

suppose this money was thrown into the Irish Channel, the loss would amount in ten years, to 400,000,000 dollars! Is it strange, that there are two million and a half of paupers in Ireland? The wonder is, how any thing can still be left to be consumed by those tartarean fires, which have so long ravaged the island.—*President Humphrey's Letters.*

INTEMPERANCE.

To the Editor of the Constitution.

HOPE, March 4, 1837.

RESPECTED FRIEND!—We have just witnessed a most dreadful accident arising from intemperance. On the night of the 3d instant, between the hours of ten and eleven, the dwelling house of our old friend and neighbour Thomas Selby, Esq. one of the Magistrates for the Home District, was consumed by fire and himself in the midst of it. It appears that he was indulging himself in his usual habit of drinking, on which the family, in the most secret manner, retired to bed, and he was left to himself, his wife also having retired to a remote part of the house. He then, with a lighted candle, went through different parts of the house, but whether in search of any one is not known; but when all was silent they heard him cry FIRE! but were not at all alarmed at this, it being an old practice of his on like occasions, when the family would hide from him, to make an alarm of fire, in order that they might thereby betray themselves into his power. Therefore they did not stir until the flames had so completely got dominion, that it just left them time to escape with nothing on but their bed garments. And notwithstanding there were three sons and a hired man in the house, and all active young men, they could save nothing from the flames except what they ran out with at the first, which was indeed little else but their mother and her children, and finding the family all together but their father, they made every effort to find him, and called aloud, but heard no answer, and the flames having complete possession of the main body of the house, the eldest son resolved to break into the buttry, adjoining the kitchen, supposing he might be there, and knocking a hole through the boards with an axe, when the flames burst through, the whole was immediately filled with flame, and he saw his father struggling in the fire on the opposite side from him, but was unable to grant him any relief, being immediately driven to a distance by the flames. When the fire abated there were a few remains of his body taken up; it was, however, little else but a cinder, and the neighbours are preparing a coffin in order to bury it. His wife and children are very respectable, and have the affections and sympathy of all their neighbours.

Yours truly,

SAMUEL HUGHES.

PROGRESS OF THE TEMPERANCE REFORM.

LOWER CANADA.

Extract of a letter from Leeds, Megantic County, dated April 4:—

"The Advocate has produced good in Leeds,—we have a promising Temperance Society daily increasing; we have monthly meetings well attended, and we expect soon to have a County Temperance Society for Megantic and will do every thing we can to arouse our friends in Quebec from their stupor. Inverness Township has a flourishing Temperance Society. L. Campbell is Secretary, and corresponds with the Editor of the Temperance Advocate. Ireland and Halifax Townships have Temperance Societies; we have in prospect a Temperance Traveller's Home on Craig's Road. When we get the county Society formed, the Secretary will correspond with the Editor of the Temperance Advocate; he will have, by and by, large orders from this quarter. A. R."

ENGLAND.—The festival of the London Temperance Society took place on Tuesday evening, at the City of London Tavern, Bishopsgate-Street. After the company had partaken of tea, coffee, &c., W. Janson, Esq., was called to the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Mr. J. E. Howard, Mr. Gilbert, Dr. Oxley, Captain Marshall, of Hull, Mr. Tears of Preston, and the Rev. Richard Mills, in explanation of the principle of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks. The principal speech of the evening was that of Mr. Tears, the founder of the far-famed Temperance Society of Preston. He stated, that it had originated with himself and a few other persons, who had persisted in their scheme, in defiance of all the ridicule thrown out against them. The consequence had been, that crime had decreased in Preston 60 per cent.; and, for the last seven or eight assizes, not a single criminal had been sent from that town to Lancaster for trial. The chaplain of the house of correction at that place, declared that he was losing all his customers. There were now, in the United Kingdom, 300,000 fee-totalers. In Wrexham there were 3200. Twelve months since, he had gone over to the Isle of Man, and converted nearly all the drunkards on the north side of the island. Of the whole population of 40,000, 3000 had become members of the Society. He particularly deprecated any partial abstinence from intoxicating liquors, and enumerated various instances of the advantages of the system. Mr. Tears certainly appeared, if we may judge from his robust frame, and powerful voice, to have suffered no ill effects from his abstinence. After the delivery of the speeches, the chairman was presented, by the Society, with a medal, in testimony of the sense entertained of his exertions in the cause; and it was proposed, and, we believe, unanimously acceded to, that a gold medal should be granted to Mr. Tears.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CIRCULAR.

MONTREAL, May 1, 1837.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

SIR,—I beg leave to inform your Society that the Executive Committee of the MONTREAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF TEMPERANCE, considering it highly desirable that Delegates from all the Temperance Societies in this Province should meet to concert measures for the success of the Temperance cause, have decided upon calling a CONVENTION, to be held at Montreal, on Wednesday, the 5th July next, at Ten o'clock, A. M., in the American Presbyterian Church, to which they hereby invite the attendance of one or more Delegates from your Society.

I beg further to call the attention of your Society to the following Resolutions, which it is intended to bring before the Convention, and to request that the Delegates may be instructed to represent the views of your Society respecting them, or that they be forwarded along with a reply to the questions hereafter submitted.

Resolved, I.—"That this Convention is of opinion that the Temperance Reformation is only to be brought about by means of a strict adherence to TOTAL ABSTINENCE principles; and strongly recommends the discontinuance of the pledge against spiritous liquors only, as tending rather to hinder the further progress of the Temperance cause."

Resolved, II.—"That a Society be now formed, which, if possible, shall unite all the Temperance Societies in this Province; and that the pledge appended to its Constitution, exclude the use of all intoxicating liquors as a beverage."

I am also instructed to request you to state to the Delegates the desire of the Executive Committee, that on their arrival in town, they would call on me for the purpose of being suitably accommodated and furnished with any information they may require.

In conclusion, I beg your notice to the questions below, requesting, in the event of no Delegate being appointed by your Society, that answers be transmitted to me in time for the meeting, and in