

loving darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil. Tee-totalers are willing that the whole world should see them, and not only so, but anxious that all should join them, conscious that in doing so they will receive good and not evil. Then, again, tee-totalers take their wives and children with them, to participate in whatever pleasure may be going; and is not this just and right? But where is the tavern hunter who does the same? Where is the public dinner at which this laudable custom is observed? Where is the party, of any kind, conducted on drinking principles, which the young can join with propriety? There is not one. From the greater part of all such companies females are excluded, and from all, without exception, children are excluded! But is this in accordance with the laws of our nature? Are not our dearest and tenderest ties on earth, connected with these excluded classes? And if so, can it be right to perpetuate a system which substitutes other and unnatural joys, if joys they be, for the pure and holy affections, implanted in every bosom, by the Creator himself? Perish the thought.

Let the men who, henceforth, encourage drinking parties and celebrations, be looked upon as so intensely selfish, that they would even exclude their own mothers, sisters, wives and children, or, in other words, three fourths of the community, from their enjoyments, and let their benevolence, philanthropy, and patriotism be estimated accordingly.

Another point of contrast is the difference of expense. On temperance principles a company may be elegantly and sumptuously entertained for, perhaps, a third of the sum that it would cost, were drinks provided. Again, the peace and harmony of the company are seldom or never disturbed, when inflaming maddening drinks are not permitted. Indeed, we hesitate not to affirm, that *no sane man would dare to gather together the numbers that attend temperance celebrations, were strong drinks to form part of the entertainment.* All who saw the temperance celebrations in the St. Ann's Market, Montreal, on the one hand, or the great Durham dinner at Glasgow, on the other, would, we doubt not, be convinced of this fact.

The last point of contrast, we shall notice, is, the difference of feeling, on the part of those engaged in the different kinds of parties, after they are over, and this we leave to the experience of such as have taken part in both, and to the observation and reason of all. To use a somewhat hacknied phrase, the difference is more easily imagined than described.

In conclusion, we cordially recommend every temperance society in Canada to get up, at least, one social celebration annually, of whatever kind they may deem most appropriate.

We recommend the following important document to the careful attention of the office-bearers and members of temperance societies throughout Canada. It emanates from a body, which has, by zealous and judicious exertions, acquired a strong title to the respect of the temperance public, and which can add the weight of successful experience to its suggestions.

It may not be universally known, and, therefore, it deserves to be particularly noticed, that the Niagara District Union employed an Agent last year, to labour constantly, in visiting every corner and nook of their District, for the purpose of strengthening old societies and forming new; and that they have sent this Agent to the Wellington, Breck, and Talbot Districts, where he has labored with great acceptance, and in two of which, we believe, he has been instrumental in forming District Unions. But while they sent their old and faithful Agent forth to other Districts, they did not neglect their own, but at the same time sustained a second Agent in the field, for its behoof. Thus, at the same

time, caring for their own welfare and the reformation of the Province. Such conduct cannot be too highly praised, nor too extensively imitated, and, therefore, we again earnestly request attention to their suggestions in the following document.

St. Catherines, *Je 15, 1843.*

The Committee of the Niagara District Total Abstinence Association beg the favor of communicating to the friends of temperance, through the medium of your paper, their views on a few points, which they deem very important to the prosperity of the great enterprise, and in doing so, they feel a pleasure in believing that none, who feel zealous in the cause, will attribute the liberty they are taking to any unworthy motives.

They would first state that one of the principal objects of the friends of temperance in forming a District Association in this District, was to create an organization, by which they could bring the contributions of the local societies of the District into a general fund, to be appropriated, by a Committee of their own choosing, in such a manner as they should think would best advance the cause, and so carry out the wishes of the donors. In doing this the Committee have thought the employment of a lecturing agent, to be restricted to the limits of the District, to form new societies, and obtain signatures to the pledge, to be of the highest importance, and it is their anxiety to see a talented agent employed for this purpose, in every District in Canada, that has induced them to intrude their opinions upon your readers. The Committee claim nothing on the ground of originality in pursuing and recommending this most potent expedient, as they are aware that the *living voice* has been, and perhaps ever will be, unrivalled in the influence which its instructions convey, and they are confident that all will appreciate their motive in bringing this subject before the public, especially when it is considered there are yet many Districts that have not combined their energies, and some of the Districts that have done so, have no Agent in the field. They would state also, for the encouragement of other District Associations, that one shilling and three pence, currency, from each member in the District, per annum, will be sufficient to ensure the employment of a lecturer. It is, no doubt, true, that many, from their minority, or straitened circumstances, cannot be requested to pay even the one shilling and three pence, but it is equally obvious, that there are others of sufficient means in each society to supply the deficiency.

As much of the success of this enterprise depends upon uniform and consistent action, the Committee desire to suggest that the lecturing Agents be instructed to confine their efforts to the avowed and definite objects of the pledge, as it is very properly published in every number of the *Advocate*. All the obligations assumed by an agreement to this pledge, are explicit, except the "suitable ways" spoken of in the last clause, and these being indefinite, this Committee would recommend that the authorised Agents leave such "suitable ways" to the conscientious views of members. They fear that if any liberly be taken to delineate those "suitable ways," it would lead to differences of opinion, that would not be easily reconciled.

As the temperance reform disclaims all interference with political parties or religious sects, this Committee deem it important that it be strictly enjoined upon all Agents, that they avoid all topics that are not required to carry out the legitimate objects of the pledge. The pledge of total abstinence affords common ground for all who are willing to combine for the suppression of intemperance, and they conceive if this be *preserved inviolate*, and inculcated as the only object desired by cold water organizations, nothing can prevent a signal triumph.

Although the Niagara District Total Abstinence Association has only been formed about a year, their Committee feel themselves fully justified by the benefits already realized, in recommending a like organization in every District of Canada, if practicable. They also conceive it necessary to have a Lecturing Agent employed for several months in each District, before a Provincial Association can be advantageously formed, therefore they are led to doubt the propriety of attempting any such organization before another summer. One year appears to be necessary to enable the District Association to become familiar with the workings of their own regulations, and before they can have attained the number of signatures necessary to afford a permanent basis for a Provincial Institution, and they fear that any premature attempt would retard, if not hazard, even so desirable an object.

JACOB KEEFER, *Chairman,*
L. D. RAYMOND, *Sec.*