

1823; but, after making every allowance for that, we fear that there is still too much reason to believe that the practice of spirit-drinking has very much increased since the end of the last century.

In Ireland, on the other hand, we learn from these returns that a very great decrease in the consumption of spirits has taken place within the last few years. During the five years ending in 1839, the average annual consumption of spirits in England was 11,436,127 gallons, which is only about 10,000 gallons less than the entire quantity consumed annually in England. Thanks to the exertions of Father Mathew, however, the practice of spirit-drinking appears to have received a very decided check since 1839, as will at once be seen by comparing the average annual consumption in 1839 with what it was in 1841-5, as given in one of the above tables. At the former period Ireland required 11,439,127 gallons yearly; at the latter period only 6,302,228 gallons. Were England and Scotland to reduce their allowance to the same extent, what a falling off it would cause in the excise duties!—*Manchester Express*.

Progress of the Cause.

CANADA.

St. CATHERINES, May 23d, 1847.—The temperance cause in our town has suffered a most awful deterioration of late. Some of our most active and influential leaders have withdrawn their efforts, while others have done worse than that, gone to their cups.

* * * * * Our Police Officers, a majority of them, I am sorry to say, are anti-temperance in their principles and practice. Every little dirty grocery in the town, with a few pipes and tobacco in their windows for a sign, sells as much whisky as they can without any fear of fine. I went to a magistrate some time ago with evidence to convict a man for selling whisky, but all the satisfaction I could get, was—well, I will see about it, and inform the inspector of licences about it—and that was the last of it. There have been some of the most alarming deaths and accidents from intemperance, in and about our vicinity. Three men went on a fishing excursion on the other Sabbath, and one of their number was left on an old boat or raft, and was not found for some days after. Left a wife and several children, poor and destitute. Three of our most considerable tavern keepers, the past year, have been hurried into eternity with very little warning; one by poison, and the others by dying quite suddenly. But their places are supplied, and the business, the work of death, still goes on. But enough of this you will say. Will you not take a tour through these upper regions of Canada West again; we should be very glad to see you once more.—A TERTOTALER.

PORT HOPE, 28th May.—Your insertion of the accompanying Constitution of the Newcastle District Temperance Union, in an early number of the *Advocate*, would confer a favour on the friends in this district. The last report of the Union, read at the annual meeting on the 4th March last, is not in my possession, or I should have sent you a copy for publication. We have at present an able and zealous agent in the field, Rev. Samuel Papscof, who is labouring in the rear townships of the district; and I am happy to say that the Executive Committee are resolved to employ their most strenuous exertions to promote the cause within their sphere. They are now engaged in devising means for purchasing or building a first class Temperance House in Cobourg, by means of a joint-stock fund, in shares of \$10 each; and from the recent manifestations of a devoted spirit in the leading temperance men in the Newcastle District, our expectations are sanguine of a speedy

accomplishment of our desires in this matter.—Yours, &c.,—MORRICE HAY, Rec. Sec., N. D. T. U.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NEWCASTLE DISTRICT TEMPERANCE UNION.

Article 1. This society shall be called the Newcastle District Temperance Union, and shall be constituted as follows, that is to say, of the delegates appointed by the local societies, as provided for in the third article of this constitution, and of the officers of this society, who may be elected from any of the town, township, or local societies.

2. The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Recording and Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Committee of thirty persons.

3. The several temperance societies in this district shall be auxiliary to this society, and shall be represented in its annual and semi-annual meetings by delegates, to be appointed in such manner as each society shall deem proper, the scale of representation to be as follows:—Every society with less than fifty members to send two delegates, and every society having more than fifty members to send one delegate for every additional fifty members; which delegates, together with the officers of the society, shall transact the business of the society in a room apart from the public meeting, the delegates' names to be attached to the reports of their respective society.

4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the society; and, in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents.

5. It shall be the duty of the Secretaries to co-operate with the Committee, to attend the meetings thereof, and promptly discharge such duties as may be reasonably required of them.

6. It shall be the duty of the Committee, with the assistance of the officers of the society, to appoint and attend temperance meetings in various parts of the district, to form auxiliary societies, to establish one or more temperance houses in the district if practicable, and in all suitable ways to advance the interest of the common cause.

7. It shall be the duty of the Committee, at its first meeting, to appoint an Executive Committee of seven persons, who, with the President, Secretaries, and Treasurer, shall attend to the financial concerns of the society, and prepare a report for the annual meeting—five of whom shall form a quorum, with power to add to their number.

8. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the society to receive all monies of the society, and pay over the same to the order of the Executive Committee, and prepare a regular report of the same, and present it at the annual meeting of the society. The Treasurer's account shall be open for inspection to the members of the Executive Committee.

9. It shall be the duty of all the officers of this society to watch over and reprove any member of a branch society for a breach of its rules; and, unless proper satisfaction be given, to report the offence to the Secretary of the society to which such offender may belong.

10. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of town or township societies to send annual reports of their society, to the secretary of this society, at least two weeks before its annual meeting.

11. The annual meetings of this society shall be held on the 1st Thursday in March. The semi-annual meetings at such time and place as the Executive Committee may appoint.

12. All ministers of the gospel, pledged to support the temperance cause, shall be considered *ex officio* members of the General Committee.

13. The election of officers for this society shall take place at its annual meeting.

14. No alteration shall be made in the constitution of this society, except at its annual or semi-annual meeting.

Officers for the present year, elected 4th March, 1847.

Mr. Alex. Fisher, President; Mr. Cryderman, Mr. William Peters, and H. Munro, Esq., Vice-Presidents; Mr. M. Hay, Recording Secretary; Rev. J. Baird, Corresponding Secretary; Mr. O. W. Powell, Treasurer.

RICHMOND, DALHOUSIE DISTRICT, 31st May.—The Richmond Total Abstinence Society was formed about the year 1834, and for some years continued to prosper, until neglect crept into our ranks, and thus our once flourishing society was laid well nigh prostrate. For some years previous to the month of March 1846,