

Temperance and Literature.

For the remarks on this very important subject, which we here insert, we are indebted to our esteemed contemporary, the *Montreal Witness* :—

We have often thought it an unwise policy in editors and literary men to oppose the Temperance reform, seeing that its partial success has tended so much to promote the circulation of papers and the diffusion of general literature. In this point of view, papers upholding the drinking customs of society are, to a great extent, limiting their own circulation, and, at the same time, increasing the proportion of bad debts. From our own knowledge we can affirm, that our losses, by unpaid subscriptions, on account of intemperance, have been greater than from all other causes. Thousands are now taking papers and magazines, buying books, and subscribing to libraries who did none of these things before they became temperance men. Thus, the movement has greatly benefited periodical and standard literature. Many men now take two or three papers who took none before they adopted the principle of total abstinence from alcoholic drinks. They were either too poor, or wanted the inclination to read and think, or they were satisfied with the news current at the tavern, discussed amid the fumes of alcohol and tobacco. The money spent in such places would have much more than paid for several papers, and these being read at home would interest and instruct not only the man himself but his family. If the high position and influence of a country depends greatly upon the intelligence of its people, and that intelligence of mind is only fostered by reading and thinking, it becomes a matter of importance to remove whatever interferes with reading habits, and to encourage and foster the literature best fitted for strengthening and furnishing the mind. We find in a community where moderate drinking prevails, a class whose minds are continually under an unhealthy stimulus. They are too hazy clearly to understand anything requiring the exercise of a clear intellect, and unable to grasp anything having a strictly moral aspect. Their reading, if they read at all, is confined to the mere details of the periodical press. Murders, robberies, &c., soon form the staple of their intellectual exercises. The clear reasoning and close arguments which form food for thinking minds, are beyond their grasp or beneath their notice, and they become a prey to designing men and political demagogues—the tools which unworthy men use to obtain a living or to step into power.

Take the same community under the influence of total abstinence principles. The minds in that community are freed from the unnatural excitement produced by alcohol, and the strong craving of the mind for a stimulus is met in the well-conducted paper and good book, or popular lecture. The newspaper agent readily induces the men of such a community to subscribe for papers; the book agent or colporteur finds an easy sale for books, and the establishing of a library becomes an easy matter. Under such circumstances the people will grow in intelligence and usefulness. The habits they form will strengthen by exercise, and the demand for good papers and books will steadily increase with their growing intelligence and love for knowledge. Now, such a community is not at all an imaginary one; we can point to such in more than one locality, and mainly attributable to the temperance movement. The direct tendency of the reform has been to increase the demand for papers and books. It has called into existence an improved literature. It has led to the examination of those principles upon which society is based and by which it exists. It has led men to examine into the relations of man to society, and the duties of society to man; and as these matters have been thought over and discussed, periodical literature has assumed a higher and more enlightened tone, and its moral influence upon society has been greatly increased. It is our belief that the

valuable social reforms of the age owe their origin in a great measure to the temperance movement, and when we consider the large portion of the periodical press devoted to these several reforms, we may have some idea of the extent to which total abstinence has effected and led to the improvement of literature.

As Temperance men will probably soon form the majority, and perhaps do so now, of thoughtful and intelligent readers, the newspaper press should wisely adapt itself to their requirements, maintaining a high and dignified moral tone, and not thoughtlessly raise obstacles to the progress of a principle which has done and is doing so much to sustain literature.

Special Effort to Sustain Mr. Kellogg.

SHARES £1 EACH.

Rev. Dr. Taylor, £1; James Court, £2; John Dougall, £2; Rev. J. McLoud, £1; John McWaters, £1; Dr. Bernard, £1; J. C. Becket, £1; H. Lyman, £1; T. S. Brown, £1; N. S. Whitnev, £1; B. Lyman, £1; E. Atwater, £1; A. Adams, £1; John Leeming, £2 10s; C. Alexander, £1; Jos. McKay, £1; Mrs. Mills, £2; Jas. Ferrier, Jr., £5; C. P. Watson and Rev. J. H. Marling, £1; Mr. Duclou, 20s; Mr. Tulham, 20s; Cote St. S. School, £2; Councilor Corse, 20s; N. S. Froste, 20s; Geo. Hagar, 20s; Mr. Hilton, 20s; J. Sinclair, 20s; J. Hyatt, 20s; Hope Tent, Daughters of Rechab, £2; Perseverance Tent, £3; Samaritan Tent, 20s; Daughters of Temperance, 20s; Mr. Green, 20s; St. James Street Wes Sunday School, £2; George Hunter, Ramsay, 20s; P. LeSueur, 20s; American Pres Sunday School, £2; Dr. Taylor's Sunday School, £2; George Muir, 20s; J. H. Dorwin, 20s; Howard Division, £2; Jonadab Division, £2; Inspector Watson, 20s; Swinburn, 20s; James Cooper, 20s; Wm. Easton, 20s; Wm. Gemmill, £2; Mr. Patton, Carpenter, 20s; James Morico, 5s; R. Latham, £1 5s; John Ansley, £2 10s; J. B. Greenshields, £2 10s.

Contributions received by F. W. Kellogg, at the following places :—

Cornwall, \$14.25; Vankleek Hill, 6.00; Hawksbury Village, 14.00; St. Johns, 11.62; LaCote, 5.00; Clarenceville, 3.00; Clarenceville, 6.75; St. John, 8.37; Pike River, 1.00; Philipsburgh, 2.20; Bedford, 1.93; Stanbridge, 2.70; Dunham Flats, 5.00; Cowansville, 4.00; Waterloo, 2.27; Granby, 5.00; Abbotford, 1.30; Chambly, 1.50; Russelltown, 8.15; Hinchinbrook, 2.20; Huntingdon, 16.00; North Georgetown, 1.50; Durham, 6.80; Point Fortune, 5.00; LaCruix, 15.00; Chatham, 3.24; St. Andrews, 24.33; Ottawa Glass Works, 5.00; Lancaster, 16.00; Martintown, 16.00; St. Michaels, 2.05; Huntingdon, 7.00; Hinchinbrook, 1.93; Hemmingsford, 6.08.

THE GRAND UNITED TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION—THE MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY—YOUNG MEN'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY—PERSEVERANCE AND SAMARITAN TENTS, I. O. OF R., AND THE HOWARD AND JONADAB DIVISIONS, S. OF T

For a long time back, the friends of Temperance in Montreal had been anxious to unite in a demonstration of their strength, and to make the occasion one of advantage to the cause they have at heart. Many hindrances seemed to interpose, but the chief one was, that having resolved to secure the services of the Father of the Maine Law, it was extremely difficult for him to fix a time for visiting Canada; having to exert his utmost ability in aid of prohibitory legislation throughout the United States. He was, however, at last enabled to say "I will be with you, God willing, on the second day of February." Arrangements were made accordingly. An efficient committee exerted themselves heartily and generously. Everything was devised with skill. Harmony prevailed, and, therefore, the work was done, without jealousy or rivalry, for the common good. Anxiety there was, lest some railroad apparatus should give way, and a disappointment occur; but we were all