

portion was most resplendent—indeed such a galaxy perhaps never previously beamed in our good burgh.

Immediately after the Queen's anthem had been sung and the audience had resumed their seats, the Rev. Mr. Osborne appeared on the platform, and stated that, by special request, an important duty devolved upon him, and that he conceived this was the proper time to attend to it. His duty in this case made him address himself to four honoured individuals who were on the platform, to whom the Society and the public were deeply indebted—Mr. Broom, Mr. Beveridge, Mr. McLellan, and though last, not least, Mr. McIntosh. Gentlemen, said he, you have reason to be glad, though I forbear to congratulate you—you have signalized yourselves in one of the noblest causes that ever engaged the attention, awakened the energies, and roused the solicitude of man. It is a cause which, in proportion as it succeeds, will remove the foulest blot from the character of our nation, and of our race—will diminish the amount of crime, and elevate society in the scale of intellectual and moral worth. It is a cause which will raise many from degradation to respectability—from being a burden, a nuisance, and a curse, to others, to usefulness—from penury to competence—from disease and misery to health and comfort. A cause which will encircle your heads with a sacred effulgence while you live, soothe your minds in your latest struggles, and embalm your memory when you are dead. A cause distinguished by such circumstances demands dispositions and exertions of no ordinary description; decision, skill, and prudence, perseverance unwearied, and disinterestedness of the highest order are absolutely requisite to ensure its success. The speaker then adverted to the exertions which had been put forth by the four gentlemen whom he was addressing, and to the signal success with which their efforts had been crowned. You have not, said he, had the mortification of seeing that your labours have been in vain, and as a proof of the mode in which your services are appreciated I need say nothing. (Here the speaker produced the silver medals which were to be presented to the gentlemen, and the effect which this part of the business produced was electrifying.) Behold, said he, before your eyes a proof, an honourable and *voluntary* testimonial furnished not only by members of the Association, but also by others who are looking on your conduct with admiration and delight. Having invested the gentlemen with the medals, he concluded thus, may you long continue to wear these insignia, and to enjoy these honours deservedly, and see the Bacchanalian system falling before you, its temple deserted, its altars demolished, its priests and priestesses betaking themselves to some more rational occupation, and its very name perish from the face of the earth.

Mr. Broom, for himself and the other three gentlemen, returned thanks. He could safely say that they were free from vanity, nevertheless they were not insensible to the token of public respect which they had just received. The consciousness that their labours had met with the approbation of the good, had supported them amid the gibes, and taunts, and sneers, with which they had been assailed; and he pledged himself that no effort should be wanting on his part, or that of his

associates, to forward the cause in which the Society was engaged. He was precluded by the engagements of the evening from entering at length upon the discussion of the subject of temperance. The speakers who had been selected to address them would, in their turn, adduce such facts and arguments upon every leading topic, as would be calculated to drive intemperance from the minds of the company. Of the influence of the fair portion of his auditors, as advocates in the teetotal cause, he had formed the highest estimate; and could he induce them to exert that influence effectually, he had no doubt of a complete triumph.

Mr. Broom alluded to the erroneous notions prevalent as to the supposed hospitality associated with drinking usages, and gave an amusing account of a meeting at a house in town where a tee-totaller had called a few days previous along with a gentleman from the country, on which occasion the lady of the house and her visitors seemed to be all at one in regard to the blessings of temperance; but, to the astonishment of the tee-totaller, when he and his friend were about to leave she produced the bottle, of which, after a few awkward attempts at excusing himself, the country gentleman partook, and on leaving the house the tee-totaller remained behind to scold the lady, and she apologized by saying, that country folks, when they came to town, were so particular that if you did not offer them something they would think you shabby. And having got to his country friend, who had gone out of the house before him, he attacked him in round terms for his inconsistency after saying so much in favour of temperance, and was very much astonished to find his apology to be, that really these town folks had little else than a drop of whiskey to offer to any body who came to see them, and that if you did not taste they would think you saucy. It was thus, Mr. B. contended, that pernicious customs, under a mistaken idea of hospitality, were kept up, and would have continued unless the tee-total cause had prospered.

The following is a copy of one of the articles which were "thrown off" by the press:—

A FEW TRIFLES.

AMOUNT OF SPIRITS THAT PAID DUTY FOR HOME CONSUMPTION IN THE YEAR ENDING JAN. 5, 1857.

	Gallons.	Duty.
Rum, Brandy, Gin, and Whiskey—	21,092,417	£8,444,500 18 9
	(Signed)	WILLIAM IRVING,
		Inspector-General of Imports and Exports.

DIRECT ANNUAL COST OF INTemperance.

Wine, six millions; Ale, Porter, and Cider, thirty millions; Spirits, twenty-two millions; Tobacco, five millions.

In all, SIXTY-THREE MILLIONS OF POUNDS STERLING.
Well-informed persons compute that the intoxicating drinks consumed annually within the United Kingdom, would fill a canal three feet deep, thirty feet broad, and one hundred and sixty-eight miles long!

To cheer the drooping spirits of the inhabitants of Dumfries and Maxwelltown, and the neighbourhood, there was expended in the year 1852, by a fair calculation, for intoxicating drinks, the moderate sum of £40,000. At least £20,000 for the five following years, is..... £190,000

These GOOD CREATURES OF GOD, as the moderation people call them, having in the annals of "Death's doing" within less than twenty-five years, been the immediate instrument in the hand of the "fell tyrant," in his various hideous shapes, of laying in a premature grave greatly more than TWO HUNDRED of the pious, the good, the heedless, inhabitants of our community!

To avoid exaggeration, every doubtful case has been omitted.

Hear this, ye Ministers of the everlasting Gospel, and you masters, teachers and guardians of youth! If the religious sentiments you profess have any influence in your hearts, will you longer hesitate to join our band, whose only aim is to remove the cause of this foul reproach from our happy land "the home of the brave and the free!"