

ing, but stand, in the eyes of the Almighty himself, in the position of abettors of all the wrong that may ensue.

If, to the dishonor and misfortune of mankind, the baneful practice of intemperance cannot be entirely subdued, still it is the bounden duty of all upright men to restrain it, and, in its stead, to inculcate nobler tendencies.

That you, and all others engaged in this sacred cause may achieve all the success which can attend human efforts, and that you may also reap the reward which is due to your philanthropic and self-imposed task, is the very sincere wish of,

Gentlemen,
Your much obliged and very humble serv't,
WOLFRED NELSON.

Montreal, 15th May, 1854.

PRESENTMENT BY THE GRAND JURY AT THE ASSIZES IN THE COUNTY OF PERTH, UPPER CANADA, MAY, 1854.

[The Assize Court was held at Stratford, the county town, and was presided over by the Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, J. B. MacAulay. The following forms part of the Presentment, and bears tokens of some enlightenment in that county, as regards the disreputable traffic in intoxicating drinks.]

The Grand Jury of the county of Perth beg leave to present. . . . They further present, that in view of the duties imposed upon them by the laws of this country, especially the investigating of cases connected with crime against those laws, and against the general peace and welfare of society, they, on considering the many causes which appear for the existence of crime, besides the various dispositions and phases which the character of man and woman present, are not ignorant that one fruitful cause of crime exists in particular, from which a very prominent evil arises in society, namely, intemperance.

It appears to them, that the common traffic in intoxicating liquors, and their common use, are a fruitful source of crime, poverty, disease, and demoralization.

They are of opinion also, that whatever tends to the lessening of the expenses of the administration of justice, whether as regards the gaol, public officers connected with such administration, officers' fees, &c., must be viewed as so much benefit to the county and to the country.

They would wish to impress on the inhabitants of this fertile county, that much remains with them in the selection of proper men to fill the offices imposed by the Municipal laws; as on the officers appointed by them, devolves many duties for the regulation of the local affairs of the county, a proper exercise of which will always have an influence as regards the social relations of its people; a proper regulation of one of these duties, namely, the licensing of places for the sale of Intoxicating Liquors, will undoubtedly assist so far as to be a bar to the commission of much crime, and a sure and certain way of increasing the temporal welfare of the inhabitants, and the prosperity of the County of Perth.

They would also present, that there is much, and they consider unnecessary, travelling on the public roads in the county, chiefly travelling on the main road, on Sundays, by teams loaded with goods and being conveyed for the purpose of traffic, (not for emigration purposes) and they consider that the Magistrates should direct the special notice of the Constables to the same, and have the law enforced to prevent such traffic.

ADAM LAMBIE,
Foreman Grand Jury.

Stratford, 3rd May, 1854.

The Liquor Traffic—a Monster.

The following from the *London Atlas* is one of those startling representations which on any other subject but the

traffic in liquor might be regarded as exaggeration, but, as the *Prohibitionist* says, falls below the truth.

"Instead of beating about for objections to the legal suppression of the liquor traffic, every patriotic citizen should inquire, What shall be done with this dire, this dreadful cause of evil? Suppose some monster had appeared in these lands; and in one place he seized a man's hand and made him cut his throat; in another, he made one throw himself out of a window; in another, he instigated a woman to murder her husband; then he subjected a man to so much bodily and mental torture that he drove him out of his mind; then he entered a happy family, and induced the parents to half starve the children, and to make their home most desolate; then he got on the sea, set ships on fire, run others ashore, made the captain treat the men most barbarously, and committed all kinds of cruelties and excesses; and suppose he carried on his depredations on so extensive a scale, that the victims whose death he occasioned, or whose character and circumstances he ruined, amounted to thousands in the course of a single year; while at the same time he costs the British nation, to prevent, detect, and punish the crimes he either attempted or effected, several millions of pounds annually: and suppose he had carried on these depredations for a series of years until he had brought the myriads to disease, poverty and death:—what a sensation it would produce in the nation! We should hear of nothing but this monster. Every newspaper in the kingdom; every railway and electric telegraph; every judge, magistrate, policeman and constable would be laid under tribute to catch, convict and punish such a wholesale criminal. Whenever the British Parliament met, the first question, the all-absorbing topic would be—"The Monster! Who is he? Has he been captured? Where is he to be found?" Yes, and in the destruction of such a murderer of her majesty's subjects, such a ruiner-general, it would not be thought too much to employ both the army and navy.

And suppose this monster was detected? and not the slightest doubt remained as to his criminality, what a thrill of joy would run through the whole nation! And if the judgment of the whole nation was taken as to what should be his doom, who would plead for his life? Would not every one who presumed to urge lenient measures in a case of such complex and aggravated guilt, be suspected of being a criminal accomplice? Every voice, excepting the voice of his aiders and abettors, would demand 'death! death! utter destruction! no punishment can equal the monster's crimes!'

"Such a monster has appeared in these lands. His depredations have been as numerous, and far more horrifying than we have described. They have been continued for centuries. We have found him out. His guilt has been proved beyond a doubt. He was tried before a Parliamentary Committee, and not a ghost of a question remained as to his criminality. Members of Parliament, judges, lawyers, magistrates, policemen, naval and military officers, clerics, and even his own mercenary dependents, have all borne swift witness against him. What will you do with him? Will you say, 'Spare him for he is a good creature of God? Just cramp his energies a little, and fetter his operations? Keep him due bounds and he will do no one any harm?' What, has he not had a fair trial? Has he not often been placed under various restrictions, and broke through all? Has he not bidden defiance to every restraint, and trampled under foot every law of God and man? Has he not deafened his ear against the pleadings of the senator and the preacher; against the admonitions of the judge, and the threats of the executioner; the appeals of honour, and the entreaties of love? Has he not trampled beneath his remorseless foot authority, example, influence, and driven roughshod over the best interests of society? Applying the infallible test, 'by their fruits ye shall know them,' is it not as clear as sunshine, that alcohol is the most cursed of all that the art of man ever extracted from the bounties of Hea-