

ings which sometimes influence them, and we should find that the present practice is the result of either ignorance of the real nature of the insidious poison, or a lack of observation as to the moral effects of its use in society.

A circumstance has recently come under my notice which in conclusion I will relate.

In a village near here the wife of an intimate friend of mine was recently confined; herself and husband being both tee-totallers. Within a few days a sister of the female was also confined, who is not an abstainer. Their mother who resided in the same place, was as may be supposed frequently found attending upon her daughters, and the medical man had heard from her that one of them would take no spirits or porter. He highly disapproved of this, but his "advice" in this case was of no avail; in a short time the abstainer recovered; the child, an uncommonly fine boy, grew and flourished, while the sister and her child were weak and poorly in the extreme. On one of his visits at this time the doctor having some confused ideas about abstinence, floating in his head, addressed the sickly sister to the effect, that she would never get over her confinement unless she gave up that silly tee-total system, and pointed to her strong, fast recovering sister, and her healthy babe, in proof of the good effects of porter! when the mother, who was present, interrupted him with "Please sir, this is not my tee-total daughter, her sister who is doing so well is the tee-totaller." The doctor had no more advice to give on that occasion."—*Bristol Temperance Herald*.

SCENES AT TEMPERANCE MEETINGS.

Often have we watched with interest the motley group assembled to hear a lecture. The inebriate, reeling under the influence of intoxicating draught—the moderate drinker assuming a self-determined air, as though he would say, "I can take care of myself"—the drowseller exhibiting in his changing countenance the varied workings of his heart, now red with anger, as he is charged with being the cause of the drunkard's woes, now slinking back with shame, and hiding himself from the light, as the fearful picture of the drunkard's ruin and his family's wretchedness are drawing; but none, through all that varied group, have we noticed with greater interest, or more intense feeling, than the members of the drunkard's family. With what an air of anxiety the wife hangs upon the words of the speaker, as if life or death was in them. How imploringly her eyes are occasionally turned to the beloved partner of her bosom to read, if possible, the workings of his heart; how anxiously the pledge is watched while passing round the audience, and when the bursting cheers announce the resolution of some poor slave of alcohol to burst the chains that bind him, has the heaving breast, the starting tear, mingled with the smile of joy, announced the deep interest she had in the work. Great God! we have some times thought, is it possible that a work like this, in which the happiness of families is so deeply involved, that makes the wretched wife weep for joy, and playful smiles light up the dejected countenance of the child, can stir up the deep malice in the heart of one who wears the human form? What strange infatuation has seized upon the rum-seller and his victims? What delusive charm has hell wound round them? Of what infernal texture is the veil that binds them?—*Western Reserve Washingtonian*.

A GOOD SPIRIT.

We like the spirit of the woman, who evinced a very anxious concern at seeing a child run over by a coach. Upon which she was asked by a bystander "is he your child?" "No," said she, "but he is somebody's child."

So in all things we should have that kind, benevolent sympathy, which embraces all mankind in our regards—even the most degraded. And not be of that obtuse, false, mercenary class, who like a petty lawyer, would sell himself to advocate any cause, good, bad, or indifferent, for two-pence halfpenny, and abuse any man in the community, be he friend or foe, without feeling, conscience, or regard.

The most degraded, the most intemperate have friends, though they themselves be nothing to us individually; perhaps they have parents, or children, or wives, who are bound to feel compassion for them. But suppose no kindred ties bind them to earth, they wear the human form, and society has claims upon them—and they have claims upon society. Condemned would be the man in sight of high heaven, who would unnecessarily inflict a wound upon, or would not contribute his mite to raise the fallen.

Most men would rather reclaim a felon than hang him—and why should not this kind, Christian feeling be extended to the intemperate? whose greatest sin is often against himself; whose fault is, perhaps, the result of some physical infirmity, or diseased organization.

Let us not steel our breast to human woes—but retain the sympathies of the kind, the benevolent, and the humane.—This is the proper spirit for Washingtonians, as well as Christians to possess.—*Waterfall*.

PROGRESS OF THE CAUSE.

CORNWALL, Feb. 20.—A Society called the South Branch Victoria Society, was formed 19th December last, 4½ miles north of this place, which now numbers 69 members; the officers are—D. McLaren, President; J. Neil, Vice President; R. Kyle, Sec.; with a Committee of nine. May they go on and prosper.—*W.*

DURHAM, March 1.—A Temperance procession took place in this township a short time ago, in which the Durham Society, joined by the Ormstown Concession Society, proceeded in sleighs from the Durham hotel with suitable flags and banners to Dewville, where they met the Huntingdon Society, preceded by the excellent brass-band of the Huntingdon volunteers. The united procession returned to the hotel above mentioned, whence they walked in procession to the Presbyterian church and heard an excellent sermon by the Rev. Mr. Anderson, from Thac. v. 22. "Abstain from all appearance of evil." A collection in behalf of the funds of the Society was taken up, and 27 names added on the occasion; after the sermon the company again proceeded in sleighs about four miles down the beautiful river of Chatagay and then returned to the Durham hotel, when about one hundred ladies and gentlemen sat down to an excellent repast provided by Mr. McEachern; after which, part of the company spent the evening at musical entertainments. The whole affair went off delightfully. The office-bearers of the Durham Temperance Society are—Wm. McNaughton, President; Thomas Porter, Vice President; James Lockerby, Secretary; William Winter, Treasurer; with a Committee of nine. The Society consists of 120 members.—*A. McEachern*.

PERTH, March 7.—Soon after the late visit of your respected Agent, we had a delightful Temperance concert and *souée*, at which the ministers of the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian persuasions attended and delivered addresses. Several signatures were obtained and the interesting occasion was not only made highly available for the Temperance cause, but was also rendered a means by the Divine blessing, of strengthening those fraternal ties by which philanthropic Christians of different denominations are united. May peace, prosperity, and unity, be ever attended upon our Temperance enterprise.—*G. B. Butcher, Wes. Minister*.

ST. CATHARINES, March 10.—*Bertie*: In Bertie the cause of sobriety has advanced at such a rapid rate that it is unpopular and considered disreputable not to belong to a Temperance Society. When the subject of total abstinence was first introduced into the section of country, it met with violent and repeated opposition and persecution. Slander circulated reports derogatory to the character of the most efficient promoters of this benevolent enterprise and thoughtless men interrupted the meetings; and, to our