

of high wines, who of course had nothing to do with his conduct or its consequences. Finding the ill effects which the tyranny of Alcohol produced upon his circumstances, as is usually the case, instead of throwing off his shackles, joining the Temperance band, and becoming free, he gave way to the Mohammedan delusion of fate, crying out, "My mother died a drunkard, and so must I." In these fits of madness he was led to commit a breach of the peace, and being brought before the Police Court, was consigned to the Palace where all distinctions are levelled, and whence, it is reported, "people come out worse than they go in." Finding this incarceration a pleasanter business than he at first expected, he thought less of a breach of the peace in his next fit than he had done before; and as the magistrates, according to their sage practice in the city of the King's Mountain, consigned him repeatedly to a few weeks or months residence in the same agreeable abode of vagabond tutelage, he was no sooner thrown out of this exciting process, than King Alcohol excited him to the one which returned him to the peace and security which St. Mary's Palace insured. Under the lawful and social influence of rum's great monarch, he proceeded to break open the box in which his wife had a few shillings, the wages of her own hard labor, for her own and his family's sustenance; and on her remonstrance, to fly at her with an axe, and almost break her skull, inflicting ghastly wounds upon her head and face. This process he has now become such an adept in conducting, that he can calculate to a certainty upon the time he shall come to town again from his country residence, and when the carriage shall await his return; so that he has the satisfaction of bidding adieu to the Governor of the chateau with the certainty of again paying his respects to him in a few days.

Here, then, is a case of high wines, manufactured from a man of good education, who might and would have been at this moment a respectable clerk or warehouseman, and a peaceful, useful member of society, into a beast and fiend; a curse to himself, his family, his neighbors, and the whole community, at whose expense he is now lodged, clothed, fed, and educated in habits yet more dangerous and revolting, by the "stews which law has licensed" for the emolument of their patrons, the large importers and venders.

The Maine Law would, in this case, have incidentally prevented the importation and sale, and certainly the retail, of the poison which has inflicted such injury upon an individual and the community. More facts may be given in your next, by

A SON OF TEMPERANCE.

Prize Essays.

The Executive Committee of the CANADIAN PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW LEAGUE offer a Prize of £25 for the best Essay, and £12 10s for the second best Essay, on "The Nature and Objects of the Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League: embracing also, full and reliable Statistical information upon the Extent, Expense, and Results, of the Liquor Traffic in Canada." The essays not to contain more than from 64 to

96 pages octavo, letter-press: to be written in a fair, legible hand, and sent in to the secretary (post-paid) on or before the 15th day of October next.

Each Essay must have a motto, and be accompanied by a sealed letter containing the address of the writer, and also the motto by which the Essay is distinguished.

The committee have much pleasure in stating that the Rev. Dr. RYERSON, Superintendent of Common Schools for Canada, the Rev. Professor LILLIE, and the Rev. Professor TAYLOR, have kindly consented to become adjudicators. The Committee feel assured that these names will be a sufficient guarantee to the public, of ability, probity, and discrimination; and they leave it with them to determine whether any of the Essays sent in are worth the prizes offered.

Your friendly notice of this will oblige, respectfully yours,

G. P. URE, Secretary.

Literary Notices and Exchanges.

We regret to be compelled again to omit many Literary notices, and references to new papers and contemporary improvements; but we can't help it. We will try next issue to do justly to Publishers and Editors. In the mean time recollect every thing in this number is worth reading.

QUEBEC CORRESPONDENCE.

NOTES ON THE LIQUOR SELLERS' PETITION.

(CONTINUED)

No. 5.

To the Editor of the Canada Temperance Advocate.

MR. EDITOR,—“That your petitioners regard the Bill, now before your Honorable House, as being eminently predicated upon the erroneous assumption, that the majority of the inhabitants of Canada have reached a degree of moral degradation which places them beyond the reach of admonition and reform by the precepts of religion and morality, and renders them no longer amenable to the Civil or Municipal Laws of their country; and that your petitioners would greatly deplore that so unjust a sentence upon the character of an honorable and virtuous people should be inscribed on the statute book of Canada.”

The above is a *verbatim* copy of the second paragraph of the petition under consideration, and contains, to my mind, strong evidence of the ignorance of the petitioners in reference to the extent to which the use of intoxicating drinks as beverages is caused in "this Canada," as well as of the rival nature and properties of those drinks themselves. This ignorance arising, as I stated in a former number, from sheer apathy, or perhaps more properly, from a determination not to form any acquaintance with the subject.—That from one or the other of these two causes results that ignorance, is evident from the fact, that when we ask some individuals if they know anything about a late temperance meeting, you will get a reply, either "I have no business at such meetings," or "I do not wish, by my presence, to identify myself with this movement." These are some of the reasonings of the class of men to which the petitioners belong. I leave you, Mr. Editor, to decide upon their worth.

But to return—I deny that the Bill is founded on any "assumption" at all. It is based on the incontrovertible fact, that under