

It was quite obvious the church was now alive to it. He moved that the General Assembly adopt the report,—approve of the diligence of the committee,—convey the thanks of the house to the convener, and through him to the committee,—recommend to presbyteries and Kirk sessions to attend to the subject, especially in directing the attention of magistrates and justices to the subject of reducing the number of licensed houses,—to take such steps as may seem most expedient to check this evil,—and to petition the legislature to increase the powers of those who grant licenses,—and, especially, that public-houses be shut on the whole of the Lord's day,—the committee to be re-appointed,—Mr. Muir, convener.

Dr. Black, in seconding the motion, referred with gratification to the decrease of intemperance in Glasgow, through the operation of various means directed towards that end.

Principal Lee said, it would be well that enlightened views of Christian duty should be generally diffused on this matter; and they should avoid causing their good to be evil spoken of. He did not think this subject could be resumed to-morrow, as there was much business on the roll; and he might also explain, the reason of the house being so thin was, that many members were at that time engaged in arranging a meeting which was to be held that evening.

Mr. Brewster moved an addition to Dr. Hill's motion, to the effect that the Assembly recommend all ministers and elders to discountenance, by precept and example, the drinking urges of the community, especially at funerals. This, however, fell to the ground without a seconder, Mr. Brewster remarking, that he hardly expected a seconder to any motion which he moved there.

The motion of Dr. Hill was then agreed to, and the thanks of the house having been conveyed by Dr. Haldane, who occupied the chair *pro tempore*, to the convener, the Assembly adjourned.—*Witness.*

TEMPERANCE IN THE FREE CHURCH.

At the meeting of Assembly on Wednesday, 6th June, Dr. McFarlane gave in the report from the committee on temperance, which stated that the subject had been brought before the church courts—that meetings had been held and lectures delivered on the subject in various places, and a variety of other measures adopted, with a view to check the progress of intemperance. The report suggested that the Assembly should again recommend the subject to the consideration of Presbyteries, and that a report of their progress be laid before the committee in November; and also, that the Assembly should adopt a petition to the House of Commons, setting forth the prevalence of Scottish intemperance, and craving the adoption of such other measures as might be fitted to lessen the consumption of spirituous liquors, to reduce the number of public-houses, and the dissociation of the sale of spirits from that of provisions.

The report was approved of, and the Assembly resolved, in terms thereof, entrusting their petition to Mr. Fox Maule.—*Scottish Guardian.*

We understand that a 'Free Church Abstinence Society,' was formed at a meeting held in the Religious Institution Rooms, Edinburgh, on the morning of Friday, 1st June. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Mr. McKenzie of Ratho; and the Rev. Mr. Ogilvie of Maryculter, acted as clerk. The Rev. Dr. Gray of Edinburgh, with about thirty ministers and laymen from different parts of the country, were present, and took part in the proceedings. The principal merit of making the preliminary arrangements for the formation of this association, belongs to Mr. Douglas, writer, Cupar-Fife. An excellent pamphlet, addressed to members and office-bearers of the Free Church, will shortly be put into circulation.

Poetry.

(For the Canada Temperance Advocate.)

COME INTO THE ARK.

BY THE EDITOR OF THE GUELPH HERALD.

Ah! trust not the stream in
Which cataracts roar,
Though placid its seeming,
Abide by the shore.

Yet oh, if instruction's
Been scoffed at till now,
The steeds of destruction
Are yoked to thy prow,

Awake! ere the breakers bound over thy bark—
Yet, yet there is safety—come into the ark.

The wine-cup may gladness
A moment impart;
The end will be sadness,
And reardness of heart
How fearful his choice is
Who clings to the bowl;
Yet knows that the price is
The life of his soul.

Who hunts with the lion, who plays with the shark,
May rue of his daring—come into the ark.

Who builds him a bower on
The glacier's crest;
Who cuts him a flower from
The sea eagle's nest;
More deep his deceiving,
And darker his doom,
Who vine leaves is weaving
To garland his tomb;

Behold, while ye ponder, the heavens grow dark,
Oh, linger no longer—come into the ark.

Oh, cease from thy scoffing,
Oh, taste not again;
The voice ere this morning
How bids thee refrain,
May wail thee despairing
Gone down to the dead,
The doom of thy daring
Denounced on thy head.

Oh, pause in thy folly, oh, cease from thy sin,
Come into the ark, and the Lord shut thee in.

REASONS FOR LEAVING OFF STRONG DRINK.

I really think those friends are wrong
Who say—strong drink will make me strong;
The stag, the bull, the horse, I meet;
Are creatures docile, strong and fleet;
Yet water, sparkling water, serves
To quench their thirst, and brace their nerves.

And they are jesting sure, who say
That drink, strong drink will make me gay.
Each warbling bird that pipes a song,
Tells me most plainly they are wrong;
For who can be more gay and free,
Dear little merry birds, than ye?

They undervalue nature's wealth
Who say strong drink would give me health.
The flowers are springing everywhere
So pure and fragrant, fresh and fair;
Their health and vigour they sustain
With draughts of dew, and baths of rain.

I think I never understood
Strong drink would make me wise or good.
If I'm to ^{be} in all evil ways,
And serve my Maker all my days,
Surely I must betimes begin
To leave off every cause of sin.

Oh then, strong drink! I'll bid adieu
For ever and at once to you.
And He who makes all things His care
Will guard my feet from every snare,
And give me wisdom, truth, and sense
To choose the path of Temperance,