

ously provoked; but man, without provocation, lays his hand heavily upon himself.

CANADA Temperance Advocate.

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor drink wine, nor do any thing by which thy brother is made to stumble, or to fall, or is weakened." Rom. xiv. 21—*MacKnight's Translation.*

MONTREAL, NOVEMBER, 1836.

We are glad to see that our friends in Toronto are awake. We have given in another page, the Resolutions adopted at the late Convention of Societies in Upper Canada, and likewise the Address to the public—we recommend them to the attention of our readers. Toronto has thus had the honour of opening the campaign this winter—who follows? We would hope that the example set by our brethren in the Sister Province, will be extensively imitated in this. When will Quebec furnish a similar gratification? Is she always to be last in this good work?

A boy attending one of the schools in this city recently died, and all his school-fellows were invited to attend his funeral. In our opinion this deserves to be highly commended. To assemble the children around the corpse of their departed playmate, seems fitted to make a salutary impression on their minds, and the Minister in attendance is furnished with a favourable opportunity of teaching them the necessity of preparing for the unseen world. Sincerely do we regret that, with regard to the funeral in question, we must add the following drawback to our commendation—*each boy was presented with a full glass of wine.* In these circumstances few boys would have sufficient firmness to refuse—accordingly the glass went round, and all seemed to partake of it without scruple. At last, one boy refused, and by doing so immediately attracted notice. He was asked again, still he refused. He was then asked very coaxingly if he would not take beer instead of wine—this, also, he refused. He was urged, however, till he was obliged to declare, though a very bashful boy, that he belonged to the Temperance Society.

The firmness of this boy cannot be too highly praised; but, we would condemn in

no measured terms, the mistaken kindness of those who presented the temptation. It is lamentable that the state of public opinion is such, as to permit *respectable* persons to adopt such a mode of shewing their hospitality—to press, almost to force, a company of boys to drink a whole glass of wine. It may be said, that none of the boys were the worse for a single glass, but without replying to this, it is sufficient for us to know that they were taught to regard the use of drink as not only respectable, but even *commendable*, as in fact, worthy of a place amongst the solemnities of a funeral; and they were taught this by persons to whose opinion they would pay the highest regard, and in circumstances which could scarcely fail to make a lasting impression upon their minds. We need not be surprised if some of these boys should manifest a propensity to strong drink in their future career, since it appears to be even a part of their school training, to initiate them into the use of it. Though, what they have received at this time is not sufficient to give them a *love of drink*, the lesson they have been taught is sufficient to give them false and dangerous opinions respecting the *propriety of using it*, and should they afterwards use it to excess, it will be only following out what they have been taught in their infancy.

We are gratified to learn that an eloquent Catholic clergyman of this city, who is possessed of great influence over the minds of his hearers, has begun seriously to inculcate from the pulpit, the propriety of their associating among themselves, against the pernicious habits of drinking and tavern frequenting, which lead so many to ruin.

We have now finished the accounts of the reformed characters, who lately came before the public. We earnestly request the attention of our readers to these *facts*, and we ask them to judge by these, whether, as it is said, the "triumph of Temperance Societies would be the triumph of Infidelity!" We see that men are brought, in many instances, *from Infidelity* and wickedness to *Religion* and virtue, by means of Temperance Societies; but, we have never known an individual brought *from Religion to Infidelity* by them. Surely, if the devil devised the pledge of abstinence as a means

of promoting his own interests he has been grievously outwitted, for it works most powerfully against him. The obvious conclusion is, that *drinking* promotes the interests of his kingdom; and all who uphold it, and oppose abstinence, are, either intentionally, or unintentionally, serving his cause.

AN EXAMPLE TO EMPLOYERS.—A friend had some men sawing wood lately in a cold damp day, and wishing to give something which would really warm them, sent them out some tea and bread and butter, to the evident satisfaction of the men, who readily and thankfully took it.

The same individual, after sundry hints from some workmen employed in building a house, told them he could not give them either spirits or beer, but offered their value in coffee. He accordingly got some excellent coffee made, and with a proportionate quantity of bread and butter and cold beef, the workmen made so good a repast, as caused them to acknowledge that the ordinary treat was nothing to be compared to it.

CALL TO COUNTRY SOCIETIES.—Secretaries are respectfully reminded of the importance of holding regularly the Meetings of their Societies, and are requested to transmit a notice of them, and abridgments of their reports for insertion in this paper.

The prosperity which may have attended their operations will tend to stir up others, while their depressed state may meet with sympathy and assistance.

PROGRESS OF

The Temperance Reform.

Provincial Convention.—Upper Canada.

TORONTO, Sept. 23, 1836.

The Temperance Convention met in the Presbyterian Church, Hospital street, according to appointment. Jesse Ketchum, Esq. was called to the Chair, and the Rev. R. H. Thornton, of Whitby, was chosen Secretary. After a few appropriate remarks from the Chair, the meeting was opened with prayer by the Secretary. Delegates from Thirteen Societies were present.

The Convention during its sittings, on the 28th and 29th, adopted the following Resolutions:—

1. That this Convention considering the present state of the trade in intoxicating liquors within this Province, and the unhappy effects to the community thereby produced, deems it expedient to petition the Legislature at its ensuing session.