

That the Visitors and Committee be furnished with books of signatures. All additions and defections to be published at the first meeting.

That the meetings shall be begun with prayer, and close with the doxology.

Moved by Capt. HARRIS, seconded by Mr. LYMAN.

4. That the following gentlemen be the officers for the year ensuing. *President*, Rev. J. Atkinson; *Vice-President*, Andrew Russel, Esq; *Treasurer*, Andrew Sewell, Esq; *Secretaries*, Messrs. Ross and Holehouse.

Committee.—Messrs. Brodie, Richardson, Kemp, M'Donald, M'Master, Hyde, Woodley, Duffitt, Valleau, Lyman.

ROSS & HOLEHOUSE, *Secretaries*,

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have received a valuable communication from Private Gilzean, 71st Regiment, which we would insert but for our very limited space.

CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor drink wine, nor do any thing by which thy brother is made to stumble, or to fall, or is weakened. Rom. xiv. 21.—*Macnight's Translation.*"

MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1840.

THE CORPORATION OF MONTREAL.—We understand that the article in our last number under this head, has excited much attention, and called forth considerable censure from the members of that body, and others. They consider that it is an attack on private character, and impolitic because of its tendency to disturb the propitious state of political feeling now happily existing, and lessen the justly merited popularity of his Excellency.

That we have in this instance made ourselves liable to the first charge, no one who has read the article in question, with ordinary attention, can affirm. It was against the character of the business in which the gentlemen were engaged that we spoke, not their private character, which does not require our tribute of praise.

With respect to the political effect of the article, we cannot see that it should be injurious; still, even were it so, in our responsible place, we deem it necessary to point out the causes of intemperance wherever they exist; considering it an evil pressing upon the community to an immeasurable extent greater than any political grievance the Corporation may be called upon to remove.

As to his Excellency's choice of a Corporation, the MAJORITY of whom are interested in the sale of intoxicating liquors, the community itself can judge of its being in character with his usual discernment. It is granted even by our opponents, that the existence of so many places for the sale of liquor is a great evil. And is the present Corporation likely to lessen their number? Is it likely that men whose business depends on the support of these establishments, should shut them up as the public welfare demands? They may act patriotically and inconsistently with their interest, still their appointment was not in accordance with a regard to sound policy.

We perceive the Corporation, with praiseworthy activity, have formed themselves into committees of various kinds. But why are there not committees of Crime, Disease, Poverty, Insanity, &c., evils which afflict the community to such an extent? Surely these objects are of infinitely greater importance than those to which the attention of the Corporation will be directed. But how is it possible, in the nature of things, that an impartial investigation of these evils can be made, when they are caused to a great extent by the business of those who should be the investigators. We have here a striking instance how far interest and prejudice veil the judgment of mankind, so as to prevent the light of truth from being perceived. In this case men, all alive to the prosperity of our city, indefatigable in its improvement, are yet ignorant of, or shut their eyes upon a system which more than anything else mars its prosperity, taxes its inhabitants, and drains its public funds.

We have in our last article, as well as repeatedly elsewhere, declared that the necessary effect of the traffic in intoxicating liquors

was the production of crime, poverty, misery, and disease. We shall now give such testimony from our own public men as must satisfy any unprejudiced person, that the choice of a majority of the Corporation, interested in the sale of liquor, augurs little for the well of the city.

With respect to CRIME, who can we ask but judges, magistrates, and jailers? Who so likely to know its causes? Judge Pyke stated several years since, and confirmed the statement lately, "that nine-tenths of the criminal cases brought before him, as a Judge, were occasioned by intemperance." Mr. Gagy, Police Magistrate, remarked a short time since on the bench, that "to the use of intoxicating liquor was to be attributed all the crime in the country." Capt. Holland, the late jailer, furnished a statement of the persons executed from 1824 till 1835, when it was ascertained distinctly, that six at least out of nine had been brought to an untimely end through the use of spirituous liquors. Mr. Wand, the present keeper of the jail, declared that fully 200 out of 250 prisoners in custody in the month of April last, were brought there by intemperance. Two out of three of the prisoners now under sentence of death in our jail, committed murder under the influence of liquor. What dreadful scenes did the trial of Peter Tansy and others exhibit last Criminal Court! Let any one attend the Weekly or Quarter Sessions, and he will soon be convinced of the dreadful amount of crime which liquor occasions. But we want space to adduce a tithe of the evidence which would show that the business in which the majority of the Corporation is interested, leads directly to crime. Let them appoint a Committee of Investigation, and we pledge ourselves that overwhelming proof of our assertion will be forthcoming.

Who shall we consult respecting the causes of DISEASE and VIOLENT deaths? The physicians and coroners? Let the doubting person read the following testimony of twenty-one out of twenty-eight of our medical men in 1833:

"We, the undersigned, Physicians of the City of Montreal, having been requested by the Committee of the Montreal Young Men's Temperance Society, to express our opinion in regard to the effects of Ardent Spirits—are unanimously of opinion that, *Ardent Spirits* cannot be regarded as a necessary, suitable, or nourishing article of diet; but on the contrary are to be considered as the fruitful source of numerous and formidable diseases, and the principal cause of the poverty, crime, and misery which abounds in this city, that the entire disuse of them, except under medical direction, would materially tend to improve the health, and amend the morals, and augment the comfort of the community.

W. Robertson, M.D.; J. Stephenson, M.D.; G. J. Vallee, M.D.; B. Berthelet, M.D.; John Raey, M.D.; A. F. Holmes, M.D.; Henry M'Dowall; J. B. Lebourdais; P. Buchanan, Surgeon; M. M'Culloch; E. B. O'Callaghan; J. R. Spooner; Henry Potter; C. Bloomfield; P. Brosseau; W. Munro, Surgeon; F. Cushing, M.D.; J. B. Johnson, M.D.; T. Walter Jones, M.D.; J. H. Ferris, M.D.; J. Breaddo, Surgeon."

Mr. Mondelet, the Coroner, declared that "one half of the sudden or violent deaths on which he is called upon to report officially, are caused by excessive drinking; and eight of every ten may be traced to the habit of drinking, although the individuals may not have died in a state of intoxication." Mr. Jones, his associate, stated lately, that "thirty-three per cent. of violent deaths were from the abuse of liquor."

Not to lengthen this article, already too extended, we think only to remark, that if the aggrieved members of Corporation think their business less productive of evil, than we declare it to be, they can show it; but if unable to disprove these statements, what a fearful responsibility they incur by continuing their traffic.

In vindication of our own course, we can only state, that it appears to us equally, or perhaps more, necessary to bring home the evil consequences of the traffic in which they are engaged to the wholesale as to the retail dealer; to the rich and honourable, as to the poor and degraded; to the first man in the community, as to the meanest wretch who takes in pledge the beggar's rags for the poisonous dram with which he supplies him.

We learn from St. John's that the Temperance cause is making extraordinary progress in the 71st Regiment. New members are