

condemn them, let them not harshly condemn our thoughts. Our object is to plead for *consistency* and to urge the faithful discharge of duty in all who adopt the total abstinence pledge. Some years ago, an instance of *inconsistency* was very apparent, in the case of a German magistrate in the United States, who had several examples of drunkenness brought before him. In each case he inquired the *cause* of intoxication, and *fined* them according to the nature of the drink they had taken. One, for using "*Blag-strap*, dat nashly vile stuff," was fined ten dollars,—and others, smaller amounts, for the different liquors they had consumed. At length a case was brought forward of a man who was intoxicated from Cider. What was the reply? "O zyder, vas it? Den then I shall fine you nudding at all, for I gets drunk upon zyder myself." Noble magistrate! Extraordinary consistency!

But while censuring others, let us beware that we do not condemn ourselves. Let no consideration of gain, or taste, or fashion, blind our minds to what is legitimate and proper in carrying out the great objects of the temperance enterprise. Our course must be onward; and while obstacles exist to try our faith and our fortitude, we must be careful to diminish the number as far as possible. We shall have trouble enough ere we reach the goal,—let us not unnecessarily increase or aggravate our difficulties. We may unintentionally strengthen the hands of opponents, or discourage the efforts of friends. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."

Whitby, Feb. 10, 1853.

J. T. B.

### Maine Law Meeting in Montreal.

On Monday evening last, an important Temperance meeting was held in the American Presbyterian Church. The main object of the meeting was to obtain an expression of public opinion on the importance and necessity of petitioning the Legislature in favor of a law for Canada, similar to the Maine Liquor Law. The chair was occupied by Jacob Dewitt, Esq. The religious exercises were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Taylor, after which the chairman briefly introduced the business of the meeting, and then called upon John Dougall, Esq., who ably moved the following resolution:—

"That a Petition be presented to the Legislature, on behalf of this meeting, praying for a law to prohibit the traffic in intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage."

Mr. T. S. Brown followed, and, in a short but pertinent speech, seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The address of Mr. Hawkins was one of much power, and made a deep impression upon the audience. We think the temperance public would do well to secure the services of Mr. Hawkins, to devote a few months to a tour through those parts of our country where railways are being constructed, as well as in some of the larger towns, for there is still much ignorance, or rather apathy on the subject of the Maine Law.

### QUEBEC CORRESPONDENCE OF THE "TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE."

Quebec, 24th Feb. 1853.

Our wise men have again assembled, and as I presume your readers would have no objections to hear what is going on at the Canadian House of Commons, I have made up my mind to continue the correspondence which I commenced during the last session. Previous to saying any thing as to what is going on with the calls of the Assembly, and I can assure you that as yet little is being done in the way of legislation—it may not be uninteresting to state a few facts as to the doings of the Temperance army in the city. I regret exceedingly to be obliged to say that until very lately, indeed within the last fortnight, a degree of apathy has pervaded the Sons here in regard to public demonstrations or meetings. By this time last year some half dozen meetings had been held under the auspices of the Sons, and quite an excitement had been got up, as a consequence, in their favour; members were being initiated at every meeting, and it really appeared as if they were going to take the city, well fortified as it is, by force. This year the Sons have held but one meeting, a musical soiree, which passed off exceedingly well. The Hon. Malcolm Cameron, as warm-hearted a temperance man as you could wish to see—and the Rev. Mr. Marsh a convert to the Maine Law, addressed the meeting; and the orchestra of the Sons,

together with the choir, composed of Sons and Daughters discoursed sweet music. There were between four and five hundred present, among them were some of the elite of our city. The meeting I have reason to believe resulted in good to the cause. On Thursday last the Cadets held a Temperance soiree in the new Music Hall, which turned out a very fine affair, and I am happy to relate, on personal knowledge, resulted in some few most striking cases of reformation from the power of the rum fiend. The chair was occupied by the Hon. John Rolph, and the Hon. Malcolm Cameron and your humble correspondent addressed the meeting. The Cadets recited a dialogue in two parts, entitled "The Temperance Reformer." The first part was directed to the discussion of the principles of teetotalism, and resulted in the conviction of a moderate drinker, a retailer and a drunkard. The second part was on the Maine Law, and the appalling case of a drunkard, "poor Dogherty" unable to give up the bottle, though he felt that it was ruining him for time and eternity, was a more powerful argument than any that could be brought forward. The dialogues were written expressly for the occasion, and elicited the applause of the audience. The orchestra of the Sons were present, and added much to the pleasure and interest of the meeting. I have learnt that the meeting proved most profitable, and resulted in a surplus over all expenses of about six pounds which I am told the Cadets intend to use as a foundation for a library which they have in contemplation.

Another meeting is to be held on the 1st proximo, at which a Mr. Nichol, a member of the Grand Division of the State of Maine, and a gentleman who appears to be well acquainted with the working of the Maine Law, and most enthusiastic in its behalf is to speak. The Rev. Mr. Burland, the Wesleyan minister here, is also to address the meeting, and the Hon. Malcolm Cameron is to take the chair. From this it will be seen that although the Sons have heretofore this winter been dilatory, they are determined to make up for lost time, and also that the Hon. mover of the Maine Law Bill is doing what he can, to contribute by his influence and talents to the formation of a sound public opinion on the subject of the traffic in intoxicating drinks.

I read over the draft of the prohibitory law about to be introduced into Parliament, this morning, but not with that care, being in a hurry, which would justify me in giving any decided opinion as to its merits. From the cursory glance which I took of it, I liked it very well. It resembles much the Maine Law, differing so far as I can judge only in those points which a difference in the laws required. It will be printed in a few days, when I shall send you a copy. Mr. Cameron informs me that he intends to push it forward at once, it may therefore probably receive a second reading next week.

### THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

SIB.—Some twelve months ago I availed myself of opportunities to ascertain the views of two ex-grocers in reference to the above traffic, and now take the liberty of sending a synopsis thereof for publication in the *Advocate*, hoping the statements may be of some use abroad as well as here.

No. 1 was a respectable wholesale and retail grocer previous to the formation of total abstinence societies in Quebec, and continued in the trade for a number of years thereafter. He was supposed to have made (chiefly by the sale of wines, spirituous liquors, and the like) not less than £20,000. For reasons best known to himself, he relinquished that trade, and engaged in other enterprises, the result of which was that he sunk all he had made by grog, at the time alluded to above. I asked him where all his money was gone, when, snapping his fingers, he said, "I have not that left; the way in which it was made is an infernal trade. So much for the testimony of a candid ex member of the rum fraternity. I may, however, add, that since his reversal, he has turned his attention to an honorable and money-making pursuit, and is now in a fair way of realizing a competency, if not a fortune.

No. 2 had carried on the business of a ship chandler for a number of years, involving as a matter of course the usual appendages of strong drinks, made some money by his business, but gave it up a few years ago, and went into the flour and grain trade, increasing his substance satisfactorily. His opinion, as expressed to myself, is that the liquor traffic is altogether bad; that he carried it on as long as it was any way respectable, but had at last given it up, to follow a more honest calling. The liquor trade is a dis-