

long to dealing in intoxicating agents as a beverage, and whenever a vender receives any thing like public respect, it must be put to the credit of that false homage paid to wealth, irrespective of how it was obtained; or to some more creditable business with which the sale of alcohol is often coupled, or to that sycophantic servility which thirsty rum-drinkers generally show when they approach the enthroned king of the bottle, to ask favors at his hand, instead of a heartfelt approbation of his hellish business. We have lately had some striking exhibitions here of its effects upon some prominent dealers in the fiery poison.

About two years since, Gough lectured not far from this, when he was interrupted in his address by one of those rum-sellers styled "highly respectable," and where is he now? he is said to have died the other day with delirium tremens.

Another gentleman still more deeply engaged in the "respectable business," rumour says, died prematurely with the same disease, a very short time since. Oh! when will the evil end? Oh! respectable rum-sellers, would society be less respectable without your business? if not, if your business be neither respectable nor useful, give it up, and aid in repairing the evils you have done, that you may become blessings and not nuisances in the world.

AQUA PURA.

### A Child Smothered by its Mother.

A correspondent sends us the following painful incident:—

On the evening of Saturday, the 9th inst., three women, residents of this village, and who are in the habit of carousing together upon every possible occasion, had procured from one of our legalised grog-sellers a quantity of ardent spirits. (about ten pints of high wines, equivalent to, at least, two gallons of common whiskey.) With these extensive resources at their command, they at once proceeded to enjoy themselves, and unable to drink no more, one of them went to bed, and in this state of beastly intoxication she lay upon her infant, bruising and smothering it to death! The succeeding morning, the morning of God's hallowed day, found these women again returning to the cup, apparently quite regardless of the awful consequences of the previous night's debauch.

And this is them iddle of the nineteenth century,—this the boasted age of civilization and enlightenment.

"How long, O Lord, how long."

HORATIO.

Vankleekbill, 12th April, 1853.

### Quebec Correspondence of the Temperance Advocate.

Quebec, 11th April, 1853.

I have noticed your request that I would furnish you with the names of those members who exhibited so much indifference and decided contempt for the subject of intemperance during the late discussion on the Maine Law; I shall not do so in this letter as I have had various causes given me for what has been so apparent indifference, such as the lateness of the hour, the fatigue of members and so on. I shall however keep a sharp lookout; depend upon it, a recurrence of the conduct complained of in your last shall not go unnoticed. The projects of adding a clause to the bill making its final passage conditional on a vote of the people, seemed to be generally felt among these members who are in favour of the measure. A great deal of confidence is felt in the people, and it was thought that even if a sufficient majority could be obtained in the House, it would be better to take a vote of the

entire population. Our battle has heretofore been carried on at too great a distance, we must soon seize the grappling irons of truth and morality, and beard the monster iniquity in his very den. We shall soon be called upon to bring our principles to the Poll, and victory or defeat must depend entirely upon the conduct of Temperance men themselves. If they are content to be laggards in the moral march of improvement, and while the devil and his agents are busily employed in filling drunkards' graves, and colonizing a drunkard's hell,—are willing to stand with folded arms, while their unhappy friends are being dragged after the ruthless car of intemperance, we cannot of course help it. We can only pity their conduct and weep over their misanthropy. But if they are determined upon asserting now their principles, if they are willing to stand against the powers of darkness, that will be brought against them in the coming mighty struggle for human bodies and souls, if they are resolved that our country shall be freed from a worse than African slavery, that the tear of the widow and the orphan shall no longer flow in torrents for murdered husbands and fathers, and if they are anxious that the mother as she nestles her infant boy, shall no longer look to the future with a feeling of instructive horror, lest the child that is now all of happiness to her, should one day become a besotted drunkard,—the matter is in their own hands, let them do their duty, and victory will be theirs. I often fear that some of our Temperance men will be flattering themselves with the idea that the fight will be an easy one, that the enemy will not venture upon asserting his position in face of such an array of evidence as can be brought against him. Let them not be deceived.—They have heretofore, it is true, kept aloof from offering that violent opposition to us, and we might almost have expected; but we stand now on different ground. Then we persuaded the moderate drinker to become an abstainer, and the drunkard to give up his cup; now we come to the drunkard maker, and proclaim that he shall no longer carry on his infernal traffic. Then we appealed to man's better nature, now we appeal to the strong arm of the law for protection against the hideous monster. The question is not only a moral but a legal one,—the war is a war of utter and complete extermination.

Another suggestion that I have heard mention, has been the remuneration, or indemnification I should rather call it, of distillers. The reason for indemnifying distillers, and not dealers, is that the distilleries having been built for the express purpose of manufacturing intoxicating Liquors, and can be used for no other purpose without considerable alteration. As I understand the proposition, it is not intended to pay distillers the full price for their distillery, but only to pay the amount which the building will be depreciated in value, in consequence of the cessation of operations. The length of time which the building has been occupied in the distillation of intoxicating liquors, will also be taken into consideration. These are matters which of course would have to be settled by arbitrators, appointed by the government. There is considerable opposition evinced to this suggestion, and it will not be adopted, if the bill can be got through without it. If however, it is found necessary to adopt it in order to secure the passage of the measure, it will be submitted to, such is the feelings that exist as to the absolute necessity of securing some such law, at all any cost.

The Orchestra of the Sons of Temperance gave a Musical Soiree on Saturday evening, in the new Music Hall. I was prevented by business from attending, but have learned, that although the music, both vocal and instrumental, was all that could be wished, in point of attendance it was a miserable failure. There were not it is said more than about eighty persons present, and