

When the "blue-ribbon" or teetotal society was first started in England it was made the subject of unlimited ridicule, particularly by London saloon keepers. At the present time they have become saddened by the statement that the list of blue ribbons foots up 4,000,000, and the average annual consumption of alcoholic drinks per head of population in England has fallen from £4 sterling to considerably under £3.—*Tribune*.

The Executive of the Church of England Temperance Society has presented a memorial to Right Hon. Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt, Home Secretary, in which the Government's proposition to revise the license system is carefully discussed, and the opinion expressed that Local Option presents the most sensible plan of dealing with the traffic. The closing sentence of the memorial reads: "The action of the Legislature, they respectfully submit, should not stop short of an entire repeal of all former Licensing Acts, and following the precedent of the Education Act of 1870, should then secure, with such limits as the Legislature may lay down, such an administrative power to the people of each locality as may enable them to deal effectually with the evils of which they complain." The paper is signed by Henry J. Ellison, chairman.

THE BAPTIST TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION of England, recently held its annual meeting in the Temperance Hall, Leicester. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. S. Caine, M.P.P. The Hon. Secretary of the association (Mr. James T. Sears) made a statement of the work and income of the society. He said that he heard that on the last occasion when the Baptist Union meetings were held in Leicester no temperance meetings were held, but that night he was pleased to say that there was now a Baptist Abstinence Association, and that association was drawing in strengthening power day by day. It was now ten years since the association commenced its work, the first meeting being held at the National Temperance League offices, and they received about 200 names as members of the association. He was happy to say now that when he received the names of twenty more ministers (which he hoped to do before he left Leicester) they would have a majority of the ministers of the denomination in the churches throughout the country as members of their society. The work amongst the students in the colleges had been prospering of late years. A few years ago they reported that half of the students were teetotalers, but now nineteen out of every twenty were total abstainers; and in six of their colleges every student was a total abstainer. Of the remaining four colleges there were only twelve students in them who were not total abstainers, and of 245 students there were 223 abstainers. During the last twelve months they had received a large addition to their strength of church officers, and instead of having to report that they had more ministers of the association who were members than church officers, he had now to report that there were 1,422 officers of the churches on their books, 984 ministers, and 223 students, or an increase for the year of about 1,170.—*Temperance Record*.

Intemperance News.

CANADIAN.

The man, Kennedy, referred to last week as under sentence for violating the liquor law, died in jail Saturday night from the effects of strong drink. It was not deemed necessary to hold an inquest; buried by authority of Govt. Agent. Deceased was aged about 60 years, came to this place from the States some years since and worked upon the railway. He was addicted to heavy drinking, which brought him to jail and a dishonorable death at last.—*Inland Sentinel, Yale, B. C.*

The Kingston News lately gave an instance of the sad end to which drink so often brings its victims. A man named A. Bonner, of Westport, after a prolonged spree, was forced to go to bed sick. On the approach of night, after going to bed, he became frantic. In the midst of his mad delirium he asked continually for drink—drink. As the terrible frenzy approached its climax he shouted, "I'll give \$1,000 for a drink." These were his last words. In a few minutes more his soul had passed into the presence of his Maker.—*Casket*.

A sad case was brought to light by the death of an immigrant woman in the Davis Block. Five members of the family, stricken with fever, occupy a single bed in the house, while the room is overrun with filth, the stench arising from which is almost unbearable. When the undertaker called, dead and living were stretched out together on a steadless bed, while flies and vermin crept unchecked over the dead woman's face, feeding upon the filth with which it was bountifully coated. To the left of the dead woman lay a little babe, whose appearance gave the lie to the assertion of its elder brother that it had been washed twice since it came into the world. The infant was waving its wee skinny hands in a fruitless endeavor to drive away the insects which constantly assailed its face, playing hide and seek in its nostrils, and skurrying in and out of its open mouth. The husband of the dead woman has earned \$90 during the past six weeks, and still the corpse had to be interred at the public expense. One of the deceased's sons grumbled considerably because a cab had not been pro-

vided to convey the mourners to the cemetery, and just as the hearse was moving away two of the miserable creatures engaged in a fight on the sidewalk, which was quickly quelled by the now enraged undertaker. After proceeding a few hundred yards, two of the dead woman's sons and her sister left the other mourners, and entering a neighboring tavern, obtained a liberal supply of liquor, which they continued to drink all the way to the cemetery.—*St. Thomas Times*.

GENERAL.

In Chicago children were found going into the public schools drunk. The mothers complained, and an examination was made. It was learned that 12,000 children under fourteen years of age frequent the saloons of Chicago daily. On the persons of these children were found tickets with holes punched in them. When asked what they meant one of the boys responded that "Jerry Monroe gave us these. One punch means a drink of beer, two a Tom and Jerry, and three a whisky straight. Whoever gets the most punches in a month is to have a prize. The first prize is a pocket pistol, the second the 'Life of the James Brothers,' and the third a meerschaum pipe." Is it any wonder, with such influences as these, that our young people go astray?—*Mrs. Emma Malloy*.

Three little girls called at the lock-up last evening to apply for the release of a drunken father. Their pleading words and faces, as they clung to their parent, made one of the strongest temperance lectures the hard gray walls of the city prison ever looked upon.—*Pioneer Press, St. Paul*.

In Rochester, on Monday last, the German Bi-Centennial celebration embraced a great parade of Germans, and the beer industry dominated all other in its representation. From first to last, the "floats" and wagons told that Beer-Gambrinus was King, and the entire procession appeared as his subjects. Casks, and kegs, and hops, and barleys—all were rolled through the thronged street in glorification of beer. And as they were passing by, a burly German at one street corner gave some hint of political significance under it all, by saying "with broad Teutonic gusto, as he pointed to wagon after wagon manned by Beer-makers and Beer-drinkers, 'What will de Demperance folks do mit dem votes?' To many who heard him—possibly to many who did not—the question came. Do Germans seize on every occasion to flaunt their Beer in the public's face, merely because it is their leading industry, or with deliberate purpose to defy law and overcome the law's executors? These frequent beer parades are becoming a trifle disgusting to moral Americans.—*Reformer*.

One of the saddest of life histories conceivable is outlined in this brief telegraphic despatch from Waterbury, Conn., September 27:—John Galvin and wife were arrested last night for drunkenness. The husband in desperation cut his throat with a razor, dying from the effects of the wound. His wife was sent to jail for sixty days. The husband had tried in vain to win his wife from intemperance, and finally joined her in a life of dissipation.

New York City's school expenses for 1884 are estimated at \$4,482,450; her saloon expenses for the same time are estimated at \$70,000,000.

Computing the average receipts of the quarter-million of dram-shops in the United States at only \$10 per day, says Mr. Medill, of the Chicago Tribune, their aggregate sales amount to \$912,500,000, or not far from a billion a year. No one will deny that half the liquor consumed by the people of the United States is by the wages classes. The farmers, who constitute one-half of the total population, drink but comparatively little as contrasted with the city people. English statisticians estimate the expenditure on drink of the British and Irish at about \$600,000,000 a year, and this by a population only two-thirds as large as ours. The waste of earnings on drink leaves the wage-workers poor, and poverty renders them discontented. The reform most needed is temperance.—*Hamilton Tribune*.

As the custom of adding magnesia to beer to preserve it is now becoming general, a word in time from the medical profession may avert what threatens to become a danger to health. Formerly, to preserve beer, only salts of lime and the alkalies were used; these imparted harsh and soapy tastes respectively. As magnesian compounds are not so preceptible (when in beer) to the taste, their use in brewing is replacing that of lime. Pure beer contains more magnesia than can be taken with impunity by many constitutions, the addition of further quantities under names known to the trade as "antacid," to correct beer, "C and D," to preserve it, "concentrated Burton water," to harden brewing water, may easily increase the amount to an injurious quantity. Brewers do not enquire into the nature of the chemicals now largely used by them, and cannot be aware of their effects.—*British Medical Journal*.

Drinking habits in India are on the increase, and the revenue from strong drinks has risen in five years by about 15½ per cent. Whisky has now become the favorite stimulant, supplanting brandy and gin.