

Total Abstinence Societies we can count that of Granby.—These are the good results, but this is not the end. All the country must follow in the same path, and that will soon happen.—*Melanges.*

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—We mentioned in our last the visit of J. C. Winterbotham, Esq., Temperance Agent, from England. He lectured again on Wednesday evening to a crowded house, and deeply interested and delighted audience. His subject was "The power of Total Abstinence principles to elevate mankind." We have no disposition to draw invidious comparisons,—we have heard many able lectures on Temperance,—we have noticed a great variety in the talents of different lecturers, and in their methods of illustrating the subject,—and we have often joined in the exclamation, "This is the best lecture we ever heard." Our little town has been of late favored with several good specimens of the talent and power which are every where urging forward this philanthropic and heaven-born institution. The Hon. P. S. White, whose dignified aspect, commanding eloquence, and wonderful versatility, held his hearers enchained in the public assembly; and whose refinement, amiableness, and affability, rendered his private conversation at once so pleasing and so instructive, is evidently a man with whom few can be compared. His visit to Charlottetown, and his efforts in the cause, will long live in the memory of many; but if any of us had been tempted to the conclusion that no other man could succeed after him, we have been most happily mistaken. Mr. Winterbotham is an Englishman, the son of a Baptist Preacher. His father has resided in Canada West for the last eight years, and labors as a missionary among the Tuscarora Indians. He himself has been employed by the British Temperance Association, for several years past, to labor constantly as an Agent. His business was to travel from place to place, deliver lectures, visit from house to house, distribute tracts, and, in every proper way, promote the moral elevation of his countrymen. He is a member of a Baptist church, and occasionally preaches. He intends to make the tour of these provinces, to pay a visit to his father, and then return to his family, unless he should find some inducement to continue in America. We believe he intends visiting Halifax. It might be considered out of place for us to enlarge further upon his talents as a lecturer. We are persuaded, however, that there will be but few who shall have the privilege of hearing him on it, who will not wish to hear him again, joining heartily in the chorus of his melody, as he sings his concluding strains. On Thursday evening Mr. W. was initiated into the Order of the Sons of Temperance, and left next morning in the *Sophia* for Pugwash.—*Advertiser.*

OPiates.

This class of medicine is often kept in the nursery, in the forms of laudanum, syrup of white poppies, paregoric, elixir, Dover's powder, Dalby's carminative, and Godfrey's cordial. The objects with which they are generally given is to allay pain by producing sleep, or perhaps much more frequently to allay the crying of a fretful child. They are, therefore, *remedies of great convenience to the nurse*; and, so exhibited, they are *too often fatal.*

In the hands of the physician, there is no medicine the administration of which requires greater caution and judgment than opiates, both from the susceptibility of infants to their narcotic influence, and their varying capability of bearing it. The danger, therefore, with which their use is fraught in the hands of a nurse, should for ever exclude them from the list of nursery-medicines.

It is calculated that *three-fourths* of all the deaths that take place from opium, occur in children under five years of age. The amount which will sometimes cause death is very small,—a fact most important to remember, and of itself a powerful argument against its use in any form by unprofessional persons. Dr. Kelso met with an instance, where a child nine months old was killed in nine hours by four drops of laudanum. A case is mentioned in a late number of the *Medical Gazette*, in which two drops killed an infant; and another is reported in the *Lancet* for February 1842, of a child two days old, killed by a dose of a mixture containing one drop and a half of laudanum, the child dying in 14 hours.

Syrup of poppies is nothing more than a sweetened decoction of poppy-heads, and many cases of poisoning have occurred from its injudicious use. There is great reason, however, to believe, that what is sold by many druggists for syrup of poppies, as a soothing medicine for children, is a mixture of tincture or infusion of opium with simple syrup; it is, therefore, a preparation of very variable strength. This will account for what appears to many persons inexplicable, namely, that an infant will be destroyed by a very small dose. In 1837-38; seven children (whose cases are on record) lost their lives from this medicine; in one of them a tea spoonful and a half was given; stupor came on in half an hour, and the child died the following day. And in January, 1841, a child, six months old, is said to have died from the effects of less than half a tea-spoonful of this syrup, bought at a druggist's.

Paregoric elixir has been occasionally given with fatal effects. A child, between five and six years old, had some cough medicine prescribed for it at a chemist's, the principal ingredient of which was paregoric, and it died, poisoned. Another authenticated case is reported, where a child of seven months old was killed by the exhibition of a tea-spoonful.

THE SUFFERINGS OF CHILDREN THROUGH INTEMPERANCE—No. 1.

It has pleased an allwise Providence to invest the maternal office and character with the greatest influence, the highest duty, the tenderest affection, and the most solemn responsibility, that can belong to an intelligent accountable creature. The duties of women in most other relationships of life are rather passive than active, but as mothers, they possess an authority at once endearing and imperati e—knit by nature, and strengthened by the ties of benefits conferred and received.

No great question of moral: can possibly come before society, that mothers are uninterested in: for as the formation of character necessarily depends much on them, every discovery that aids the great work of human improvement has paramount claims on their attention. Consequently there is no class to whom the principles of Total Abstinence appeal more forcibly, or apply more particularly than to mothers; not merely as a personal question relating solely to themselves, but intimately connected with the health, the habits, the