

to fall victims to it; such, at least, is the fact in this city; thus fearfully does God commend to these men, the work of their own hands. Such are some of the evils, resulting inevitably from the traffic in strong drinks, which this law was intended to remedy, to say nothing of those of a pecuniary nature, bearing upon the prosperity and happiness of the people."—*Vermont Herald*.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND TEMPERANCE.—On the 17th ult., we were invited to attend the temperance meeting connected with the Catholic Church in James St., and give some account of our visit to Father Mathew. It was the evening of St. Patrick's, and being a holiday, an immense crowd of the sons and daughters of the Emerald Isle, filled the large basement of the church. The subject of Ireland's sufferings engrossed much attention, and more than one hundred dollars were contributed for relief. Near 200 took the pledge from the mouth of the Priest. We exhorted them all to take the pledge, that when Father Mathew should come, he would have nothing to do.—*Journal Am. Tem. Union*.

ACTION OF THE PEOPLE.—We are glad to see our friends in Michigan taking a right view of this subject. Such as say it is of no consequence how the vote goes, license or no license, the trade will go on, do not understand the subject. It is of vast consequence. Its right influence upon the trade none can tell. Says the Michigan Washingtonian Journal, and we are glad to hear them speak thus,—"It is generally conceded that the action of the people on the license question has been of immense value to the cause of sobriety and good morals, as it has taken away the sanction of law to the unholy traffic, and shown, in a manner not to be mistaken, the hostility of a great majority of the people to the sale of intoxicating drinks in their midst. This is a very important advantage gained, and should not be sacrificed because the operation of the law has not, in all cases, been what was desired." A contrary action can hardly be called the action of the people. It is only the holding on of the liquor sellers for a little season to their business. By temptation, bribes and threats, they prevent the people from acting as they almost invariably would act, if left to themselves. Where the people are left to speak out the real sentiments of their hearts, they almost invariably say, No license. So it was in New York. So it has been in Vermont.—*Journal Am. Tem. Union*.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

The *Christian Reflector* contains a very interesting letter from the absent Editor, the Rev. H. A. Graves, in which he gives an account of a Temperance Meeting held in the Rev. Mr. Oughton's chapel, East Queen Street, Kingston. Mr. Oughton, it will be remembered, is one of our Baptist Missionaries.

Having furnished an abstract of the chairman's speech, Mr. Graves continues:—

"This excellent speech was followed with others from several gentlemen, among whom were the Rev. Mr. Beardslee and Mr. Newhall, our American friends—who represented their country nobly; but our limits will permit us to notice only the speech of the Rev. Mr. Oughton. He was invited to speak to a resolution:—

'That this Meeting rejoices in witnessing respectable and influential persons, with others of the working classes, pledging themselves to abstain from alcoholic drinks, and would fervently and affectionately commend them to the care of Almighty God.'

Now Mr. Oughton was not a member of the Society. With the majority of English Ministers, at home and abroad, he had always declined taking the pledge, having, as he said, a high value for that which he considered his liberty. Of course there was great curiosity to know what he would have to say. Well, in the first place, he said, he hardly knew for what purpose that resolution had been designated to him, but he suspected that it was a sort of conspiracy which had put him in his present situation. He proceeded to confess his occasional use of a glass of wine, and then to give utterance to the reflections to which circumstances had recently led him. In the course of these remarks he stated, that in the providence of God he had been placed over a church and congregation consisting of twelve deacons, thirty-three leaders, and three thousand people. 'To these,' said he, 'I am not only to teach the truths of the gospel, but to present a pattern of all holy conversation and godliness. And ought I to indulge in anything by which my ministry might, by any possibility, be hindered? ought I to consider any sacrifice too great, if by it the torrents of vice and drunkenness which are over-

whelming our land, may be arrested, and the temporal good, and everlasting interest of precious souls advanced? I felt that I ought not. I was ashamed and confounded, because, for one poor glass of wine a week, I had lost an opportunity of doing good to one who greatly needs it and giving an excuse to many for the indulgence of a debasing and destructive vice. On this account, I feel that this resolution ought not to have been placed in my hands. I am not fit to congratulate others for signing when I have abstained from signing myself, but it shall be so no longer. I return to you, Mr. Chairman, the resolution which I cannot move, because I have made up my mind to place myself amongst the number of those who are the honoured objects of its congratulations and its prayers. I will sign the pledge myself.' Great excitement and loud cheers.

Mr. O. continued in a popular and effective strain of eloquent remark for fifteen minutes, frequently interrupted by bursts of applause. We will not attempt reporting him farther, except to notice some of the facts which he stated, and which serve to throw light on the present condition of things in Jamaica. He could not conceal from himself the fact that the use of intoxicating drinks was increasing to a fearful extent, that in the city of Kingston, alone, there were not less than one hundred rum shops, and in conversation with an eminent merchant a few days since, he showed him a statement of the rum duties which had been paid by the one house with which he was connected for the last six months, which amounted to no less than £1782 18s, which at 1s 6d per gallon, represents no less than 23,772 gallons sold by one establishment in six months. Now, supposing that to be one-fourth of the entire quantity sold, it amounts to the enormous quantity of 190,176 gallons of rum per annum consumed in Kingston, being no less than 4 gallons 3 quarts per head for every man, woman, and child who constitute the 40,000 of our population; besides wine and porter, in equal proportions. With such a fact as this before us, said Mr. O., can we wonder that our churches and chapels are not better attended, that our schools are almost empty, whilst our prisons are full?

This was the most triumphant meeting for temperance ever held in Jamaica. At its close the pledge of total abstinence was signed by one hundred and twelve persons, among whom were a clergyman, an eminent physician, two officers, and most of the clerks, engineers, apprentices, and others connected with the railway establishment. Thirty-two more persons signed the pledge the following day. It is designed to hold monthly meetings similar to the one we have described. Meanwhile the old pioneers are redoubling their efforts, and we doubt not that great and extensive good will be the result."

This is good news. Brother Oughton is a man of energy. In him the temperance cause has acquired a powerful advocate, and it will doubtless now enjoy a happy revival.

Miscellaneous.

ADVANTAGES OF TEETOTALISM.—Entire abstinence from intoxicating beverages is safe and salutary, contributing to the highest physical, mental, and moral health. On all those points light has been shed since the origin of the temperance reformation, so clear, so steady, and so powerful, that it cannot be resisted.—*Rev. Mr. Dutton*.

THE TWO PHYSICIANS.—Whittaker, in his History of Leeds, tells us of two contemporary physicians, Dr. W. Gibson and Dr. Hulme. He says of the first—"He abandoned himself to brandy, with as clear and calm a foresight of its consequences, as if he had been studying the case of a patient." He died in the prime of life, aged 39. His friend, Dr. Hulme, an abstemious water-drinker, lived to 92.—*Vol. 1, p. 389*.

A NOTHER CASE.—"Of eleven young men in New York, who indulged together in a like habit, a gentleman now of middle age, who was one of them, found, on enquiry, that nine met a like fate."

"Almost every tenth house in England, Christian England, is a snare, a trap, set for the sake of money, to catch a brother's soul—yes, to ruin his prospects, corrupt his morals, and destroy his soul.—*Ar. deacon Jeffreys*.

BE OF GOOD CHEER.—The advocates of temperance meet with many discouragements and frequent disappointments; nevertheless, they have abundant occasion for rejoicing. We may have