

into Canada. The Choir was ably filled by Mr. C. P. Watson, who, in opening the business of the evening, remarked that it was now five years since the advent of the Order, so to speak, into Canada, and though it had not met with that marked success which its most sanguine promoters had anticipated, yet he was satisfied with that success. We must not forget that the Order was almost entirely new in Canada, and besides many good temperance men regarded it as a secret Society, and consequently unworthy of support. He was happy to say, however, that that day had passed away, and though it had not yet met with that measure of increase which, as a means of advancing the Temperance Reformation, it justly merited, yet some of these foolish prejudices which were wont to militate against us were now removed. How was not prepared to give the exact numerical strength of the Order in the city; but, speaking from memory, he had no doubt that nearly 400 had united with us, and that now the whole strength of the Order, in consequence of removals from the city, and other causes, might be reckoned at nearly 300 members, who had not bowed the knee to Baal, (Bacchus). The Chairman concluded by introducing the Rev. Mr. Ingalls, of Clareville, who, though not of the initiated, was nevertheless a sturdy teetotaler, and entertained the Company very profitably. Brother the Rev. Mr. Girdwood was next introduced, and spoke in his usual happy style in favor of the Order, and could only account for his youth as a Reclabite on the ground that his attention had not been called to the Society sooner than it had been. Brother the Rev. W. Scott followed in a speech of some length, in a similar strain to that of Mr. Girdwood, going more at length into the peculiar adaptation of the Order, both to consolidate and accelerate the Temperance Reformation. Brother James Brown gave the concluding address. Brother Brown is quite a favorite on the Reclabite platform, and seems more and more convinced of the importance of female tents. The whole was suitably interspersed with a few well executed Temperance Hymns, from the Choir. At the close several signed the Pledge. —Communicated.

THE LICENSE LAW.

We regret that another session of Parliament has closed without any amendment of the law regulating Tavern Licenses. The subjoined article shows one of the evils arising from the working of the law at present in force. Previous to the public mind being enlightened by the spread of Temperance principles, the Magistrates very seldom refused a certificate for a Tavern License; and in the few cases where they did refuse the necessary certificate, the Executive granted the license without it, to the great annoyance of the Magistrates, who had the welfare of the community so much at heart as to endeavor to prevent persons of an improper character from obtaining licenses.

If the statement of "Temperant" be a fact, we cannot believe that, in the case of the parishioners of St. Martin, (who, as appears from the reports of Mr. Chiniquy's labors, have all joined the Temperance Society,) the Executive have had the matter brought under their consideration. The licenses in question must surely have been filled up, as a matter of course, by some subordinate in the Secretary's Office, following the old rule of granting all applications. We would call the attention of the Executive to the following statement, in the hope that if such a violation of the fundamental principles of good Government, as reported by "Temperant," has occurred, it will not again be permitted:

To the Editor of *L'Avenir*.

The active part which you have taken in your journal to pro-

pagate Temperance, makes me hope that you will publish the following facts in your next number.

Since Father Chiniquy preached Temperance in our parish, it has been the desire and the wish of all the inhabitants, that there should be no longer any taverns for the sale of strong liquors; for this purpose they petitioned the three branches of the Legislature, asking expressly the passing of a law refusing licenses to every one who shall not obtain the required certificate.

To satisfy the wishes of their fellow-parishioners, the local authorities have decided, unanimously, to grant certificates to nobody. Well, notwithstanding this agreement between the local authorities and their fellow-parishioners to deliver themselves from such a nuisance—from the source of so much evil and the obstacle to all good, the Ministry have already sanctioned three taverns, after the well known refusal of the local authorities, and that on the recommendation, it is said, of persons strangers to the parish, but well known as constant frequenters of these houses; and two of these taverns are at the *Barre à Plouf*, a place where, above all others, there should be none; for it is there all the young men who come down from the *shanties*, and who, not being under the protection of their friends, are delivered to the mercy of the tavern-keepers, who strip them of the price of their sweat, and, more than that, who demoralize them.

We do not ask the Ministry to aid us in this cause, but, at least, we have a right to expect that they will not throw obstacles in the way of the good which we ourselves wish to do. At best, is not this a wish to centralize every thing, and to refuse to the people the management of their own local affairs.

TEMPERANT.

St. Martin, 5th June, 1849.

We regret to have to record the death of Stephen Harmon, Printer, of consumption, on the 19th ultimo, at Lima, Indiana, United States, aged between 17 and 18 years. The deceased was about three years in the office of this paper, and though quite a youth, was exemplary in his deportment, and gave fair promise of being an excellent workman; he was a favorite in the office, which rendered his removal from amongst us the cause of sorrow. It would appear from the following notice taken of his death in "*La Grange Whig*," that he was no less a favorite with his new associates in Lima:—"Although a stranger in our midst, he gained the esteem and confidence of all who became acquainted with him. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of young men."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. C. of Owen Sound, is informed that his letter has come to hand; but at present we forbear publishing it, as we do not give the same interpretation to the letter to which he refers, that he seems to do. We hope J. C. will not attribute partiality to us in this decision, as both he and G. J. G. are equal strangers to us. We adopt this course because, were we to insert his letter, we would be the instruments in provoking a controversy between two societies, which might tend to disunite some of the friends of the cause; and upon a subject, the true merits of which, in the very nature of the case, we cannot be judges of ourselves.

We are bound to state, however, that our new correspondent mentions an important fact, which did not appear in the preceding communication; namely, that there is another Temperance Society in Owen's Sound, named the *Sydenham*; and that it was in existence before the *Victoria*. Will J. C. favor us with a Report of this Society? We shall be happy to insert it, but we must decline any thing controversial.

M. A. L. Barry will observe from our last number, a sufficient reason for the non-appearance of his letter, dated 25th May.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We beg to call the attention of our friends to the conditions upon which we undertook to keep up the *Advocate*. We hope that our part of the contract has been performed to the satisfaction of all; at least it has been our aim to do so, in making the paper, what it ought to be, a faithful exponent of the true principles of temperance. We are not so blind, however, to our own defects,