

THE "BLESSÉD REFORMATION."

the sacrilegious band
 that filled our bleeding land
 With such deep shame as time can ne'er allay,
 yet gorged their wayward lust,
 and now are gone to dust,
 And wait the burning sentence of "that day."
 before them lay, o'erthrown,
 the prelates' reverend throne,
 And organs tuned to none but strains of heaven;
 and upon soldiers rude
 were priestly vestments viewed:
 To murderous eyes of outcast scoffers given.
 and, whereon faithful eyes
 the Christian sacrifice
 With love transcending knowledge dare to see,
 the holiest altar fell,
 though thenceforth 'twere well
 That faithful eyes and souls should famished be.
 the font, where, ages gone,
 the luminous stream flowed on,
 They threw to lie dank weeds and filth among;
 mocked the sacred Word,
 and brought the living herd,
 And o'er their head the mystic ritual sung.
 were more our altars stand
 the bulwarks of our land,
 And fountains cleansed from sacrilege and stain;
 and each cathedral fair
 its deck'd her pastor's chair,
 and ancient anthems sings with white-robed train.
 for the grisly sin
 were those dread walls within,
 On children's children lies the penalty;
 the blood is tainted deep,
 never must we weep,
 and fast, and pray, and wail for blasphemy.
 if some plague-spot still,
 sacrilegious ill
 cling to the robes wherewith true faith is dight,
 may some brighter hour
 bring back the church her dower,
 and make th' apostate bow, and own her heaven-
 born right.

Brit. Mag.

TEMPERANCE.

The following Address was delivered by Mr. HENRY
 Post, at the Annual Meeting of the Lunenburg
 and County Temperance Society, held on Tues-
 day evening the 27th ultimo; and by the unanimous
 vote of the Society, is now published in the Colonial
 Churchman.

Mr. President,
 the subject upon which I have been called upon
 to address you this evening, has of late years been
 often and ably advocated, that it is difficult to find
 a new argument, or to set before you any motives
 of encouragement, and perseverance, which have
 already been urged with force and eloquence.
 I have already been urged with force and eloquence,
 above any thing that I can aspire to or shall at-
 tempt.
 yet although the subject of Temperance and Tem-
 perance Societies may be exhausted, it cannot be
 said that the desired result has not yet been at-
 tained. It is too true that drunkenness yet defiles
 and to a lamentable extent: and notwithstand-

Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, p. 25—1614.

ing all the exertions which have been made—the de-
 nunciations of Scripture—the moving appeals—the
 powerful reasoning—and the energetic eloquence:—
 notwithstanding all these, there is still necessity and
 call for all the efforts that can yet be made. And
 there is much to encourage us to persevere. for al-
 though as much good as might have been hoped for,
 has not been effected; although Intemperance still
 claims too many deluded victims as her own; yet
 there is sufficient proof of the good effect of the
 Temperance Association, to induce and encourage
 all who have favoured it, to go on in the good work,
 and to "be not weary in well doing." Those who
 have been engaged in this cause, who with a philan-
 thropic spirit, have made some little sacrifice for the
 good—the temporal and eternal good—of their un-
 fortunate fellow creatures, have not been without
 their reward; they have in some measure, seen their
 exertions crowned with success. They have had the
 satisfaction, by the help of the Almighty, of reclaim-
 ing, and restoring to the heart-broken parent, the
 child of her affections, who had been treading the
 paths of vice, the downward road that leads to Hell;
 and who from a long course of intemperance had
 lost all feelings of filial affection, and abandoned and
 almost forgotten the mother that bore him and ter-
 ribly watched over his infant years. They have had
 the satisfaction of beholding the debauched and pro-
 fligate husband return to the wife of his bosom, the
 woman he had sworn to protect and honour, but whom
 he had neglected and abused, leaving her to drag
 out a miserable existence of wretchedness and pover-
 ty:—they have seen him restored to his starving and
 ragged children, and have heard the voice of joy and
 happiness, where before was only to be heard blas-
 phemy and cursing, lamentation and woe!—Such
 have been some of the effects of the Temperance
 Association, and I mention them here to shew that
 we have more to stimulate and encourage us, than they
 who first led the way. It was then a new experiment,
 there was no certainty of the good effects to follow. And
 as surely as effects follow causes, so sure may we be
 that our exertions if properly made and sustained,
 shall not be in vain. If then, Intemperance is an evil
 that not only makes man miserable here, but if
 not forsaken will surely lead him to misery hereafter;
 and if it exists in our community, and its withering
 effects are but too visible to common observation—
 does it not become the duty of all who love their
 country and their fellow creatures, by all proper
 means to endeavour to check its course—to stay the
 dreadful ravages which mark its steps—and if possi-
 ble, to banish it from the land? Among other means,
 the Temperance Association stands preeminent for
 its success in the suppression of this vice: it has
 since its formation effected a greater reformation, and
 done more towards the suppression of intemperance
 than all the penal laws against drunkenness, which
 have been enacted for ages. And let us pause for
 a moment to inquire, why more good has not been
 effected, why it is that in some instances the san-
 guine wishes of its supporters have not been realized:
 It is because some who have joined its ranks and rang-
 ed under its banner, have not been careful and con-
 sistent, but have faithlessly broken their pledge, and
 abandoned the cause they had promised to support,
 and uphold. More harm is done the cause of Tem-
 perance by such conduct, than by all the efforts of
 its enemies. I speak not now of the man who had
 been habituated to intemperance, and who in a mo-
 ment of compunction, and with a desire to reform
 had joined the society: but I speak of those who
 having made little or no sacrifice by signing the
 pledge, have less temptation, and consequently less
 excuse for breaking it. If those are to be blamed
 who still encourage the use of, or distribute ardent
 spirits, how much greater blame attaches to those
 who by their inconsistency and want of firmness,

bring discredit on the cause they were pledged to
 support.
 I have heard the retailer of Liquors abused, held
 up to scorn and derision, and his calling stigmatized
 as base, sinful, and unlawful; I have heard it stated
 that on the sign above his door should be written
 "The way to Hell." Now I have always been op-
 posed to this mode of proceeding, because I think it
 retards rather than accelerates the desired end. I
 am satisfied that to abuse persons is not the most
 likely way to convince them; to endeavour to coerce
 them, is but to widen the breach. Sound reasoning,
 convincing proof, and consistent conduct, are the
 most powerful and the very best arguments that we
 can use for the support and extension of the prin-
 ciples we advocate. It is but a short time since a
 doubt was raised against the usefulness and proprie-
 ty of the line of business alluded to; and because the
 opinions of some are changed, is it right, or is it use-
 ful immediately to condemn all who have not been as
 open to conviction as ourselves,—because they will
 not hastily abandon that calling to which they have been
 accustomed, and the propriety of which, until lately,
 has not been questioned. And putting aside the
 right to do so, it is unwise and impolitic: it creates
 more opposition, and greater dislike than would be
 the case if a different line of conduct was pursued.
 I do not wish to be understood as advocating the
 propriety or usefulness of that line of business, I
 only speak of the bad effect of unnecessarily stig-
 matizing or using harsh language towards those who
 follow it. We must declaim against the manufac-
 ture and the traffic as far as common use is concern-
 ed; but we must disclaim the spirit that would as-
 sail the men engaged in them, in contempt or in wrath;
 and should condemn the language that denounces
 them as robbers and murderers.
 On the other hand I would say, the man who in-
 discriminately deals out ardent spirits,—if he has
 not lost all feelings of sensibility—must often experi-
 ence the checks of conscience. I envy not his feel-
 ings who can from day to day deal out to some poor
 miserable wretch, that which he knows is ruining
 him both body and soul: I envy not his feelings when
 —as he daily hands him his bottle or his glass
 of rum—he must know that every farthing thus
 spent, is robbed from its legitimate and proper use.
 His wife perhaps pining for the want of the necessa-
 ries of life—his children are hungry and in rags—
 his property is fast receding from him; and he is be-
 coming a burden to the community of which he ought
 to have been a useful member. How gratifying is
 the contrast afforded by the conduct of him who is
 striving to avert these calamities, who is endeavour-
 ing to restore comfort to the family circle, to fill the
 mouths of hungry children with food, to clothe their
 nakedness, and to restore to usefulness and happi-
 ness, their degraded parent. And how much greater
 than it is, would be the good resulting from our ex-
 ertions if all the members of Temperance Societies
 would on all proper occasions, calmly but firmly ad-
 vocate their principles, and above all be consistent
 in their own conduct, and at all times and upon all
 occasions steadily adhere to their pledge.
 But there are some who object to the plan and prin-
 ciples of Temperance Societies. They say they have
 not and will not, accomplish the object they have in
 view. Now although it must be admitted that as
 much good as might have been hoped for, has not
 been effected, still I think there are none who will af-
 firm that they have altogether failed in their attempt to
 benefit the human race. Wherever they have been
 properly organized and supported, they have been
 a check to drunkenness; though their means also a
 change has been wrought in some of the customs of
 the community which were dangerous and useless.
 Ardent spirits are not as freely used as formerly;
 they are not as generally offered to visitors on all