

hibition the advocates of temperance have abandoned moral suasion. The readers of the *Abstainer* are too well instructed to entertain that notion. Their view, and the views of temperance men generally, are thus expressed by Professor McCoy, of Albany, in a letter to the Secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance:

A few years ago, the temperance agitation was based on the appliances of moral suasion. Of late years, we in America have almost suspended our moral-suasion appliances, in our endeavours for prohibition. The man who thoroughly studies the philosophy of the temperance reform, I am persuaded, will arrive at the conclusion that both are almost equally essential to any great or enduring success. With these views, were I speaking critically, I would admit that Mr Gough points the public mind less frequently than I would have him to prohibition; while, on the other hand, I would have Mr Dow speak more frequently and more emphatically than he does on the necessity (even to the success of prohibition) of moral suasion. As prohibition is not a failure, but a great success; so moral suasion is a great success. And as faith alone, or works alone, is not religion—so moral suasion alone, or prohibition alone, will never effect the suppression of intemperance.

Such, henceforth, as I judge, my friend, must be the two-fold basis of the temperance reform. *Moral suasion for the drinker; legal suasion for the seller—not moral suasion against legal suasion, nor legal suasion against moral suasion; but each for the other, and both for temperance—to be advocated by the same societies, in the same meetings, the same resolutions, the same speeches, and the same periodicals.* In short, like reason and religion in Milton:

"Twinn'd and from it hath no dividual being."

Absence from home prevented us from taking notice at the proper time of the death of Mr Christopher Smiler, late proprietor of the *Temperance Telegraph*, St John, N. B., who ceased from his labours on the 21st of June last, at the early age of 35 years. Mr Smiler was deservedly held in high esteem by his brethren as a consistent, energetic, whole-hearted advocate of our cause.

The mournful event was referred to in an appropriate and expressive manner by the G. S. of the G. D. of New Brunswick at its late Quarterly Session. We quote the following from the Report of the Committee on that occasion:—

"There is one other subject comprised in the able Report of the Grand Scribe, on which, in conclusion, we are compelled, mournfully and submissively, to pause. And that is the late loss sustained by our Cause in the demise of our highly beloved and justly esteemed Brother Smiler,—taken from the ranks of our Order when, humanly speaking, his presence and untiring advocacy were, seemingly at least, the most wanted. Though physically small in stature, yet possessing a giant

soul, he never compromised the cause he had espoused. One with whom the most determined foe of temperance, however widely differing in opinion, would find the withholding, of respect a matter too difficult to be accomplished. To this painful dispensation we bow with befitting emotion, leaving however on the mind a sentiment of affection for the memory of our departed Brother, which no lapse of time will have the power to erase. Your Committee fully endorse the words of our Grand Scribe, 'Had all the dead, like our lamented Brother, fought on to the last hour of their mortal life,—were the living still guided on their way by the same beacon light of Temperance, what a different account might we give of the status of our Order.'"

During our recent visit to Montreal a melancholy accident occurred, by which the temperance cause was deprived of one of its best friends, Mr John McWatters, who was drowned at Lavaltrie, about thirty miles from the city. He had accompanied the Howard Division in an excursion down the river, and was bathing, when, as was supposed, he slipped suddenly into deep water and lost his life. The *Canadian Temperance Advocate* says:—

"We had the pleasure of his intimate acquaintances for nearly twenty years, and being actively engaged with him in various means of usefulness, must add our tribute of respect to his memory. Mr McWatters was for the most of the above period, an active and consistent member of the Committee of the Montreal Temperance Society, and aided much by his prayerful concern and deep interest the important objects of that Society. As a friend, he was unreserved, faithful and warm hearted, seldom cast down, buoyant in spirit, trustful, not suspicious; in a word, a friend not easily replaced. We mourn over his sudden call, and deeply sympathise with his bereaved family and widow. May it be a warning to all, of the uncertainty of human life, and of the brittleness of the thread that binds us to it."

Such events admonish us all to "work while it is called to-day."

We have received a communication from a correspondent at Halifax who subscribes himself "A Son of Temperance and an Old One," but who has not given us his name, in which he endeavours to account for the smallness of the Procession at the late Pic-Nic. He thinks that some members of the Divisions were dissatisfied with the arrangements, which included a Ball in the evening, and therefore abstained from joining the party.

It is obviously desirable to avoid giving unnecessary offence. If, on such occasions, some wish to close the festivities of the day by dancing, they have a right

to do so as private individuals. Our correspondent would not interfere with the exercise of such right. But he is of opinion that the Ball should form no part of the programme of proceedings. It should be strictly a private affair, and any expense attending it should be defrayed by those who join in the amusement. Are not these reasonable suggestions?

Let us all be willing to deny ourselves, that we may be able to do more for the good of others. And let us cheerfully adopt such methods of procedure as shall most effectually tend to the preservation of harmony and good fellowship.

**THE CONVENTION.**—The call for the Assembly is addressed to all Temperance organizations, in every part of the Province. A general response is eminently desirable. The Convention should fairly represent the various institutions, and should be composed of delegates from every district. We have to consider and prepare plans of action, the operation of which shall affect all the people, and ultimately influence, perhaps shape, the Legislature itself. Such an Assembly should be well selected, and numerous. Some expense will have to be incurred; but those who save so much by abstinence, and derive so many benefits from it, will not grudge a contribution for its advancement.

Our Order has not made much progress in Canada East. There are less than 1000 members in that Province. But in Canada West it is in a very flourishing state. There are 349 Subordinate Divisions, and about 12,000 members. To these may be added about 2000 female visitors. And they are all staunch prohibitionists.

#### LETTERS FROM THE G. W. P.

For the Abstainer.

*To the Subordinate Divisions S. of T.*

WORTHY BROTHERS,—

The Grand Division is soon to assemble in annual Session.

I ask you in the name of the great and good cause in which we are engaged to bestir yourselves to meet the emergency.

Every Subordinate Division throughout our wide extended jurisdiction ought to be represented on the occasion. Great consequences are pending upon a full representation. A Temperance Convention is to be held in the Capital during the time of our annual gathering, and it