

After much interesting information in regard to the great improvement that had taken place in the character of most of the boys, and also respecting the incentives which had generally prompted them to enter upon their abandoned course of life, the extract concludes in the following words: "From the answer to our questions relative to the first motives to theft, we have no hesitation in speaking positively of the existence of want or actual destitution, as the cause of causes—above and inclusive of all others that can be named—impelling to the commission of crime." To probe this matter to the bottom, and get at the root of the evil, it obviously becomes the duty of those philanthropic individuals who could thus liberally put down their names for ten thousand pounds, to inquire what is the occasion of this want and destitution which is "the cause of causes—above and inclusive of all others that can be named." Had this been done it would, doubtless, have been found that, in nearly all cases, it was distinctly referable to the prodigal expenditure by the poor of their limited means of subsistence in strong drink. The following table conveys a lamentable statement of the general prevalence of that degrading habit:—

	Amount of Spirits consumed in		Scotland.
	England.	Ireland.	
Population.....	13,897,187	7,767,401	2,365,114
Gallons of Spirits ..	12,341,238	12,293,16	6,767,715

From this statement it appears that the quantity of spirits annually consumed in England is 7 pints and 1-9th per head of the population; in Ireland, rather more than 13 pints per head; and in Scotland, twenty-three pints per head. Philanthropists of Glasgow! (and we also say philanthropists of England!) look at this picture:—reflect upon it—and see if your time and money cannot be more advantageously employed in preventing, than in remedying the evil. Set a good example to your poor, self-pauperised, starving countrymen; banish strong drink from your tables;—taste not, touch not, the ensnaring drink, and you will soon find that your houses for the reformation of offenders may, to a great extent, be dispensed with. Ask your Irish neighbours for their experience in regard to total abstinence. In a recent number of the *Cork Southern Reporter*, it is stated that "during the last fortnight not a single individual had been brought before the police authorities of that city, on a charge of drunkenness. The police office, which, in days of yore, was filled on Monday mornings with the debased and miserable creatures who, under the influence of intoxication, had been guilty of every variety of offence and outrage—this office is now brought to a condition of joyful and heart-cheering solitude."

Again: in the *Dublin Temperance Herald*, of the 7th ult., we are told on the occasion of two members of the Temperance Society visiting the Prison Hospital, that Mr. Purdon, the governor, after stating that there was then in the Prison Hospital the body of a young man who had just died of *delirium tremens*, observed "that two wings of the new portion of the prison, allotted to rioters and drunkards, were quite empty, owing to the spread of temperance through the city."

The history of the Temperance Reformation, even in its present early state, goes most conclusively to prove that had the efforts of philanthropists been directed to the prevention of crime, instead of to the reformation of the criminals, a large portion of the misery and sin which has overspread our land, would, in all human probability, never have been witnessed. We venture to assert, that nineteen twentieths of the cases of juvenile depravity in this country result from the drinking habits of their parents. In addition to actual want, bordering, it may be, on starvation, which is above described as "the cause of causes" of the incentives to crime, must be added the depth of degradation to which the children of drinking parents are brought in early life through the want of all education, religious or secular; through an entire desecration of the Sabbath; and from consequent early exposure to the company of the vilest and most profligate of mankind.—*Scottish Temperance Journal*.

### Letters to the Editor.

#### UPPER CANADA.

CARLTON PLACE, July 24, 1840.

DEAR SIR,—I have the honour and happiness to be a Tempe-

rance man, on the Total Abstinence principle, and greatly rejoice in the prosperity of that cause, deeply conscious of its conduciveness to the various interests of my fellow-mortals. Within the bounds of my present field of Ministerial labour, there have been considerable exertions made within a few years past by various clergymen and zealous laymen, who have nobly taken the field and gone forward in this blessed work. Great has been their success, evincing that, had every clergyman and competent layman been as zealous, untiring, and successful, our entire community would by this time have been a respectable, happy, temperance community!

Should no other pen in this quarter afford you a particular account of the ravages of alcohol on the one hand, and the victories and trophies of tee-totalism on the other, perhaps when I shall have obtained more particular information, and have a little leisure from other pressing engagements, I may trouble you with a few items. In the mean time, please send to my address as many copies of the *Temperance Advocate* as you can afford for the enclosed sum of 20s.

I am, Dear Sir, your's truly,

A. ADAMS, Wesleyan Minister.

AMHERSTBURG, July 29, 1840.

SIR,—It will no doubt be gratifying to you and the friends of the temperance reformation generally, to be informed that a temperance society has been formed in the 43d Regt. stationed at this post. On the 23d. of this month, by the permission and approbation of their excellent commander, Major Forlong, who is very anxious for the success of the society; I had the satisfaction of addressing that fine Regt. drawn up in the garrison square, on the importance of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks. Mr. Mack of the Church of England was to have been present, but I am sorry to say was prevented by sickness. The pledge and a draft of a few rules were left with the Bugle Major, who with twenty-six others that day signed the pledge. On the following day a meeting for organizing the society more fully, was held in the Presbyterian Church, when nine more signed the pledge. This is highly gratifying, for drunkenness is the great vice of the, in other respects, gallant British soldiers, and we trust a society so auspiciously commenced will, through the divine blessing, be extensively successful in its operations; and that those who have thus nobly buckled on the temperance armour—total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks—will not put it off till they have conquered and crushed this mighty foe of the human race—drunkenness;—and it may be said that not a drunkard disgraces the 43rd Regiment. The present number of the Society is 39.

I have the honour to be, your's truly,

GEORGE CHEYNE,

(Church of Scotland.)

LONGUEVILLE, July 31, 1840.

SIR,—The principles of Total Abstinence are making some progress in this section of our land. We held a Temperance Festival and Social Tea Party, in the Township of Hawkesbury, on the 11th of June, which contributed much to brighten the prospects of our Society, as well as to enliven many of our old luke-warm members, and inspire them with new courage.

The Festival was held at the house of David Pattie, Esq., when the guests, to the number of eighty-five, sat down to a repast seldom surpassed in a country town. The ladies, from their smiling countenances, and the great interest they took in promoting the Temperance cause, rendered the company altogether the most agreeable and social party ever witnessed in this vicinity. After the cloth was removed, David Pattie, Esq., President, took the chair, and explained to the meeting, in a few brief remarks, the object for which they were assembled. The following resolutions were then introduced and ably discussed.

Moved by Mr. PETER OBERTON, seconded by Rev. J. T. BYRNE:

1. Resolved,—That the evils of intemperance are so numerous and apparent, as loudly to call for the adoption of measures likely to effect a complete reform.

Moved by Rev. J. T. BYRNE, seconded by Rev. Mr. EDWARDS:

2. Resolved,—That entire abstinence from all alcoholic liquors, except for strictly medicinal purposes, or in a religious ordinance,