

into every cell and tissue of the tree; so these movements are only the outcome of steady and prolonged heart-searchings unseen.

Many are the impulses of this nature that have, from time to time, impelled our race in its onward course. Some only attempts relinquished when the task was found beyond the powers of untried energies; others tending in a wrong direction; yet all resulting from the better motive implanted within; the struggling and straining after the higher and nobler when thoroughly conscious, through ease and indulgence, of sinking deeper and deeper into barbarism and imbecility.

As one of these, and by no means of the least importance, may be classed the Temperance Reform that burst in upon us in the early part of this century. There were those, an ever-increasing number, who long and earnestly felt that the people were sinking through over indulgence. A shadow, deep and ominous, in shape of increasing and unceasing tap-room revelry, to them, seemed to hang over the land debasing and erasing all of what, to man, is pure and holy.

Stout hearts and brave were those who first attempted to stem the tide. Struggling on, at length, they were rewarded, now and again, by grand expressions of popular enthusiasm helping them towards their desired goal—a reformation of their country.

The temperance cause first came into full fruition in the United States; and from thence its apostles early carried the standard to this land with, varying although often, wonderful success.

The movement having taken deeper root in Nova Scotia than, perhaps, any of the other provinces, it is with it that this account will begin. As regards the mother-land, it did not, nor do circumstances indicate that, in England at least, it will soon, like a conquering army, carry all before it. For

1899
(46)