

been remiss in preparing reports to lay before the meeting, a general abstract of operations during the year could not be presented; but, from intelligence received from various sections, our cause seems to be still advancing. No mean proof of which is found in the fact, that, of the Inspectors of Licenses chosen by both Township and Village, (Oshawa Village Corporation), a majority are firm Temperance men—who have prevented the indiscriminate licensing of all who applied, which has hitherto been too much the mode in this Township: a considerable reduction in the number of licenses is, the consequence, and it is to be hoped that the improved morality of the Township will keep pace with the efforts of the friends of temperance to remove these stumbling blocks out of the way. Another cheering sign of the progress of Temperance is, that there are four thriving divisions of the 'Sons' in the Township, who are exerting a powerful influence on the community. The 'Daughters,' and 'Cadets,' are also in active operation in three different places in the Township. In view of the influence exerted by these organisations, it was moved by Mr. A. Farewell, seconded by Mr. J. W. Smith, and resolved, "That this meeting consider the Sons of Temperance co-workers in the great cause of humanity, in which the Whithy Township Association for the suppression of Intemperance, have been for several years past engaged." This Resolution was called forth by some individuals expressing themselves dissatisfied with the organization of the 'Sons,' as antagonistic to the Temperance Societies; and the mover took occasion to illustrate the position they hold as calculated, not to weaken, but strengthen the hands of Temperance Societies which are as much needed as ever for the bulk of the community, but which have not the proper organization for reclaiming and retaining the inebriate, that the 'Sons' possess. Mr. Robert Campbell in supporting the resolution, stated that in Brooklyn, the two organizations had been formed to work harmoniously together; and as a proof of this, the fact was stated that 47 names had been there added to the Pledge, many of whom would not have been but for the Sons. The routine business of the meeting occupied so much time, that there was not time for delivering several addresses, which were expected on the occasion. After appointing the next annual meeting to be held in Brooklyn, the meeting separated, Rev Mr. Thornton having been re-elected President, and your humble servant,

JOHN RETCHLIFFE,
Secretary and Treasurer, W. T. A.

Lanark, April 4, 1851.

Sir,—In regard to the Temperance cause here, I am very sorry I cannot say it prospers as in former years. The old drinking usages of society seem rather to be reviving, under the patronage of some who once sustained an honorable position in our Temperance Society. I will mention one lamentable instance that came under my own observation some time since. A clergyman who presided over our Temperance Society for several years, after delivering a funeral sermon, and imploring the Divine blessing on the refreshments to be presented, raised the intoxicating cup to his lips, and thus gave the high sanction of his ministerial office, to a custom that hardens the heart against the softening and subduing influences that accompany the death and burial of a beloved friend or neighbor, and render religious services on such occasions, little better than solemn mockery:—but the evil of such an example is not confined to funeral occasions. The inference being, if intoxicating liquors may be used as a beverage in the house of mourning, why not in the house of mirth?

It seems as if we required the eloquence of J. B. Gough, accompanied by the spirit of Almighty God, to press home on the conscience our moral obligations and responsibilities in regard to the Temperance movement.

May we not, Sir, indulge the hope of securing a visit from this celebrated Advocate, on his next tour through the Province.

Yours, in the bonds of Temperance,

J. D.

Belleville, April 8, 1851.

Sir,—Various causes have operated to prevent me sending you a remittance sooner than this. Chiefly the constant and undivided attention required to keep in operation the "Temperance Hotel"—an establishment which I commenced on my own responsibility, on the 5th July, 1849, in the best premises I could obtain, and having but one object in view—the promotion of the cause of Temperance.

A good Temperance House has long been a desideratum in Belleville. But no one was willing to risk the investment of their time or money in an effort to supply it. The paramount objection being, "it will never pay." And why will it not pay. It is replied: there is not sufficient honorable principle among Temperance people to prefer supporting a Temperance House before a grog shop.

That Temperance men, generally, who do prefer it, are so frugal, or penurious in their expenditure, as to leave little profit from their patronage: that the honorable few who are ready cheerfully to sustain such a house are so few in number, as not to make it worth any one's while to attend to it.

Permit me, Sir, to observe that, after one year and nine months' experience in keeping a Temperance House, I am fully persuaded that a large, respectable, economically conducted Temperance House would pay in this town. And if here, why not elsewhere, circumstances being equal. But when I say pay, it is with no wish to be understood, that it will pay equal to keeping a tavern: for temperance men are moderate in all things useful. I have sometimes thought it would be amusing and instructive to give a few incidents which occurred during the first few months of our keeping a Temperance House. One man, coming in with a consequential air, says, "I am glad to see such a house here. I always support them, and will put all in your way I can." He then takes his place, and demands, "can I have a cup of coffee." "Yes, sir,"—takes another, and, for aught I knew, another; enquires in the shop, "what's my bill?" "Threepence, sir,"—having furnished himself with cakes from a wallet he carried in his hand,—"threepence," he exclaims, "why I can get a cup of coffee in Kingston at any time for a penny; and I have only had two."

Another drives up with his carriage, brings in his lady; puts up his team; has his own hay and grain; their own cakes and cheese; occupy the house running out and in from ten in the morning till six in the evening, and buy what—just two glasses of Ginger Beer.

A "J. P." with something like official dignity, complains of our having observed to a mutual friend, that we could not well afford gratuitous accommodation to the public, of yard and sheds, as some portion of it appeared to think we might, our friend, the "J. P.," among the number;—and demanded what remuneration we required? "Nothing but your patronage of the house or shop. The sheds cost us a trifle, and the rent is an item not to be overlooked."

Half a dozen countrymen blythely steep in by mistake, resolved on a "Treat." Discovering their mistake, and too honorable to retro without "leaving something," they resolved to take such as we had, till each had drunk some six or eight glasses of Ginger Beer, paying most cheerfully for it. I would that Temperance Houses were more generally established. How many might be kept from the grogeries?

And now, Sir, as to the cause of Temperance generally in this neighborhood. I am persuaded that it is steadily advancing, though it is not brought sufficiently before the public, to command that attention to which it is justly entitled. The Order of the Sons has done much for Belleville and the county of Hastings,—but its operations have been confined principally to individual cases, rather than bearing upon the mass. We have had "Mora Division, No. 202," established in Belleville for nine weeks, and now numbers forty staunch Sons of Temperance. Of "Hastings Division, No. 8," you have often heard. Four were initiated there last evening.

We have not yet held the anniversary for the past year, of our "Total Abstinence Society." Mr. Gough's refusing to come here, did us great damage. His excuse was that he had only six more days to spend in Canada at that time, and that he had engagements for Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara, which he must fulfil. But the fact of his spending a week in Toronto alone, detracted very much from the influence of his name, and the repu-