



AND

Conception Bay Journal.

HEARTS RESOLVED AND HANDS PREPARED, THE BLESSINGS THEY ENJOY TO GURD.—SMOLLET.

VOL. V.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1840.

No. 310

Harbour Grace, Conception Bay, Newfoundland:—Printed and Published by JOHN THOMAS BURTON, at his Office, opposite the MARKET PLACE

PATRICK'S DAY.

DUBLIN.

GRAND TEMPERANCE PROCESSION.

PATRICK'S DAY has long been distinguished in Ireland for the amount of gross intemperance which it invariably produced. It seemed by general consent to be a period of undaunted license, and debauchery; but a far different state of things is now the order of the day. The spread of Temperance has altogether changed its character; and in future the commemoration of the birth of the Patron Saint of Ireland, will be as remarkable for sobriety and social order, as heretofore it was distinguished for the contrary of these virtues. Such was the case on Tuesday last, a day that may well be marked down in the annals of the city of Dublin, as denoting the epoch of a great social reformation, accomplished through the agency of Temperance. For several days previous, the shops of many of the silk mercers and linen drapers were crowded with the members of the several societies, purchasing cockades, scarfs, ribbons, &c. The sums spent in this way must have been very great, as comparatively few of the thousands who took part in the procession were without scarfs, and all were decorated with some insignia or other. The day turned out unusually fine. There was none of that chilliness in the month of March. At an early hour the members of the several societies began to assemble at the respective places appointed for the purpose, in order that they might be marshalled and arrayed previous to the great gathering at the Rotunda Gardens. They were decked in their best holiday suits, and there was an air of discipline and regularity about them, that at once shewed that temperance had not been fruitless in promoting improved habits among them. As it drew near the starting hour, the gardens presented a scene of great animation and striking novelty. The members as they entered, each having exhibited his procession ticket at the north gate, were marched into the square, the grass of which was verdant and blooming, exhibiting the influence of the genial breath of spring. From the immense numbers who were admitted, it was a considerable time before they could be so formed as to make their exit by the south gate without disorder or confusion. The task of arranging having been completed, the band struck up "God save the Queen," which was followed by deafening and repeated cheers from the vast concourse. The scene was one of the most

spirit-stirring imaginable. The flags and streamers fluttering in the breeze; the scarfs, cockades, and medals, with which the members were decorated; all contributed to make it extremely pleasing and attractive. The order was now given for the opening of the south gate, around which was congregated an immense crowd of admiring spectators; but the excellent arrangements made by the police authorities, prevented any pressure or disorder from taking place. The Irish Total Abstinence Association was the first to issue forth. It was headed by a carriage containing its beautiful banner, a description of which will be found underneath; another carriage drawn by four horses, in which was the president, the Rev. Dr. Spratt, a Roman Catholic friar, and seated by his side the Rev. Mr. M'Clure, a Methodist minister; and a third carriage, in which was a band of musicians. John Smyth, king of the reformed drunkards, rode in front on a splendid charger. His house, in Dawson-street, was covered from top to bottom with laurel. It was a long time before the immense host had all issued from the gardens. Nothing could exceed the excitement which has produced along the whole route of the procession. The shops were closed; and every balcony, window, and house-top, exhibited crowds of spectators. In Dame-street, the Lord Lieutenant, accompanied by several Aid-de-camps, stood admiring the scene, and receiving the respectful salutations and cheers of the throng as they passed him. His Excellency seemed to enjoy the sight very much; and he laughed heartily at the picture of a jolly teetotaler, about to cut a slice out of a plum pudding, which was carried aloft by a member of the Juvenile Branch of the Dublin Total Abstinence Society. Nothing could excel the order and decorum observed throughout the whole proceedings; and the conduct of the crowd formed a striking contrast to that which they generally manifest on St. Patrick's Day and similar occasions. The whole was brought up by a body of mounted police, under the command of Mr. Rice, the superintendent, who is a member of the society, and whose activity and assistance in making the arrangements for starting, demands the thanks of the members. The procession did not terminate till five o'clock, having gone through the principal streets of the city.*

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS AND COLONIAL TRADE.

(From the Morning Herald.)

The difficulties that thicken in every direction around our foreign relations,

may, by possibility, lead to a great development of the resources of our Colonial trade. War has, in all probability, been already levied against China. War may, at any moment, break out between England and the United States. In the event of that suspension of certain branches of our trade which such results would entail, some important changes in our colonial system must, of necessity, be forced on our adoption.

In the conduct of the Foreign trade, the Chinese set an example, which it might be well, if those nations of Europe which aspire to the praise of a higher degree of civilization than belongs to China, would learn to imitate. The Chinese, who foster their home trade by all available methods, lay little store by trade with foreigners. They do not absolutely reject such a trade; but they refuse to enter into it, excepting on terms favorable to themselves. They, in fact, dictate the conditions on which foreigners shall trade with them. They set their own prices on their commodities;—they never commit the European folly of permitting the value of their national industry, and of the products of that industry, to be fixed in foreign markets.—If, for instance, the foreign traders to the port of Canton will not pay the required price for teas, these foreign traders are permitted to carry their custom elsewhere. From the operation of this system, it results that the foreign trade of China is always a profitable trade. The Chinese never make bad debts amongst their foreign customers.

How different this from the system that prevails throughout Europe, more especially in England! The object of the speculators throughout Europe who are engaged in foreign trade, is, to find customers, no matter where, no matter under what conditions of risk! Our foreign traders are eager to deal with the poorest and most barbarous nations on the face of the earth—and willing to permit their customers, however poor and barbarous, to regulate the price of British manufactures, and of British manufacturing industry. The tendency, therefore, of every extension of our foreign trade conducted on modern principles, is to add to the poverty of the operatives engaged in the business of production, by adding to the amount of competition between machinery and manual labor, as well as between British and foreign laborers. Our speculators are eager (it may be) to deal with the inhabitants of Kamtschatka or Timbuctoo—although before doing so, they must in some way or other contrive to depress the value of British labour below the value of labour in these savage countries.

The unprofitable character of our foreign trade conducted on the modern system may be established, not merely by reference to the general principles on which the modern scheme of foreign trade rests, but by reference to the practical results to which that trade, periodically, leads.

The United States, for instance, constitute the chief mart of our foreign trade. Have we gained by our American trade? Let recent facts supply the answer! In 1837, the American banks suspended payments. The loss to England was immense. The debt due to this country was estimated at twelve or fourteen millions of sovereigns. Not merely was a large portion of that debt never recovered; but a fearful derangement of trade through out England was the consequence, coupled with the incalculable losses to which such a derangement inevitably gives rise.—When, moreover, our trade with the United States was resumed, it took place under circumstances of increased disadvantage to this country. A general conspiracy was organized throughout the Federal Union between the issuers of paper money, on the one hand, and the growers of cotton, on the other, a conspiracy, in virtue of which large stocks of cotton were kept out of the market,

until the price rose so high, as to enable our American debtors to settle their liabilities on terms of exceeding advantage to themselves.

The United States, at this moment, owe, once more, large sums of money to our manufacturers and foreign traders. In other words, the trade to America has again approximated itself a losing trade.—How do our foreign traders purpose to rectify the blunders into which their own rapacity has betrayed them? Mr. Villiers, in the recent discussion on the corn laws, stated this project in reference to this point, which his party has in view. That scheme is to pay themselves with untaxed American flour. In other words, after having cheated foreign customers who have been found unworthy of credit, they are anxious to protect themselves from the evil effects of their own rash avarice by plucking the pockets of the farmers of Great Britain, of the sum in jeopardy.

Such blunders are never committed—such losses are never incurred—in our home and colonial trades—a proof, if proof were wanting, of the vast inferiority of our foreign trade to those other departments to which our commercial enterprise finds scope. Necessity is likely now to bring into play the resources of our colonial trade, at the expense of our foreign trade. If our trade in raw cotton with the United States be interrupted, we must turn to our cotton-growing colonies. If our direct trade in raw cotton be put a stop to—although we may be compelled for a time to deal with other customers of the Chinese empire—yet we ought forthwith to stimulate the cultivation of the tea-plant in our tea-growing Indian provinces, and, by that process, extend to time, our colonial trade, by narrowing our trade with foreigners.—England might, moreover, with but a slight expenditure of ingenuity, raise all the raw silk she requires in her own West Indian islands; and so, preserve within her own dominions, that wealth which she now barter for the material on which a considerable portion of her manufacturing skill find occupation. There exists, in truth, scarcely any limit to the extension of our colonial trade—if only the plain dictates of prudence shall be allowed to leave their impress on the course of our legislation.

One consequence of a war with the United States is not undeserving of consideration. The demand for American raw cotton would be suspended. The value of American slave labour would, by consequence, disappear. Slaves themselves would speedily become a burden, instead of a source of extreme profit, to their owners. Their emancipation would at no distant period, be eagerly assented to. In our West Indian Islands there exists, on the other hand, a great scarcity of free labourers. Our West Indian islands, therefore, would constitute the natural place of refuge for the emancipated negroes of the United States.

It is curious to speculate on the various consequences to which, if a war shall be forced on us by the United States, that war may lead!

H. E. Graham, Rector of Ludgvan, near Penzance, says, "When I first came to Ludgvan I made every attempt to stay the then prevailing vice of drunkenness, by my pen and from the pulpit, and also by the exercise of magisterial power, but to no purpose. I considered the case hopeless, and would have gladly quitted the living for one of half its value. One of my parishioners observed that the church doors might as well be shut, as scarcely any would come within its walls on the Sabbath