

opinions. When the vote was taken, nearly the whole audience rose up in favour of the formation of Societies on the total abstinence pledge, whilst only five or six rose in favour of Mr. Murray's principles. In vain did some of Mr. Murray's friends insist, that the meeting did not understand the resolution upon which they voted. The vote was again taken, and with a still more decisive result. It is to be particularly observed, that the meeting was by no means composed of Temperance men: there being no Society, or only a small one, in Oakville and its vicinity. I believe a report of the proceedings at this meeting and the addresses delivered, will be forwarded to you for publication; and I think it would be well not only to insert it in the *Advocate*, but throw off a few hundred copies in the form of a Tract. The more Mr. Murray's book has been advertised and circulated, and we have seen the exertions of certain parties to disseminate it, the more will the Tract be sought after.

There are several cheering and important signs of the times which deserve notice.

1st. Intemperance has prevailed to such an appalling extent for the last two years, that the whole country appears to be awakened to a sense of the magnitude of the evil, and the necessity of seeking a remedy.

2d. The disbanding of the Militia and Volunteer Corps has left the bar-rooms comparatively deserted. In the winters of 1837 and 1838, these were full to overflowing; and drinking, swearing, quarrelling and obscenity abounded.

3d. The churches have, in a great measure, got over their alarm about the infidel tendency of Total Abstinence; and the best men in the Ministry see that if they wish to carry their usefulness to its greatest extent, they must abstain from intoxicating drinks themselves, and advise others to do the same. I have little doubt that Temperance principles will shortly prevail as extensively amongst the Clergymen of Upper Canada, as they now do amongst those of the United States. The days of Ministers attending public dinners, and giving the thirteenth or seventy-fifth toast, are drawing to a close. When temperance principles take up their legitimate place in the Churches, our occupation, as a separate Society, will be at an end.

4th. The leading temperance men in every place that I have visited, are either Ministers or pious Christian men; and it is only by the agency of such that anything great or good can be effected.

For these and other reasons, I am convinced that the present time is singularly favourable for exertion in the Temperance Reformation; and if we are remiss in endeavouring to improve it, we shall not be held guiltless.

I am, your most obedient Servant,

JOHN DOUGALL.

P.S.—I forward a list of the Clergymen in connection with the Kirk of Scotland, and the Congregational Union. I have been induced, by the request of persons of influence, to form the plan of holding meetings in the principal towns of Upper Canada, on my return journey, for the purpose of advocating Total Abstinence; of extending the circulation of the *Advocate*; and of inducing the different Societies to correspond with us. I am promised efficient co-operation, without which I could not venture upon such an important undertaking. Due notice of time and places of meeting will be given.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—The old Kingston Temperance Society which was organized some years ago, recognizing the old pledge of abstinence from ardent spirits only, having become extinct, it may not be uninteresting to you to learn that a new Society has very lately been formed here, pledged to the principles of Total Abstinence. At a meeting of the friends of the Temperance Reformation, held in the Rear Street Chapel in this place on Saturday evening, the 7th instant, the cause of Temperance, on the principles of Total Abstinence was ably advocated by J. Dougall, Esq., of your city, assisted by the Rev. Matthew Lang, of this town. The meeting was well attended, considering the shortness of the notice given, and the evening on which it took place. Between twenty and thirty persons gave their names to the pledge adopted by your Society, and a large number subscribed for the *Canada Temperance Advocate*. The

public meeting was then closed; and all having retired except the subscribers to the pledge, on motion, the Rev. Mr. Lang was called to the chair, who suggested to those present the necessity of forming themselves into a Temperance Society, and forthwith to proceed to choose their officers. It was then

Moved by Mr. W. F. COLLINS, seconded by Mr. A. M'ALISTER.

1. *Resolved*,—That we do now form ourselves into a Society, under the name of The Kingston Temperance Society, and that Mr. James M. Rolison be our President.

The Chairman then left the Chair; and it having been taken by the President, it was

Moved by Rev. Mr. LANG, seconded by Mr. T. H. BENTLY.

2. *Resolved*,—That the offices of Secretary and Treasurer be united; and that W. F. Collins be Secretary and Treasurer of this Society.

Moved by Rev. Mr. LANG, seconded by Mr. JAMES GARDNER.

3. *Resolved*,—That an Executive Committee be now chosen, and that the following persons do compose the same, viz.—Thomas H. Bently, George Davidson, S. B. Merritt, S. M. Taylor, Andrew Orr, Paul Petason, Alexander Macalister, John Shaw, who shall draft a Constitution and Bye-Laws, and submit them for the Society's approval at its next meeting.

Moved by Mr. T. H. BENTLY, seconded by Mr. G. DAVIDSON.

4. *Resolved*,—That the thanks of the friends of Temperance are justly due to J. Dougall, Esq., to whose exertions and his able advocacy of the cause this evening, the formation of this Society is wholly indebted.

I am directed by the Committee to transmit you (herein enclosed) six pounds five shillings, for one hundred copies of the *Canada Temperance Advocate*, to be sent to my address. I am also directed, upon the suggestion of Mr. Dougall, to apply to you for some Temperance Tracts, and to request of you to favour them with a copy of your Constitution and Bye-Laws. To you who are connected with a large and flourishing Society, ours will appear very small, particularly for a place like Kingston. The Committee, however, do not despair of being able to produce a list of subscribers to the pledge, of at least one hundred, by the opening of the New Year; and by proper zeal in the cause, to enlist on their sides some of the wealthy and influential of Kingston, which they are sorry to know are now in the scale against them.

I am, Sir, your's very respectfully,

W. F. COLLINS, Sec. K. T. S.

Kingston, Dec. 12, 1839.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—On the evening of Tuesday, the 29th of October, a very interesting and important meeting was held in the Wesleyan Chapel, Oakville, of which I ought to have informed you long ago, and would have done it, had not unavoidable circumstances prevented. It having been previously intimated that a Deputation from the Committee of the Temperance Reformation Society of this city would be present, and that the lectures of the Rev. Mr. Murray, of Oakville, against Temperance Societies, were to form the basis of the remarks to be made, considerable interest was excited in that neighbourhood; in consequence of which there was a large assemblage of people, at the time appointed: some of them coming from a distance of eight and ten miles.

The addresses delivered were, combined, a most able exposition and defence of the principles of Temperance Societies, and seemed to produce a very decided and salutary effect upon the large auditory—not one of whom manifested the least desire to leave until all was concluded.

A Report of the proceedings of the evening, drawn out from notes taken at the time, will shortly be in the possession of the Committee; and I believe it is their intention to request its insertion in the *Advocate*. It will not be possible to have it forwarded so as to reach you before the 30th or 31st instant, at the soonest; if it will then be too late for the *January* number, perhaps you might mention in it, that such a Report may be looked for in the following number: that is to say, if you decide upon inserting it. From a