

TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

The 'Gazette' commenting upon the proceedings in the House of Commons in regard to Mr. Curran's motion for the analysis of intoxicating liquors, referred to a report recently presented by a select Committee of the House of Commons of England, from which it appears that during the year ending March 31st, 1890, the production of spirits in the United Kingdom amounted to 40,900,000 gallons, of which 28,000,000 were consumed (presumably as a beverage), 3,500,000 gallons were exported; 1,500,000 gallons used for methylation, 1,000,000 devoted to medicinal purposes; 4,400,000 gallons bonded; and 2,500,000 gallons wasted by evaporation, &c. The amount set down to consumption includes what was stored in cellars and sold to rectifiers. Of the whole 28,000,000 gallons consumed, 16,000,000 were made in pot stills. The liquor thus obtained is said to contain some of the substances that give flavor to the beverage as well as of those compounds that are removed by mellowing or ageing. The report says that the basis of gin is pure alcohol with flavoring materials. Foreign brandy is dilute alcohol with by-products of cane sugar, or molasses. The report states that the Committee had not found that the spirits of commerce are adulterated with any materials noxious to health. Fusil oil is never present in sufficient quantity to have any sensible effect.

At the meeting of the General Synod of The Church of Ireland held last month in Dublin, the following resolution on the Liquor traffic abroad, and on its kindred evil, the 'Ether Traffic,' was passed:

The Dean of the Chapel Royal moved: 'That the Archbishops and Bishops and the clergy and laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled, earnestly protest against the continued and increasing demoralization of native races by the extension of the liquor traffic in our dependencies and colonies, and urgently entreat that, as far as possible, restraints should be imposed, by legislation, upon a traffic which is a reproach to our boasted civilization and a fatal hindrance to the influence which a professedly Christian nation ought to exercise in all parts of the world to which its commerce is carried.'

The Archdeacon of Derry moved: 'That this Synod thankfully acknowledges the action taken by the Government for the restriction of the traffic in other as an intoxicant, and respectfully urges that further legislation is necessary for its suppression.'

Rev. Dr. Carter seconded the motion, which was passed.

At a Conference of ministers of the Primitive Methodist Connection held at Sheffield, it was reported to have been stated in the course of a discussion on 'Village Methodism' that during the last twenty years no fewer than four hundred villages have been abandoned by Primitive Methodism. This is another instance of the dependence of Dissent

on wealth. Even in towns, as districts become poorer, chapels move away from them. Where would the people in these 400 villages be if there was no Church to look after them?



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