

laws, which might be introduced, as the ground of an essay; an address, or a discussion, upon the part of some member or members without interfering with the regular constitutional proceedings. Such an exercise might be made, these long winter nights, a source of much instruction and amusement. We merely throw out these suggestions, and are willing for them to pass for what they are worth.—*Banner of Temp.*

Progress of the Cause.

TEMPERANCE MEETINGS IN QUEBEC.

An interesting and well attended meeting was held on the 5th inst., under the auspices of the Quebec Total Abstinence Society, in the spacious schoolhouse belonging to Mr. Gilmour, at Wolfe's Cove, Jeffery Hale, Esq., President of the Society, in the chair.

The audience was impressively addressed by Dr. Douglas, Dr. Hall, Mr. Blight, and Mr. Wobb, upon the numerous evils for which a remedy is found in the wholesome practice of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks; and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the meeting:—

1. That the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is injurious to the pecuniary circumstances, bodily health, domestic happiness, and religious interests of mankind, and therefore ought to be discontinued and discountenanced by every christian philanthropist.

2. That, in the opinion of this meeting, inebriating beverages are indulged in to excess when they are drunk at all. The use of these poisons moderately being a contradiction in terms; and that this mis called virtue of moderation only gives respectability to vice, whilst nursing a habit most prolific of evils which all virtuous men condemn.

3. That much of the culpable indifference and hostility which the temperance movement encounters in many influential quarters, is believed to have its secret origin either in the fear of man, or the love of alcoholic drinks, or both.

4. That no portion of the community is more deeply interested than the laboring and mechanical classes, in the abandonment of those drinking usages which wither up their energies of body and of mind, incapacitate them for the successful prosecution of their callings, blight their prospects of earning a creditable competency in this life, and too often close the door of hope against them for the life to come.

The audience then adjourned with the expectation of another meeting on an early day.—*Quebec Gazette.*

We are glad to perceive that the important subject of Temperance is again attracting its wonted winter measure of attention in Quebec. Two interesting and well attended meetings have been held this week, in the Hall of the late house of Assembly,—namely, on the evenings of the 19th and 21st ult., respectively. On the former occasion, under the auspices of the Quebec Total Abstinence Society, the Rev. A. C. Gaskie delivered an appropriate lecture, in which he took an extensive and varied survey of the evils of intemperance, and shewed the antiquity and inveteracy of the habit and fashion of drinking, by numerous historical and personal sketches of instances of national ruin and individual degradation: the simplicity and facility of the safeguard and remedy which the Temperance Society's propose—namely, that of Total Abstinence—the rev. lecturer clearly explained to be in most happy accordance with the spirit of the Gospel, and therefore worthy of the countenance and co-operation of all who owned the authority of the Word of God.

On the 21st instant, the meeting held was the annual one of the Union Total Abstinence Society. The report having been read, the audience was addressed by several speakers, the Rev. D. Marsh, and the Rev. A. C. Gaskie entering more at large into the subjects of their resolutions than any of the others. The former rev. gentleman traced a large proportion of the evils which long experience had brought under his personal cognizance in the mother country, as well as in Canada, to the bad habit of indulgence in intoxicating beverages, and established that the habit was most highly injurious to the physical, social and moral interests of mankind.

The latter Rev. gentleman adverted to the similarity between the topics touched upon in his recent lecture and those embraced

by his present resolution; and when, describing the temperance, as a great moral movement, expressed his surprise that there should be found Christians, but was at a loss for language to record his astonishment that there should be found Christian Ministers, not merely neutral spectators, but actual opponents, of the progress of its benevolent achievements. And he urged that it was high time for the Christian Church to shake off the reproach of continued indifference to the good cause which he was advocating. The powers of the most exalted intellect, the influence of the educated, thinking and religious portions of the community, could scarcely exercise themselves upon a worthier object: nor could it be expected that temperance men would reap the reward of complete victory, until the moral and mental energies of the upper and lower classes were seen engaged together in combatting the common foe.

We sincerely hope that this commencement of our usual winter temperance campaign may be no less encouraging to the benevolent parties engaged in it, than it is gratifying to ourselves.—*Id.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

POSITION OF THE TEMPERANCE ENTERPRISE.—Though much has been written—most ably written—upon the temperance question, the great mass have not yet given it a fair and candid perusal, and very few have made it a serious study. Even among the more intelligent classes, the distributors of knowledge, and the guides of opinion, by most it is still viewed as one of the many well-meant vagaries by which the face of society is from time to time diversified or disturbed, and the minds of the multitude amused or misled. All such, as is well remarked by an English contemporary, have yet to learn that the subject is really second to none within the whole range of the encyclopædia of human knowledge. It touches society at all points, from the heart to the extremities. From the monarch on the throne to the captive in the dungeon, all are deeply concerned in it. It involves the highest questions of legislation, jurisprudence, political economy, morals, and religion, both at home and in foreign climes—in a word, the temporal weal and the eternal destiny of countless millions living and to be born, of the human race.—*Crystal Fount.*

TEMPERANCE FIFTY YEARS AGO.—A writer in the Boston Courier gives the following picture of what was common some years since. Others have probably seen the like:

"The last year of my apprenticeship, I boarded with the clergyman of the town, (there was then but one—now there are four or five,) as good a man, and as pious a minister as the best in his day and generation. It was his uniform practice, after the public religious services of the Sabbath, to have a bowl of punch or toddy in the morning, and a tankard of slip in the winter before supper—which was usually between three and four o'clock. One of the sons of this gentleman, a young man of great promise, bred a merchant, and, at the time, in flourishing business, fell a victim to intemperance. His partner in business, being his junior, following his example. He held his head as high, and bore his faculties with as much pride and arrogance as would become a monarch. When I last saw him, he was a beggar in the streets of Boston, as ragged and as sfilthy as the most miserable vagabond that ever moved the disgust or pity of humanity. In his better days he married a lovely girl, and had several children. But all associations of husband and father were now broken up. His wife was supporting herself and children by the labor of her hands, while he, a lazy and vicious outcast, was soliciting charity from one on whom, when in the humble but respectable station of an apprentice in a country printing office, he would have thought it degrading to bestow any mark of familiarity.—*Philadelphia Recorder.*

MARVELLOUS.—It has been said by Professor Bronson, that if a drop of human blood be subjected to examination by the exhydrogen microscope, and magnified some 20 millions of times, all the species of animals now existing on the earth, or that existed during the different stages of creation for millions of years past, will there be discovered. In the blood of healthy persons, all the animalcula are quiet and peaceable:—but in the blood of a diseased person, they are furious, raging and preying upon each other. Thus he stated in illustration of his position, that man only contains within himself all the principals of the universe. It is also asserted that if a dead cat be thrown into a pool of stagnant water, and allowed to dissolve there, a drop of water taken from any part of