



Canada Temperance Advocate.

No. 11.

MONTREAL, MARCH, 1840.

VOL. V.

MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 25, 1840.

The fourth Anniversary of the Montreal Temperance Society was held this evening in the Congregational Chapel. In the absence of the President, JACOB DEWITT, Esq., one of the Vice-Presidents, was called to the chair. After prayer by the Rev. H. O. CROFTS, the Secretary read the Report (hereto appended), when the following Resolutions were unanimously passed.

Moved by Rev. H. O. CROFTS, seconded by J. R. ORR, Esq.

1. Resolved.—That the Report now read be accepted and printed under the direction of the Committee.

Moved by HOTES LLOYD, Esq., seconded by Mr. J. C. BECKET.

2. Resolved.—That this meeting, under the conviction of the great necessity of renewed and increased exertion to save our fellow-men from the evils of intemperance, do resolve to leave no lawful means untried by which they can promote the objects of this Society.

Moved by Rev. JAMES CAIRNS, seconded by Mr. A. CAMERON.

3. Resolved.—That we feel grateful for, and on this occasion would publicly acknowledge the great condescension of Almighty God in crowning our labours during the past year with such a measure of success, as to strengthen the conviction that this cause is of God, and must continue to prosper; and we humbly pray for the Divine blessing upon us and our cause.

Moved by Mr. F. M. SWANER, seconded by Mr. W. GUNN.

4. Resolved.—That the following persons be the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| JOHN DOUGALL, Esq., | President. |
| REV. WILLIAM TAYLOR, | } Vice-Presidents. |
| JACOB DE WITT, Esq., | |
| JOHN E. MILLS, Esq., | |
| JAMES K. ORR, Esq., | Treasurer. |
| JAMES COURT, Esq., | Secretary. |

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE, WITH POWER TO ADD TO THEIR NUMBER.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rev. H. O. Crofts. | Messrs. J. C. Becket. |
| Messrs. Joseph Fraser. | R. D. Wadsworth. |
| William Greig. | Henry Lyman. |
| John M'Watters. | Samuel Mathewson. |
| James Milne. | George Robson. |
| Robert Morton. | Alfred Savage. |
| William Morton. | William M'Master. |
| Richard Yates. | |

The Chairman stated that owing to the non-arrival of two Ministers from the country on account of the badness of the roads, one resolution was not proposed to the meeting; but gave notice that in a few weeks another public meeting would be held, when the President, JOHN DOUGALL, Esq., and other gentlemen, would address the meeting. He also intimated that the Society's books were ready for any person wishing to become members—(twenty signed after the meeting closed.) At the close of the proceedings, a collection was taken up amounting to £6 1 3; and the meeting separated after prayer, by the Rev. JAMES CAIRNS.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The cause of Temperance, identified as it is with the design of freeing the world from the influence and effects of intoxicating

drink, is a theme of sublime import. The evils to be remedied, and the good to be secured, by the cause, are in magnitude beyond the grasp of human calculation. This enterprise is in an emphatic sense, moral. It has to contend with and reform what is false in principle, sordid in interest, and depraved in habit. If it exists and flourishes, it must be sustained by a continued and constantly accumulating power of individual and associated influence. In such a cause, names, expressions of approbation and of good wishes unaccompanied with appropriate, determined and persevering effort, are of no avail. To effect that moral renovation of the world, so much desired by the wise and philanthropic of our day and the subject of fervent prayer by Christians of every name, there must be sacrifice of time and labour on the part of some, and a decided and active co-operation on the part of all who are the friends of temperance.

Your Committee in presenting their annual Report have to congratulate the members of this Society on the disappearance of civil commotion and disturbances, of which it was the painful duty of the Committee of the two former years to lament, and do greatly rejoice at the present peaceful state of the community at large, especially on account of the important bearing which the return of peace has upon the cause of Temperance, which be it remembered is the handmaid and sister of Peace.

Your Committee feel grateful for the success which has attended the efforts of Temperance Societies during the past year. The changes effected are wonderful and happy. The monster has been banished from thousands of dwellings. Numbers lay down the chains of a temperate allegiance, and give themselves to total abstinence, and some, in the spirit of benevolence, have sacrificed gain to duty, and renounced the trade. As regards this Society it is pleasing to know that the principle of total abstinence is cherished by all its members with a growing attachment, and is extending its influence throughout the land—so that from all parts reports reach us stating the adoption of this principle in preference to the former, and the happy results consequent thereupon: and while we wield no weapon but the armour of light, and employ no instrumentality but the exhibition of truth, the persuasion of argument, and the force of example, we shall go forward from conquering unto final conquest.

The plan at present followed of receiving members first as probationers, and secondly on the recommendation of a member of Committee, is found to be the more excellent way, as by this means they are established in their purposes and views before their admission: 81 have been added during the past year, all of whom continue steadfast to the present, as far as is known to your Committee. It cannot be satisfactorily stated the number of members in good standing now belonging to this Society, owing to the absence of the Secretary, James Court Esq., but it may be safely said that its numerical strength is fast increasing.

Your Agent continued his labours to the 1st instant, when the term of his engagement closed. From his efforts this Society has derived great advantage; by his instrumentality about 50 have signed the pledge, 45 of whom have been admitted as members of the Society. Some of these were moderate drinkers, but a great many were immoderate—most of whom are now connected with religious societies, and experience not only a moral change in their habits, but a spiritual change in their hearts. Your Committee take this opportunity of bearing testimony to the zeal and unwearied exertions of Mr. WM. MORTON while acting in the capacity of Agent, and their entire satisfaction with his conduct while in their employ.

Your Committee, acting upon the belief expressed in the last Annual Report relative to an increased circulation of the Temperance