

is led headlong to destruction. We are informed that in one gambling house, there was, or is one room for the masters and another for the clerks, (in order, we suppose, that, to use an expressive phrase, the candle may be lighted at both ends) nay, we have heard of one conservator of the peace, who is said to be a part owner and constant frequenter of one of these places. We sincerely hope there may be no truth in the report.

Magistrates, to you again we address ourselves, for you alone have the power to relieve society from this intolerable burthen. Reflect, we pray you, that your own sons may be among the victims of these establishments, and then say if ye will continue to license them.

Second.—We perceive in the list of wholesale dealers, as well as amongst the retail grocers, the names of several gentlemen who hold prominent places in Religious and Charitable Societies. The attention of these gentlemen we particularly solicit to the facts which we herein after present to them, in order that they may see whether their business be compatible with these offices. The reformation should begin with the most enlightened and respectable, who will naturally be imitated by others. If Presidents of Religious and Benevolent Societies, and above all, if officers in the Church continue to sell the drunkard's drink, how can we hope for the closing of the dram-shops?

Third.—The Sign-Boards deserve notice, as some ingenuity has been shown in devices calculated to lead astray the unwary. And at the outset, we must protest against using such inscriptions as "Dinna Forget"—"Forget me Not"—"Waterloo"—and others which are calculated to awaken interesting recollections, and associate them with drinking usages. In another point of view, these inscriptions are appropriate enough, as it is not likely that any one who frequents a dram-shop much will ever forget it; and the carnage of Waterloo was a mere trifle compared to the tens of thousands slain by intoxicating drinks. As a portrait of Shakspere has been adopted as a sign for a tavern, in justice to the immortal bard his own lines should have been inscribed beneath it, viz:—

"Oh thou invisible spirit of wine, if thou hast no name to be known by, let us call thee—devil."

"Oh that men should put an enemy into their mouths to steal away their brains! that we should with joy, revel pleasure, applause, transform ourselves into beasts!"

Some of the devices are singularly inappropriate. For instance, a "Bee Hive," and "Speed the Plough." The people who frequent bar-rooms, instead of laying up stores for the future like the industrious bees, are spending their substance and constitution in idleness and intemperance; and strong drink has done more to retard the plough than perhaps all other causes put together. If any man doubts this fact, let him observe the farmers coming out of some well-known houses in town at the close of a market day, and he will doubt no longer.

Some of the devices are, on the other hand, very appropriate: such as a Cat with a Mouse in her mouth, for no mouse is more tantalized and tormented, or tries un-successfully to escape oftener, than the poor victim of dram-drinking, but all is unavailing as long as laudroids hold out every bait and lure, and coolly pocket his miserable pittance in return for that which is ruining him body and soul. A sign with people drinking, and the motto, "We three loggerheads be," will be also admitted to be appropriate.

We can, however, suggest a few devices, which we conceive would be fully as suitable as any of the foregoing. Say, for instance, a Spider sitting snugly in a corner of his web, watching for any unwary fly that may venture within its meshes; or a Vulture knawing the vitals of a prostrate victim. One might have a picture of the Poor-house above his door, another of the Prison, a third of the Ho-pital, and a fourth of the Orphan Asylum. Two or three might adopt the device of a Man in the last agonies of *delerium tremens*; but a Coffin should be the favorite sign, for certainly if the testimony of Physicians and Coroners be worth any thing, no instrumentality in the country fills so many coffins prematurely. Perhaps, however, the most appropriate sign is one which we have sometimes seen, namely: a man lying dead drunk at the door.

Fourth.—It has heretofore been customary for all grocers to keep liquors, but a reformation has commenced; and we are happy to have it in our power to announce that there are now five temperance grocery establishments in Montreal, viz:

Samuel Mathewson, St. Paul Street.
William Addy, Main Street, St. Lawrence Suburb.
Thomas Bryson, do. do. do.
A. Stephenson, Wellington Street, Griffintown.
John Minshall, Main Street, Quebec Suburbs.

And we trust that these individuals will so prosper as to be able to give up the rum trade also.

Fifth.—It is particularly deserving of notice, that many of the houses occupied as taverns, or dram-shops, change tenants often—the old ones frequently dying of drinking, or becoming bankrupt. We know places where three or four occupants have perished from the effects of their own business in a few years: yet others can be found in rapid succession to fill their places and expose themselves to the same danger. Some times both husband and wife meet the same fate. In these cases, the husband usually dies first; and the widow, after following him in the same business for a short time, follows him to the grave also. We have it on the authority of a Montreal dealer, who gave up business some time ago, that of twenty-two tavern-keepers on his books, seventeen had either run away or died drunkards. That the family of the dram-seller, as well as himself, are peculiarly exposed to the formation of intemperate habits, will be apparent from the fact, that two little girls, of about eight and ten years of age respectively, have been observed in a dram-shop in town (kept by their mother, their father having already fallen a victim) drawing and drinking raw spirits when they happened to be left alone in the bar-room.

Respecting the quantity of intoxicating drinks sold in Montreal, we can only arrive at a probable result. The quantity imported from sea is, we can state upon good authority, as follows:

Statement of Wines and Spirits imported into the Port of Montreal for the year ending 5th January, 1840.

Wines.....	326,963	gallons.
Foreign Spirits	369,671	—
Rum	44,263	—
British Spirits	11,873	—

And into the Port of St. Johns, L.C.

Rum.....	98,601	—	very strong.
Wines.....	48,041	—	

899,432

This does not include the quantity imported at Quebec.

The quantity of whiskey manufactured in the District of Montreal cannot be ascertained with perfect accuracy. We are, however, informed upon good authority, that the following is near the quantity:

One Distillery produces.....	60	puncheons weekly.
Another	40	—
A third.....	25	—
A fourth	22	—
And 8 others produce jointly about	42	—

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The time that Distilleries are in active operation is estimated at thirty-five weeks per annum, which gives the enormous quantity of 6615 puncheons, or, at 120 gallons to the punccheon, 793,800 gallons of whiskey manufactured in the year—the greater part (or whole) of which is sold in Montreal. We are informed, that on the average 25 lbs. of grain are required to produce a gallon of whiskey; so that, taking the average weight of oats, rye, barley, &c., 500,000 bushels of grain must be destroyed to produce the quantity above-mentioned.

It will be seen that we have already 1,693,332 gallons, to which, if we add all the whiskey imported from Upper Canada (of which we can get no return), all the liquors entered at Quebec, but sold there, all the malt liquor imported from Britain, which is a large branch of business, and all that is manufactured in seven breweries here—we shall, not to speak of cider, have a probable total of two millions and a half of gallons of intoxicating drinks,—the wholesale price of which cannot be much short of £500,000 paid in Montreal for intoxicating drinks in one year. Is it surprising that the country should be poor? No doubt a portion of the 2,500,000 gallons goes to different parts of the country; but we presume