

LOWER CANADA TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee of this Society, took place on the 1st ult., when John Dougall, Esq., was appointed Chairman of the Committee. A sub-committee was appointed to draw up an Appeal to the Temperance Societies of this Province, requesting them to become Auxiliary, and pressing on them the advantage of employing an efficient Agent; to solicit also their subscriptions towards this object, and urging a reply before the next meeting in November.

Two members volunteered to wait on the Roman Catholic Bishop of this place, and other Canadian gentlemen, for the purpose of obtaining their aid and countenance in establishing and supporting a Temperance Periodical in French, but from enquiries made, they were induced to consider such a step at present unlikely to be successful.

TANNERIES DES ROLLAND.—A meeting was held in this village on Wednesday evening the 23d August, which was attended by a considerable number of the inhabitants of the place, and Messrs Osgood, Dougall, Sheldrack, and Oliver, from Montreal, as advocates for Teetotalism. The Rev. T. Osgood was called to the chair, and short addresses were delivered by each of the persons above mentioned, which appeared to excite a lively interest. At the close of the meeting 12 individuals signed the pledge, and a second meeting was announced for Wednesday evening, the 6th September next, at the house of Mr. Brodie.

LAPRAIRIE.—On Monday evening last, a few of the advocates of total abstinence went over to Laprairie for the purpose of attending a public meeting, which had been previously advertised, and endeavouring to form a Teetotal Society in that village.

The meeting was rather thinly attended, which makes me think that in future we must do like English teetotallers, namely, take a bell with us, and send it round before the meeting to make sure of an audience.

The addresses of the Rev. W. Taylor, Mr. Driscoll, and Mr. Morton, produced apparently strong conviction on the minds of the audience; the writer also said a few words at the opening and close of the meeting.

We were informed that Society was in such a divided state, and that there was so much apathy in Laprairie, that we would have no chance to get more than three or four names; but such are the convincing nature of Temperance truths, that twenty-three individuals signed the pledge on the spot, many of whom, I rejoice to say, were ladies. A second meeting is to be held on Monday evening next, the 4th September, when the Society will be organized by the appointment of office-bearers.

J. D.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

THREE RIVERS, August 26, 1837.

DEAR SIR,—I hasten to communicate, through the *Advocate*, what God has done for this place, in respect to the cause of Total Abstinence. The success attending the efforts made, far surpasses the expectations even of ourselves, while our friends here are astonished. I arrived on the morning of the 23d, and found Captain

Hudson and ship; all well, and ready for the work I came to engage in. Having procured the use of the National School-room, we got the meeting advertised by bills, and through the town crier, for the same evening.

It was truly gratifying to witness the attendance and the applause with which the speakers were received, whose remarks I will endeavour shortly to notice.

Having taken the Chair, I briefly stated the object of the meeting, and alluding to the duty of acknowledging the hand of God in this glorious work, called on Captain Hudson to open with a short prayer, his men following with a hymn.

Mr. Ward, second mate, expressed his gratitude to God for being a teetotaller, and wished he had been one from his boyhood. He had narrowly escaped death from the impudence of some persons in giving him liquor, which had induced him to hate spirits ever since. He had, however, gone some time on the moderation plan, but had now been for nine months a total abstinence man, and was never better in health. What awful amount of wretchedness and crime attended the use of liquor? What was the reason that children were found bare-legged and starving, that wives were heart-broken? It was because the head of the family drank. He earnestly invited all to come forward and try the plan of abstinence.

Robert Bailey, the cook, said he had been a drunkard for eighteen years, and had seen the horrid effects of liquor in many parts of the world. In the West Indies numbers had been killed with it, and in Peru he had witnessed men stabbing one another from the same cause. While mate of a vessel, before starting on one voyage, the master dropped down dead drunk, and he had to take his place. When he came back, he had to settle the freight with the Captain, before doing which he offered to wager that in spite of the awful warning he had got, he would not be sober ten minutes after, and in truth in twenty minutes he could not stand. Drunkenness had always been the principal cause of estranging his heart from God, and since he became a teetotaller, he found himself daily experiencing an increase of religion.—(Hear.) He was now never afraid to look his Captain in the face, nor, as before in the morning, after drinking all night was his head so stupid that he did not know whether it was off or on him, till he took time to consider. (Much laughter.)

Mr. Davis, Stevedore, said he had been many years in his line, and had stowed many a ship, but had never met a quieter and finer crew. In many other ships he frequently was stopped by the men going on shore to drink, and had difficulty to get them to assist him; but in the *Hartlepool* he had only to ask for help, and every one was ready to give it.—(Hear.) The practice of giving, crying was a very bad one. The men, half an hour before, were crying out for it, and then shortly after, they would be wishing for more. He had been in the habit of taking a good deal of liquor, but was now determined to have nothing more to do with it.

James Gilbert, seaman, had been a teetotaller for some months, and could recommend it as the best plan. Sailors did not need it if they got plenty of good coffee and beef.—(Laughter.) He would tell them how they did on board ship, and, at same time that they were not hard worked, he believed as much work was done in their ship as in others. At six they began, and took breakfast at eight, and after falling to again, they left off at half-past ten for coffee. At twelve they had dinner, at half-past three coffee again; and then tea at six, as soon as they quitted work.

Captain Hudson said he had been a moderation man for some time; but as a person at a meeting said, had found it all botheration.—(Laughter.) When living on that plan, he had found himself much the worse in his soul, for he believed that the system of drinking liquor, led to a corresponding loss of the Spirit's influence. When he went on shore, he used to be taking a glass at the Baker's, then one at the Butcher's, and so on, till frequently his head was quite muddled, and still he was a temperance man. (Laughter.) Liquor was not wanted, he and his crew could do far better without it. He had never sailed with a more peaceable, orderly crew. The cause of total abstinence was spreading, and in spite of the opposition of publicans and little drop men, would go on, for God was on our side. (Want of time prevents me from noticing further the address of Captain Hudson, which was warm and convincing). After closing the meeting, a book with the total abstinence declaration was presented, and twenty-six names were obtained, among whom (praise be to God) were two of the greatest