

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee to whom was referred the subject of Temperance beg leave to report—

Temperance may not always mean total abstinence, but is to be understood in connection with whatever is injurious. We mean by Temperance total abstinence from all that can intoxicate.

The manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors are carried on somewhat extensively in this country, and as a *consequence* there is a large amount of suffering, shame, disgrace, poverty and premature death.

That the manufacturer of ardent spirits reaps a large profit is not a recommendation of the business. The slave trade was profitable and no more disgraceful than the liquor traffic, yet few persons have agreed that it was right because the merchants of humanity made a large profit. As a people we enjoy very many advantages. It is ours to enjoy civil and religious liberty and the best form of civil government in the world. The only difficulty, or, at least, the greatest difficulty the people of this Dominion have to meet in their onward march is the liquor traffic and its attendant evils. How strikingly does this traffic illustrate the truth of God's Word—"Sin is a reproach to any people." It appears to your Committee that all lovers of their country, of humanity and of God should do all that is possible to destroy this wicked traffic in intoxicating liquors. Light having come surely it is not much to expect that all the Christian Churches will, unitedly, do their utmost to advance the Temperance cause.

A great deal has been done both by the Church and Temperance organizations; much remains yet to be done. The Christian Churches and various organizations of Temperance are suitable instrumentalities to be employed in advancing this great moral reform. We recommend that our preachers give such attention to this subject, both in and out of the pulpit, as it deserves; also that our people do what they can to advance the Temperance cause. We suggest that it would be well for us as a Church to continue our former determination to allow none to excel us in devotion to and effort for the Temperance cause.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. HUNT.
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J. BRILL.

Committee Room, Iroquois. June 8th, 1868.