

INDIA.

A sergeant of the 10th foot regiment writes from Meerut on the 8th March last:—

"After marching about 900 miles, I would offer a few remarks on the effects of total abstinence during that period; trusting that (as trial is said to be the best criterion) it may have the effect of doing away with the impression, that ardent spirits are necessary, or in any way useful on the march.

When we started from Fort William, that opinion was very prevalent in our corps, so much so, that a great many who had long been tee-totalers fell away. The consequence was fatal in some instances. On our third day's march a fine young man was drowned in a state of inebriety. But, they soon found by their own experience, as well as that of the few who were steadfast, that ardent liquor was of no assistance to them; on the contrary, its deleterious effects were quite obvious, and acknowledged by all. *They were capable of more exertion, more energy, and of enduring more bodily fatigue without the aid of any stimulating drug.* Our canteen was converted into a coffee-shop and drunk-enness was of rare occurrence.

We marched into Meerut with three hundred and fifty practical tee-totalers. We had out of 900 men only 23 in the hospital, and with less than half the compliment of doxies allowed for the regiment.

We have not yet been able to open a coffee-room, in consequence of so many troops being in the station. But the cause of total abstinence has gained greatly in the regiment. In fact, all our members of the *via media* system are ready to rally round the standard of tee-totalism, as soon as the Lord opens a place for us to unfurl our banners.—*Scot. Temp. Jour.*

TESTIMONY OF A MISSIONARY.—The Rev. Thomas Brotherton, B. A., Missionary S. P. G. F. P. in the Tanjore district, under date 24th March, 1845, speaks of his happy experience in the practice of total abstinence: "I am happy," says he, "to be able still to bear my testimony to the blessings of abstinence. My duty as a Missionary calls me continually at the villages, scattered over a space of country more than 80 miles by 60, and I am obliged to change the quality of the water I drink perhaps every day, and yet I have not found the smallest inconvenience from this course. One day I have well, another rank, another river water. I can safely affirm that, since I have been a tee-totaler, I have not known what it is to be sick; before, I had constant head-ache, giddiness, fulness of habit, and rushing of blood to the head. When I travel I have no occasion to burden myself with a load of bottles, as before; now every well, every stream, supplies me and them that are with me, with a wholesome and cooling beverage. I have had so little to do these last two years with my own countrymen, that I have been out of the way of advocating the cause of temperance. I live in the midst of natives, 15 miles away from the nearest European station. Still I do bless God that ever I became a tee-totaler, and look upon that day as a great and important crisis in my life. Convinced as I am that God is everything and man nothing, yet I am sure, that under his blessing, I owe my prolonged existence to the principles of abstinence I have been so happily led to adopt."—*Id.*

WEST INDIES.

THE FIRST JAMAICA RAILWAY.—The following very valuable statement is taken from the *City Article* of the *Morning Herald* newspaper of the 7th of May, and contains a triumphant reply to the objection "Hard bodily labour cannot be performed without the aid of alcoholic stimulants."

"The first Jamaica Railway is progressing rapidly towards completion; and it is satisfactory to learn, that the fifty men sent out from England to carry out the undertaking, have all continued in excellent health, although exposed daily to the sun's rays, and working the line through a marshy district, where miasma must necessarily prevail. The men have rigidly abstained from drinking rum, and the general good health they have enjoyed is attributed chiefly to their temperate habits. This is a matter of great importance, for as it is now clear that the railway-system must extend with rapidity throughout our colonies, and that they will be most materially expedited by experienced labourers from the mother country, the example in question will go far to remove all apprehension about their health by adopting the same prescription."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A FALLING OFF.—The entire quantity of wine exported from Madeira to all parts of the world in the year ending 30th June, 1843, was 7,300 pipes, and in the year ending 30th June, 1844, 6,200 pipes, showing the enormous diminution, in the year's export, of 1,100 pipes, or about one sixth of the entire quantity! The diminution has been progressive, for several years past, and that too in the face of a reduction of 50 per cent on the import duties of the Island, which was conceded by the Portuguese Government two years since,—a reduction which according to the ordinary principles of trade, should have increased the imports and wine exports, as the equivalent and means of paying for them.—*Times.*

The ancient Britons were noted for being swift of foot, having fine athletic frames, and great strength of body; *their only drink was water.*—*Dr. HENRY.*

The moment we depart from water, we are left, not to the instinct of nature, but to an artificial taste. Under the guidance of the instinct God has planted within us, we are safe, but as soon as we leave it we are in danger.—*Dr. Oliver.*

ADULTERATED WINES.—The wines recently sent from Bordeaux to Rotterdam, have been shamefully adulterated with such noxious ingredients, that one gentleman was almost poisoned before he had taken half a bottle, and the master of the band of the general staff lost his life by partaking of the rubbish. [poison?]
—*Leeds Mercury.*

COLD WATER is the most proper beverage for man as well as beast. It cools, thins, and clears the blood, it keeps the stomach, head, and nerves in order—makes man tranquil, serene, and cheerful.—*Dr. Faust.*

APPEAL TO PARENTS.—Will you not aid us (tee-totalers) in this warfare against one of the deadliest evils that ever destroyed domestic bliss? Have you not children whom you would pluck from this destroyer? Will you still use and place on your tables liquors which will thus become a temptation to them? And if by your example they are led to contract a taste for such beverages, and eventually from their sottish habits you are compelled to dismiss them from your house and home, may they not turn to you, and with bitter reproaches say, "Father, Mother, you first taught me to drink?" Oh! horrid doom which seems to await some parents!

APPEAL TO MASTERS.—Seek and value, and retain those servants who are pledged tee-totalers; other things being equal, they must above all price be the best servants. With tipping habits in your domestics, you are never safe,—your property, comfort, and reputation, are as chaff before the wind. A small increase to the wages, instead of liquor, has in many cases been productive of the happiest results. Act towards this vice as you do towards others. Should your child or servant steal, or lie, or swear, in only a small degree, (what an idea to lie in moderation!) you instantly take the alarm. You know the lengths it will lead to; and the first beginning, or the moderate use of the habit, you check, and punish. Be consistent then: and as drinking leads to all kinds of sin, check it in the bud, crush the serpent in the egg. An old legend tells us that the devil once visited an hermit, kindly offering him the choice of three sins; the hermit piously thinking drunkenness the least evil of the three, chose it; and in the very first revel, unpardonably committed the other two.—*Rev. W. Roaf.*

GROUND OF COMPLAINT.—"I could call spirits from the vasty deep—but would they come?" Aye, there's the rub! So it is an easy matter for our excellent Mayor Havemeyer to issue proclamations with reference to closing the rumshops on the Sabbath, but it is another thing altogether to have them carried out. But why cannot the edict affecting the rumshops be enforced as readily as that providing for the massacre of dogs in our city, during the summer months? Simply for the reason that many of the officers whose duty it is to close the grogeries, are fond of their toddy themselves. This is the secret.—A mad dog might seize an official by the al of the leg some day, hence the policy of despatching "curs of high and low degree;" but, to run from a glass of brandy and water!—the act would constitute an unpardonable sin. As a barking dog may be silenced with a meat bone—so may a thirsty police officer be propitiated with a brandy smasher. These things are so. We know many faithful and efficient temperance men in the present police force, we hope they do their duty—but on last Sunday, we saw in many instances the same unblushing display of deontors as we have seen in days past. We hope the proclamation of the Mayor will be enforced.
—*New York Crystal Palace.*