

crime. On the 27th the Committee of the Montreal Temperance Society sent a deputation to the Grand Jury, to produce the testimony which is the basis of this statement. They had an interview with the Foreman; documentary evidence was shown to him, and further personal testimony proffered; in reply to which he expressed entire satisfaction, and stated that special notice would be taken of the matter by the Grand Jury. He requested a paragraph to be written, to be embodied in the presentment,—which was furnished to him. The following note was subsequently received by one of the deputation :—

GRAND JURY ROOMS, 30th March, 1860.

DEAR SIR:—I beg to inform you, that the Grand Jury were not of opinion to make any presentment during the term,—not through any opposition from their part to your suggestions, which they cordially approve, but merely from want of any other topics brought before them during this sitting.

I remain, Dear Sir, yours truly,
(signed) P. LACOMBE,
Foreman.

This naive communication implies, that the subject after all does not deserve special attention—notwithstanding the cordial approval.—With becoming respect for the judgment of the gentlemen of the jury, it is nevertheless submitted that the flagrancy and extent of the evils herein set forth, demand a thorough investigation,—that but for the liquor-traffic and its attendant evils, Grand and Petit Juries would have fewer cases before them,—and that the whole subject merited presentment.

In conclusion, it may be explained, that investigations in which the Agent of the Montreal Temperance Society has been engaged have disclosed so much material for serious reflection, that a statement of but a few of the facts is all that can be offered at present. It is published for the purpose of directing the attention of the public, the members of the Corporation, and particularly the License and Health Committees, to great and growing evils,—and to enable those at whose instance the inquiry was instituted, to discharge a duty incumbent on all who have the welfare of society at heart.

SUGGESTIONS RESPECTING LICENSES.

Would it not be competent for the License Committee, with consent of the Corporation, and prior to considering applications for licenses, to determine how many hotels, taverns, saloons, shops or groceries, should be licensed for the retail sale of intoxicating liquors in each Ward of the city—taking into account the number of inhabitants, and any special necessity that may be supposed to exist?