

In Blackburn, however, another step was made forward with an improved pledge, in which they resolved not only to abstain entirely from the use of ardent spirits, except as medicine, and from using other liquors to excess, but never to use these other liquors in any Inn or house in which they were sold, except when necessary for refreshment in travelling, or transacting business when from home.

On the 22nd March, 1832, in Preston, another step was made onward, with the following pledge; "We, the undersigned, believe that the prevailing practice of using intoxicating liquors, is most injurious both to the temporal and spiritual interests of the people, by producing crime, poverty, and distress. We believe also that decisive means of reformation, including example, as well as precept, are loudly and imperatively called for. We do therefore voluntarily agree, that we will abstain from the use of ardent spirits ourselves, and will not give or offer them to others, except as medicines. And if we use other liquors, it shall at all times be with great moderation, and we will, to the utmost of our power, discountenance all the causes and practices of intemperance."

Although the nature of this pledge partook more of temperance than any of the former, yet it was observed, that although its members kept that part of the pledge which prevented them from the use of ardent liquors, yet it was noticed that the clause which admitted malt liquor to be taken in great moderation, was frequently violated. The reclaiming of drunkards, and the saving of little drop men, being the object of the society, caused the visitors and members of the committee to view with regret the violations that were daily occurring. This led to the conviction, that nothing short of abstinence from all intoxicating liquors, would produce a thorough temperance reformation; and consequently many of its most sincere members, abstained entirely from all intoxicating drinks.

The first really total abstinence pledge we hear of was at Preston, Lancashire in August 1832, and was signed by a John King, and immediately after this, a meeting was called, when the following pledge was submitted and signed; "We agree to abstain from all liquors of an intoxicating quality, whether Ale, Porter, Wine or ardent spirits, except as medicine."

It may not be uninteresting here to remark, that the word *total*, which has now become so universally adopted for total abstinence, was first used here at this time, by one of those who were among the first to sign this new pledge; viz. by Richard Turner, a reformed drunkard.

This then may be considered the point of time at which total abstinence began its reign, it was very soon perceived that this was the only safeguard against intemperance, and hence the old moderation societies became extinct, or were supplanted by the total. England which had been last in the temperance movement of the three sections of the Kingdom—here took a stand as the first for total abstinence, and the sister portions of the Empire soon followed in her wake. Ere long the intelligence flew to this side of the Atlantic, and the cry of total abstinence was taken up as the desired good. Societies were rapidly formed, and thousands flocked within its pale—there alone secure from the attacks of the perfidious destroyer.

I have thus delayed the object more particularly for this evening's discussion, until I could give a hurried sketch of the growth of temperance prior to our organization, otherwise we might fancy that temperance principles had originated more lately, whereas the way was prepared in a measure by the bold minds, and daring courage of those who first sought against opposition in every place, and from all ranks and grades of the community.

The lecturer then proceeded to shew the origin and progress of the order of the Sons of Temperance up to this time. We will probably give further extracts from this interesting lecture, in second April number.—*Ed. Son.*

MRS. NAYLOR'S ADDRESS.

Delivered to the Sons of Temperance, at the Soiree at Lambton, on the 18th March, 1851. Worthy Patriarch, and Sons of Temperance:

I feel delighted and gratified this evening, to have the honour to manifest in some degree, at least, a zeal to promote the cause, and to advocate the principles of your highly renowned and philanthropic society, the Sons of Temperance. And as the ladies in all ages, have been ambitious to excel, and ready to push on with unabated energy, every worthy and laudable institution, which has for its object, the amelioration of the human family. So like to the noble band of women, at the siege of Toulon, whose husbands were held captives without the walls, repaired to its gates, which were barricaded against them, in order to find admittance. The Emperor moved with compassion towards them, commanded that the gates should be thrown open, and permitted them to enter, and carry from within, what they considered the most valuable. The Emperor, anxious to know what they considered the most valuable, placed himself as an outside sentinel, and awaited their return, when to his gratification and astonishment, he beheld each lady trudging with her husband on her back. Although I, with my competitors of Lambton, have not been permitted to cross the threshold of your division room, because of the obstruction of your wisely appointed agents, (Sentinel and Password) yet, thanks to your By-laws and Constitution, we have been able to scan together from the efficiency of the general working of your society, that there is something most valuable to be found within its precincts.

So enamoured are we with the organization of your society, and persuaded of its obvious results for good, that some of us who have husbands without its pale, would not be ashamed, had we it in our power, to be seen in the same predicament with the women of Toulon, carrying our husbands to your Division room for tuition as Sons of Temperance. As the loadstone attracts the iron, so does every noble and worthy Son of Temperance attract the poor inebriate, and often proves instrumental in drawing him and his family from the course of wretchedness, ruin, and disgrace. For wherever Intemperance reigns, do we not see the wife brought in collision with the husband, the husband with the wife, and the children with the parents? and how appalling sometimes is the scene. However, we feel fully convinced, from the noble efforts which you are perpetually making to suppress the evil of Intemperance, that the ywill eventually prove most beneficial to mankind.

Sons of Temperance, it is with feelings of delight, that the ladies of Lambton have met you on this auspicious occasion, and for the interesting purpose of presenting you with a long premeditated, and what they consider a very valuable gift, a copy of the Holy Scriptures, and a cushion. And every sincere female, who has contributed her mite, to the obtaining of this sacred volume, begs your hearty and most welcome acceptance of it, trusting that while you consider it as a gift from the ladies, you may also esteem it a talent entrusted to your charge from God himself, for the improvement or neglect of which, you must give an account. We would entreat you to pray for the teaching of the Holy Spirit, that you may be enlightened whilst reading its Divine truths in your division room, that you may imbibe its principles, and disseminate its truths abroad in the world, and

let others take knowledge of you, that while you are aiming at an elevated standard of morality, you are also aiming at an elevated standard of piety.

The Bible will illuminate your mind, its precepts will guide you through every difficulty, its doctrines will support you under every trial, its promises will console you in many sorrows, and finally, it will enable you to pass through the valley of the shadow of death, and fear no evil. The ladies of Lambton unite with me, in wishing you every success and prosperity in all your undertakings, and may the great Patriarch above, guide you in the way of all truth, and at last give you, with all who are now here present, an abundant and glorious entrance into those mansions of bliss, which are prepared alone for those who love him.

REPLY—BY MR. VERT.

Respected ladies of Lambton and vicinity, I assure you that it is with pleasure I fill this situation this evening, in order that I may have the pleasure to reply to your address, confident that such a season will not pass over without some good results; for I may safely say, that in no instance of this kind, has it ever failed in my neighbourhood, where ladies have come up as an auxiliary to the Sons, but it has been made to tell on the community. The Sons have always fared the better for them, their numbers have been increased, the ranks of Intemperance thinned, the inebriate reclaimed, and a new tone and feeling given to society. Ladies, we hail your appearance amongst us this evening, as a token for good, yea, a dispensation of the all-wise Providence, who has heaved for His throne, the earth for His footstool, immensity of space for His temple, and all nature for His habitation. Ladies, we highly appreciate your services this evening, and thank you for the high encomiums you have paid to the order of the Sons of Temperance. We heartily rejoice that you have felt the good accruing from our efforts. Aware we are, since this monster vice, intemperance, took its footing amongst us, that the ladies must have been the greatest sufferers of the community, from the direful effects of its pestiferous vapors; but we are proud that we can hold forth the banner for immediate relief. We are proud that the ladies have got enamored of our organization, and we highly extol you for your persuasion, stating its obvious results for good. And ladies, rest assured, your presence amongst us this evening, and the zeal you have displayed in the cause of temperance, will excite us to renewed exertions to fight more courageously in the moral suasion field of temperance reformation; for ladies, every true hearted Son of Temperance is no coward. We have waged war with king alcohol, and that without a truce, and although we are aware of his potency in his slaying of thousands and tens of thousands, and though he may be clad in a coat of mail not easily to be penetrated, and though the heavy musketry has been levelled against him in the Temperance Reform, and he still lives, yet well may he tremble, he is destined to fall, and fall he must; and as David was destined to destroy the mighty Philistine who defied the armies of the living God; so persuaded are we from the manifestation of God's favour towards us, that by the hand of the mighty phalanx, the invincible of our great moral reformation, the Bands of Promise, the Cadets, the Daughters and the Sons of Temperance, he must inevitably fall. So like the determined conquerors of old, we will never quit the battie field, till we put our foot on the neck of the conquered enemy, and cry victory, victory. And ladies, be assured that I speak the sentiments of the Lambton division, No. 94, when I say, we highly appreciate and prize the valuable bonds which you have now bestowed upon us, and in an especial manner, this splendid copy of the Holy Scriptures, which is able to make us wise unto salvation, and to give us a seat among the sanctified. I sincerely trust that there are none