

the cause of temperance in this city. The first subject which engaged the attention of the Committee, was the formation of a Tract Visiting Association, whose duty it should be to distribute temperance tracts, and obtain signatures to the pledge, in books furnished for that purpose; a course which they would earnestly recommend for more general adoption.

Public Meetings have tended much to keep up a wholesome agitation, and the Committees have been most fortunate in obtaining addresses from individuals whose talents and acquirements have rendered them eminently useful to the cause, and gained the attendance and most respectful attention of numerous and respectable audiences. Several temperance vessels having arrived in this port, the Committee have availed themselves of the opportunity of requesting the officers and crews to address public meetings; and their plain, sensible, and intelligent remarks, have assisted much toward convincing the public mind of the utter uselessness of alcoholic drinks as a common beverage; and clearly proved the benefits derived from adopting total abstinence principles, under the most trying circumstances.

Individual exertion in furtherance of the cause.—More permanent good is effected in this, than any other way; and the Committee cannot but regard the past success of the society, as more the result, under the blessing of God, of the individual exertion of its members, than of public operations.

Tracts and Anti-Bacchus.—Your Committee are happy in being able to state, that much good has resulted from the gratuitous distribution of temperance tracts, in different parts of the country, as well as in town. A very considerable number of an Essay on Temperance, entitled *Anti-Bacchus*, has been disposed of during the past summer; a work which is eminently calculated to effect good to the cause, and your Committee cannot too highly commend this valuable production to the friends of temperance.

The Canada Temperance Advocate.—The circulation of this pioneer of the temperance cause has done much to produce that happy change in the public mind, and the usages of society, as it regards intoxicating drinks, which has already been felt, and which must become universal.

Other Societies.—The Committee are happy in the thought, that there are thousands in this city whose hearts and hands are engaged in this important movement, and record with pleasure the zealous exertions of other societies; especially, they attach great importance to the lectures delivered by a medical gentleman of this city, during the past winter.

Fruits of the Reformation.—A very considerable number of families, some of the most respectable standing in society, have banished intoxicating liquors not only from their tables, but from their houses; being fully awakened to a sense of the awful consequences that have resulted in some instances, from the influence of their example upon the younger branches, and other members of their families. Individuals have been raised from the lowest state of degradation and misery, to comparative affluence and respectability. Comfort and happiness have been restored to families, once in the most abject poverty and destitution. In dwellings where *since* dwelt want and wretchedness, peace and joy have now made their abode; and by the entrance of temperance, a way has been paved for the reception of the blessed gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Not a few are now members of Christian churches, who but for the operations of temperance societies, would to all human appearance have still remained in all the wretchedness of the drunkard, or long ere this have filled a drunkard's grave.

Several grocery establishments have discontinued the sale of intoxicating drinks, which your Committee would strongly recommend to the support of the friends of temperance.

A very considerable reduction has taken place in the sale of all kinds of intoxicating drinks; and as the traffic has been reduced, crime of every description has proportionately decreased, and every day is adding some new triumph to the cause of temperance.

The present number of cards issued by the Secretary is 783, of whom about 700 are staunch members; but few, comparatively, have broken their pledge, the greater part of the 83 having withdrawn their names.

In bringing this report to a close, your Committee, while they rejoice in the progress of temperance during the past year, would earnestly recommend to the society the importance of increased

exertions, ever bearing in mind, that under the divine blessing our success is proportioned to our efforts.

Moved by Mr. W. BOOTH, seconded by Mr. VALLEAU.

1. That the Report just read be printed under the direction of the Committee.

Moved by the Rev. Mr. BYRNE, seconded by Rev. Mr. PARKER.

2. That this meeting acknowledge with devout gratitude, the goodness of Almighty God, in rendering effectual the various agencies and measures employed by this society; and would be encouraged by the past still to improve his aid and blessing, and to renewed exertion for the future.

Moved by Rev. Mr. DENKERLY, seconded by Rev. Mr. ANDERSON.

3. That we hail with pleasure the success which has attended the efforts of societies in other places, particularly the United States, in the reformation of confirmed drunkards, during the past year.

Moved by Mr. LEMAN, seconded by Mr. T. BOWLES.

4. That the following officers be chosen for the ensuing year: *President*, Rev. T. Atkinson; *Vice-President*, Andrew Russell, and J. L. Hall, M.D.; *Treasurer*, Mr. William McMaster; *Secretary*, Mr. William Holthouse; *Committee*, Messrs. Richardson, M. Donell, Kemp, Hyde, Pierce, Valles, Bowles, Duffit, Brodie, Frew, Cummin, Wright, Lillott, and Fitch.

REPORT OF THE VICTORIA TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

MONTREAL, Oct. 25, 1841.—The Victoria Temperance Society was established in the month of July last, with nine members. The meetings have been kept up regularly on the Tuesdays and Thursdays of every week since its formation, and together with the personal exertions of members, have been instrumental in reforming 83 intemperate persons, most of whom were amongst the hardest class of drinkers in Montreal. Five individuals who had not a shirt to their backs, have been clothed, and are now in the habit of attending divine service. Twenty drunkards and their families have been regularly visited within the last month. A few instances of reformation may not be uninteresting.

J. W. and W. W. are sailors. When they came to this town they had five dollars in their possession, and have earned five dollars a week since in fitting up a schooner. They boarded in a tavern six weeks, and not only spent all their money and earnings, but were three pounds in debt when they left it. They became teetotallers about three months ago, and in seven weeks had paid off their debt and obtained new suits of clothes, they are now doing well.

Mr. W. Clarke, a member of the society who lives in the upper country, is in the lumber business. On his last trip to Quebec with a raft, he gave his men coffee instead of liquor. They were ridiculed by the whiskey-drinking lumbermen, but they reached Quebec in twenty-seven days, a distance of 500 miles, whilst the whiskey drinkers took seven weeks. He is determined never to allow a drop to any man in his employ.

T. W. was a hard drinker, and reduced himself and family so low that they have not yet been able to procure decent clothing, although he has been a member of the society five weeks. He has not been in church for two years and a half, but hopes to go soon. His wife and family are now comparatively happy and comfortable.

T. C. is a baker, has been a hard drinker for three years, and was reduced to utter wretchedness, his whole frame trembled, and he was nearly naked. He sheds tears of gratitude when he thinks that he is at last free. Although scarcely joined a fortnight, he has begun to pay his board in advance.

J. H. has been a hard drinker two years and nine months; sold his hat and shoes for drink. He joined the society ten weeks ago, and is now furnishing his house anew, and attending church regularly, although he never went there in his drinking days.

G. C. brought himself to death's door. The doctor gave him up, and said there was no hope for him, except through the exertions of temperance men. He sold his clothes for drink, and was separated from his wife and family; but since he joined the society about five weeks ago, he has been re-united to them, has continued staunch, and is doing well.

John Mitchell is a sawyer, was a great supporter of the tavern, keepers, with whom he used to spend almost all his earnings, and consequently reduced himself and family to a very low ebb. About twelve weeks ago he joined the society, and has improved so much in appearance that he does not look like the same person. He is one of our most zealous and efficient advocates.

In Nazareth Street alone there are now 40 teetotallers, in the