

bers, eight of whom are reformed drunkards. The Society have been favoured with a lecture from Mr. W. G. Moncrieff, of Glasgow, another from Mr. Reid of the same city, and with a Sermon from the Rev. Mr. Brewster, of the Abbey Church, Paisley.

JOHNSTONE.—At this place two public meetings have been held, by speakers from Paisley; but it appears there is not much interest taken in the cause there yet—the reason may be, that there are fifty public houses in the village, and only one Temperance house.

ELDERSLIE.—In this village the Total Abstinence cause is making rapid progress. About 200 of the inhabitants have now joined the Society. The publicans are complaining most piteously of the *dullness of trade*. One has abandoned the traffic, and is about to open his house as a Temperance Coffee House. *Social Meetings* are regularly held in the Schoolhouse on the Saturday evenings, which are invariably well attended. Several pieces of original Temperance Poetry have been “said or sung” at these meetings. On the evening of Thursday the 15th ult., a Public Meeting of the inhabitants was held in the Schoolhouse, when Mr. Brough from Paisley delivered an address on the Duty and Advantages of abstaining from intoxicating liquors. The meeting was crowded to excess by an auditory who listened to the various statements of the speaker with much attention.

HOUSTOUN.—A Public Meeting of the inhabitants of this village was held in Mr. Stevenson’s Schoolroom on the evening of Friday the 9th March. The Meeting was “a bumper”—many being obliged to go away without obtaining admittance. During the whole evening, individuals might be seen at the windows endeavouring to see what was going on, or catch an occasional sentence of the speeches. Addresses were delivered by a deputation from the Paisley Total Abstinence Society, consisting of Messrs. James and Alexander Ferguson, Mr. James Winning, and Mr. William Brough. At the conclusion of the Meeting persons entertaining objections to the Total Abstinence system were invited to come forward and state these objections, but the invitation was not accepted. It was then stated that signatures would be received to the Society’s pledge, on which one of the speakers cried out, “a distinguished honour is just about to be conferred on some person, viz. that of being the *first tee totaller* in Houstoun.—Who is the honoured individual?” “Here am I!” exclaimed a voice in the midst of the Meeting, and forward came Mr. Daniel M’Dougall, Druggist, whose name was accordingly the first that was admitted to the pledge. Thirteen signatures were obtained in all, and Mr. M’Dougall was appointed Convener. Since the Meeting the cause has made astonishing progress—the *latest intelligence* being to the effect that upwards of 70 individuals have subscribed the pledge. A Committee and Office-bearers have also been appointed.

NEILSTON.—Since the Public Meeting reported in last *Standard* as having been held here, the Total Abstinence cause has made considerable progress. A Meeting of the Subscribers to the pledge has been held at which Rules were adopted, Office-bearers appointed, and other measures taken for the promotion of the Society’s great object—the suppression of Intemperance. A Public Meeting was also held in Mr. Gardiner’s Schoolroom, on the evening of Wednesday the 26th ult., at which several friends from Glasgow delivered addresses on behalf of the Society. The number of members will now amount to about 100.

BEITH.—Sometime ago the Temperance Society of this town, in addition to the pledge of abstinence from Distilled Spirits, adopted the pledge of entire abstinence from all Intoxicating Liquors. On the evening of Friday the 9th March, a Public Meeting of the Society was held in the Secession Church, when addresses on the Total Abstinence question were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Eckersall and Mr. James Mellis, of Paisley. The Meeting was not very numerously attended. We would strongly recommend our Beith friends to abandon altogether the partial abstinence pledge. We are persuaded that nothing short of Total Abstinence is calculated to uproot the *drinking customs* of our country, which all are agreed constitute the great cause of our national intemperance.

RENFREW.—A Public Meeting of the inhabitants of this ancient burgh was held in the Town Hall, on the evening of Wednesday the 21st March. The attendance was numerous and respectable. Mr. Walter Stewart having taken the Chair, the Meeting was addressed by Messrs. Mellis, Melvin, and Brough, of Paisley, on the evils of Intemperance, and on the necessity of Total Abstinence Societies being formed for the suppression of this vice. The speak-

ers were heard with marked attention, and at the conclusion of the Meeting 25 individuals subscribed the Society’s pledge. The number has now increased to 60, and a Committee and Office-bearers have been appointed.

KILBARCHAN.—A Public Meeting of the Kilbarchan Youth’s Temperance Society was held in the Relief Church, on the evening of Wednesday the 28th ult. The Meeting was addressed by several talented young men belonging to Paisley, Johnstone, and Kilbarchan.

DUMFRIES.—The Society here is progressing admirably, and now contains about 1500 members. After the election of officers for the ensuing year, held on New Year’s Day, a manifesto was read from several of the journeymen tailors belonging to the Society, to the effect that tee-totalism had made men of them, in so far as whiskey was never seen at the board—that it was unnecessary to brace the nerves for *their hard labour*, and that previous to the cattle-show in October, they had worked at the rate of 18 hours out of the 24, for three weeks at a stretch, without being a whit the worse of it.

EAST INDIES.

We have before us a number of *The Oriental Temperance Advocate*, published at Jaffna, Ceylon, which furnishes us with much interesting and gratifying intelligence respecting the progress of the cause in that distant quarter of the world. It is dated in July, 1836, and contains Reports from three Temperance Societies.

The first is that of Jaffna, from which we learn that the Society consists of 189 members—it publishes 1500 copies of the *Advocate* monthly, upwards of 1200 of which are distributed in the Island, and on the continent of India. It also informs that there are Societies at the following places:—Secunderabad, St. Thomas Mount, Madras, Bangalore, Poonah, Nugger, Deessa, Amedabad, Belgaum, Agra, Kurnaul, Meerut, Chunar, Benares, and Colombo; at the latter place under the auspices of the Major-General, commanding the Army in Ceylon; and with the prospect of being joined by other Societies, at most of the principal stations on the Island.

The second Report is from the Committee of the Secunderabad Society, the members of which amount to 168. Lieut. Colonel Ketchen is President, and Major Webb Secretary. From this able Report we make the following extract, which we would recommend to the special attention of the military in these Provinces:—

“We will suppose that there are only 20,000 British soldiers in India, that each man only drinks his Canteen drams at the rate charged for them by Government, and the sum thus drawn from the Army amounts to no less than 638,750 rupees per annum!!! for which the deluded soldiery receive, as an equivalent, 14,600,000 drams!!! or 1,448 tuns, 1 puncheon, and 20 gallons of ardent poison, administered to ruin one of the finest Armies in the world!! Now could the enormous sum above-mentioned be directed into any other channel beneficial to the soldiers, what a blessing would it be to the men themselves, and what an incalculable advantage to the state, independently of the saving that would accrue in the expence of medicines, Hospital charges, attendants, and the many contingents required to renovate the arrack-shattered constitutions of drunkards, whose spirit-produced illness and premature deaths cost more than all the duty they have ever done would be an equivalent for.

Having shown a very low aggregate of the annual consumption of Arrack, let us state a few facts for individual consideration. A man who takes no more than his two drams a day, drinks in one year, 730 drams, or 18 gallons, 2 pints of ardent poison. In seven years he will at the same rate consume 5,110 drams, or 127 gallons, 6 pints of ardent poison.

If he can continue fourteen years at this rate, he will swallow 10,250 drams, or 2 butts, 15 gallons, 4 pints of ardent poison.

Twelve years is, we have heard, a fair average for the life of spirit drinkers in this country, taking one with another; but if a man should survive the daily doses of poison, as some very few do, he will, in 21 years, drink 15,350 drams, or 3 butts, 23 gallons,