

## Canada Temperance Advocate.

MONTREAL, NOVEMBER 15, 1853.

### OUR PROSPECTUS FOR 1854.

DEAR READER,—If you have not read that important document, we advise you to do so. It will then be seen that the twentieth volume of this periodical is to be invested with greater interest than any former one, and that every effort will be made to furnish just that information and instruction which you need to assist you and your neighbours in the great temperance enterprise. The publisher of the *Advocate* calculates on your support for another year. At some additional cost to himself the *Advocate* is sent you POSTAGE FREE, and therefore, the entire cost to you will be only 2s. 6d.

#### TEN THOUSAND SUBSCRIBERS

is the number we want for 1854. They can be had. For instance, dear reader, if you do not reside in the neighbourhood of an Agent, who will actively engage in canvassing for Subscribers, you can yourself get one or three or more to join you, and then remit the cash to the publisher, who will be glad to get the list full before the January number is issued. Remember that for THREE DOLLARS forwarded, you will get a seventh copy gratis if you desire it. We beg to suggest, also, that as the paper is Postage Free, it would be very convenient for a number of copies to be sent to one address; but even in that case Mr. Becket would rather receive the names of all Subscribers, so that in the event of error, an appeal could be made to the books, and mistakes corrected.

We have been much encouraged by assurances from all parts of the country that the *Advocate* is appreciated and read with increasing interest. It is now regarded as the standard of temperance sentiment, and the organ of the reformation by whatever society or order promoted. FRIENDS—begin the work of getting Subscribers immediately. Lose no time. The *Canada Temperance Advocate* must and will have a large circulation.

#### Canadians, take Courage.

It is beyond a doubt that the New York State Elections have gone strong for the Maine Law. The *Tribune* and *Times* both state that there will be large majorities both in the House and in the Senate in favour of prohibitory legislation. Let us take courage; but let us also remember that success was not attained without great exertion. We are called upon courageously to work, and not allow our frontier to be the rendezvous of thirsty tipplers, driven despairingly to seek liquor in our fair land of freedom. We fear New York will beat us—we might even hope they would,—but let us resolve not to be far behind.

#### Our City Intemperance! Who's to Blame?

Most people are compelled to admit that drunkenness is frightfully on the increase in this City of Montreal. Our

hospitals and gaols tell the sad story. Many fatal cases of delirium tremens have occurred—more than ever before in the same space of time. We state the dreadful fact on the best authority, and there are hundreds of respectable young men—mechanics and clerks—who are fast ripening for that most shocking of all diseases, delirium tremens. Almost every day we witness scenes the most revolting and shameful. On Sunday, November 6, as we were passing along Notre Dame Street, we saw a staggering man led along by a little girl; he was well dressed, and on his hat he wore the emblem of mourning for the dead. Getting a sight of his face we saw he was advanced in years, and wondered who had died of those who should have claimed his love. Was it his wife whose heart had been broken with grief at her husband's folly?—and his little girl—was she his angel guardian, seeking to keep her father from the deeper danger of a night's debauch. We glanced into her face; she looked much care-worn and fatigued. Just at the point where Notre Dame and St. Paul Streets merge, a number of men, half drunk, saluted the reeling sinner; but the little girl, with earnest effort, pushes her weary way along, and keeps her father homeward. God bless that little girl, and may she never be a victim of the tempter's wiles. We much longed to follow them, and know the history of both, but our duties called another way.

The City papers announce a suicide; that man who cut his throat was raving mad with liquor. Another man recently attempted his own life, being weary of it through his wife's intemperance. The *Witness* says two men intoxicated were last week drowned in the Lachine Canal; and the *Sun*, speaking of disgraceful sights, says:—

"We hear daily complaints of the number of reeling and uproarious drunkards in our streets. Only last Saturday we saw a respectably-dressed female in Great St. James Street, in a state not altogether of helpless intoxication, but fighting drunk, for she was ready to do battle to some imaginary person, who had, as she alleged, insulted her. Another woman was endeavouring to pacify her, but in vain; she resisted all persuasions to 'come away,' and we left the painfully humiliating spectacle to the fashionables who resort to that street for promenading in the afternoon. We had just turned a corner when we perceived a crowd of boys enjoying the sight of a man whose procession in acute angles and segments of circles might suggest that he was making practical experiments in geometry. We are informed that on Sunday quite a number of mere lads were observed about town in the same shocking condition; and in the evening a drunken fellow pitched, head foremost, into an open cellar, and the police had to go down with a light to get him up, for he was too tipsy to get out. Surely the opponents of the Maine law have abundant cause of exultation. The doctrine of non-interference works famously, and we commend the illustrations above to the consideration of these liberty-loving people."

That is coming to the point, brother *Sun*, and you almost answer the question, "Who's to Blame?"

The City authorities are to blame, for they violated the law in licensing grog-shops everywhere, and without the slightest show of reason or necessity. The law itself, which permits and authorizes the sale for beverage, is bad enough; but in this city the executors of law are the most unscrupulous and untrust-worthy that could possibly be invested with irresponsible power. But the blood of the slain cries for vengeance—the traffic is doomed—that un-