

(Applause.) The cause is too high for law—it is too pure for political discussion.

Mr. Marshall said it was possible he might speak again on this subject during his stay in the city, and he should be happy to give all who were still under the thralldom of the baleful scourge of intemperance, the benefit of his experience. A considerable portion of his private history, he said, had been put in circulation,—and, in some instances, more than the truth had been told of him. This was the natural consequence of his former habits, but the truth was bad enough. He concluded his address with a thrilling appeal to young men, who, under the influence of fashion and false notions of bigotry and superstition, held aloof from the cause of temperance. He appealed to them to enlist under its broad banner, if for no other reason, on the score of its happy effects upon the physical man, causing the blood to bound in healthful currents through every vein, making the eyes of the old inebriate to gladden in the sunlight of a new nature. Mr. Marshall sat down amid thundering plaudits.

Previous to Mr. Marshall's speech, the Secretary of the Union read a brief sketch of the forthcoming annual report, in which it is estimated that the whole number enlisted under the banner of the Washingtonians in the United States is not less than *half a million*. Of this number 200,000 are in the Western States.

Natural History.

MISSOURI AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.

BY LORD WILLIAM LENNOX.

St. Louis was founded by some French traders in 1764. It extends for about two miles along the river, in three parallel streets, rising above each other in terraces. The town has latterly been greatly improved. The houses are, for the most part, built of limestone, and are surrounded with gardens. St. Louis is now, in fact, a miniature New Orleans. Anxious to avoid a long *sejour* there, we determined to push up the river as far as possible. Accordingly, within two days we took our departure. Our party was distributed in two boats; one was a large barge formerly used in navigating the Mohawk river, and known by the generic name of the *Schenectadz* barge; the other was a large keel boat, at that time the grand conveyance on the Mississippi. In this way we set out in buoyant spirits, and soon arrived at the mouth of the Missouri. The waters of the Mississippi, at its confluence with the Missouri, are moderately clear, and of a greenish hue. The Missouri is turbid and opaque, of a greyish white colour; and during its floods, which happen twice a year, communicates, almost instantaneously, to the combined stream its predominating qualities. We found our sails but of casual assistance, for it required a strong wind to conquer the force of the stream. Our main dependence was on the bodily strength and manual dexterity of our crew.

The boats, in general, required to be propelled

by oars and setting poles, or drawn by the hand, and by grappling hooks, from one root or overhanging tree to another; or towed by the long *cordelle*, or towing line, where the shores were sufficiently clear of woods and thickets to permit the men to pass along the banks. During this long and tedious progress, our craft were exposed to frequent danger from floating trees, and masses of drift wood, or of being impaled upon snags and sawyers, that is to say, sunken trees, presenting a jagged or pointed end above the surface of the water. As the channel of the river frequently shifted from side to side, according to the bends and sand-banks, the boats had, in the same way, to advance in a zig-zag course. Often, a part of the crew would leap into the water at the shallows, and wade along with the towing line, while their comrades on board toilsomely assisted with oar and setting pole.

The territory of the Missouri, while it was in a state of nature, abounded with wild animals, which have, as usual, fled before the approach of civilization, and taken refuge further in the desert. These were the buffalo and the great brown bear, the latter a formidable animal, both from its size, strength, extreme ferocity, and, above all, its tenacity of life. Wild horses are found in droves, on the prairies, between the Arkansas and Red Rivers; they are very fleet, and difficult to be taken, and of various colours; they are occasionally captured by expert riders, on swift domesticated horses, by means of a noose thrown over their necks with inconceivable dexterity. Deer, elk, bears, wolves, panthers, and antelopes are numerous. Wolves and panthers follow the buffalo herds, and prey on the calves. The grizzly, or white bear, is found on the head branches of the Missouri, and is as ferocious as the great brown bear. Cariboo and moose are plentiful, but Rocky Mountain sheep are the most common animals. The natives, at the point to which we directed our steps, which was an Indian settlement, generally live by fishing. It is true, they occasionally hunt the elk and deer, and ensnare the waterfowls of the ponds and rivers, but these are casual luxuries. Their chief subsistence is derived from fish, which abound in the rivers and lakes. As the Indians of the plain, who depend upon the chase, are bold and expert riders, and pride themselves upon their horses, so these piscatory tribes excel in the management of canoes, and are never more at home than when riding upon the waves. Their canoes vary in form and size. Some are upwards of thirty feet long, cut out of a single tree. The bow and stern are decorated with grotesque figures of men and animals. In managing them they kneel, two and two, along the bottom, sitting on their heels, and wielding paddles from four to five feet long, while one sits at the stern and steers with a paddle of the same kind. The women are equally expert in managing the canoe, and generally take the helm. The first day after our arrival we accom-