying on meetings, when it can be done, is most profitable to the people, exercising and increasing their talents, and, consequently, rendering them capable of travelling without a leader from abroad. Our number is about 245, 70 of which have taken the pledge this winter.

JOHN F. BROWN.

Sec. and Agent for S. T. S.

Ernestown, 20th March, 1850.

From all that I can hear, your readers are highly pleased with the *Advocate*, more so than usual, and quite an excitement in forming Divisions of the Sons of Temperance. No less than six new divisions have been established within eight months, and the greater number recently, and in every village forming a circle or circumference whose diameter does not exceed twelve miles, and very many of the old inebriates, whom despair had assigned to a drunkard's grave, have taken refuge in those societies; visible proofs that reformation may come at last to the great discomfiture of the rummies and venders.

W. MILLER.

Eramosa, 1st April, 1850.

The Temperance cause in this new settlement, is still struggling for a healthy existence. In many places, the subject of license or no license, agitates the public mind. In December last, the magistrates in Owen Sound determined not to license any more taverns, unless at the request or consent of the majority of the population over whom they were placed as the administrators of the law, consequently, opportunity was taken previous to the time of receiving licenses in 1850, to put the matter to the test.

Considerable spirit and union was manifested by the teetotalers of the North; there the votes for No License being within two, three, and seven, etc., of those who voted for the plague to continue. At the close, an abstainer reminded those who had assumed the responsibility, of *their position*, predicting that next year, mercy and principle would triumph, which, indeed, is already verified in the present state of that town. So earnest are the men of that place, that they have two societies in active life. The old (Sydenham) society commenced in 1849, with 150 members, held twelve meetings, and added forty members, so that at the close of 1849 they numbered 190 members.

The new (or Victoria) society closed 1849 with between forty and fifty members, but numbered on the 10th March, 260, increasing over 210 in less than three months. The taverns are languishing; the distillers and brewers will know something about despair, if this state of things continue. In that section of country, as far as I can learn, there is only one minister who advocates drinking a little moderately—all the other ministers are zealous abstainers, and useful advocates of the cause. Other places in that new country exhibit signs of life and purpose in this work, of an encouraging character.

Within the past two months I have had the pleasure of assisting at twelve Temperance meetings, in different places around me; at these meetings something over 200 were added to the brotherhood.

In this township (Eramosa), we have two societies. The central society is prospering; has about seventy members; Mr. John Parkinson, President. A new society was formed in March, at the Stone School-house, and numbers near forty members; William Phin, Esq., President; and we hope soon to form another society at Wood's School-house, having near twenty names already to begin with.

But it is not all encouraging, we have some, professing Christians too, who wish to retain the liberty of taking a *little in moderation*; these think that we go too fast, and too far. These good people scarcely ever think, that the professors of moderate drinking are almost altogether shut out from the godlike work of aiding to save the drunkard, or of giving our dear youth a safe and blessed example. There are some places, too, where Temperance men are said to exist, where they appear to hold that it is possible to have a Temperance lecturer too often—that once in a great while will do for the public mind, and then it must be given very