

Temperance.

Temperance Petitions.

From the following account our readers will be able to form an opinion of what has been done with the Petitions forwarded for presentation to the House of Assembly:—

On SATURDAY, Feb'y 28th, Mr. Holmes presented a petition from the inhabitants of Pictou relating to the sale of spirituous liquors.

Mr. S. Campbell presented a petition on the same subject.

Hon. Attorney General would like to have it ascertained whether the importation and distillation of ardent spirits had increased or diminished since the commencement of the Temperance movement.

Hon. Mr. Johnston would be glad to have such information if it could be obtained.

Hon. Attorney General—There are returns now on the table, a reference to which will shew what has been imported, what distilled, and what has been seized; he wished all matters with reference to it thoroughly sifted, inasmuch as it seemed that Legislation was to be forced upon the house.

Hon. Mr. Johnston rose to introduce a similar petition from the women of Nova Scotia. It extended the full length of the Hall. The Committee was appointed last year which reported upon the points to which the hon. and learned Attorney General has referred. The Report showed a diminution in the imported Rum, and increase in the Brandy and Wine. Now, sir, if by any statistics we could possibly obtain the effect produced on society by these organizations, many of those difficulties which now harass and perplex us would be dispelled, and we might then easily foresee, how far the spread of total abstinence principles should be entrusted solely to moral persuasions, or how far Legislative enactments should be interposed to make them general and wide spread. If it could be shewn that the course we are pursuing tended to retard the object in view, Temperance men would, he was confident, at once abandon it and adopt some other more conducive to the expansion of the principles they advocate.

Hon. Attorney General.—I can assure the hon. and learned member from Annapolis that I am not averse to Temperance, but I am averse to its being mixed up with Legislation, unless by so doing some good end be accomplished. Now, sir, we have some returns of the Rum, Gin, Brandy, Wine and Beer imported into and distilled in this Province, but we hear nothing of the Burning Fluid, an article which, I am told, is largely consumed by those who are fond of alcoholic drinks.

Mr. Hall said,—I doubt the efficacy of this petition for the accomplishment of the object in view; I am opposed to it on principle. Man was intended to conduct public affairs—woman to be confined to social duties; the employments of their own sphere should engross their attention, they should not be permitted to invade that considered as man's exclusive province. The old lady who sits day by day in her corner quaffing her tea, until she becomes a wrinkled, shrivelled and attenuated old hag—(Laughter)—would, I have no doubt, wish her old John Anderson to forsake his mug of beer. (Laughter.) The middle-aged uxorious lady would also wish to have her other half perpetually at her apron strings. (Laughter.) Aye, even the young lady, just blushing into womanhood, desires rather to have her youthful beau about her person—(Great laughter)—than to find him away, enjoying a social hour with a merry companion. The old lady—the middle-aged and the young have all motives then for appending their signatures to this document; I do believe that it is contemptible in the extreme to resort to such documents as this in order to force this Legislature into action which they cannot but feel is improper; certain am I, that there are there the names of many who have never seriously, calmly and dispassionately weighed the subject matter, of this petition and its effects.

Hon. J. W. Johnston.—If I believed, sir, that the creator of man had conferred upon him those intellectual endowments which distinguish him from all other created things—to degrade that intellect and brutalise his nature by the use of alcoholic and intoxicating liquors, then, sir, could I agree with the sentiments just propounded by the hon. and learned member for Kings, but not till then. On the contrary, I hold it to be the first duty of man, as a rational being,—to strive for the unsullied preservation of those high gifts; and, therefore, it is that with no blush of shame I hold this petition in my hand and am about to ask you to permit me to present it. He has instanced motives which may have induced females to sign that petition; are there none he has passed by unnoticed? He told you of the aged, the middle aged, and the youthful female. Can he not imagine some aged matron whose signature has been affixed to this document for reasons entirely dissimilar to those ascribed by him to that class! May not the remembrance of some lost, youthful son, on whom her hopes were bent, on whose progress her fondest wishes centered—and who, could the cause of Temperance have

reached him, might have still clung fondly to her side, the stay, support and comforter of her declining years; where was he? The wine cup had been his ruin—and can he say that she the forsaken—the desolate, touched to the heart by the evil which had befallen her was not impelled to fix her signature to this document by a desire to take the temptation from the pathway of others. Can he not imagine some middle aged female—who has seen stricken from her side the companion of her days—the father of her children; he who was bound by obligations the most sacred and holy to love and cherish her—had swerved from the paths of virtue, cast a shadow upon the hearthstone of a happy home; the sacred influences of that word were not strong enough to guide him in the paths of virtue. He was not there; the haunts of revelry and debauchery had claimed him and he yielded to those instigations which all admit are so powerful and so ruinous; may not the name of such an one have been appended to this petition, that others might be led to avoid the shoals on which he was wrecked. May not the name of some youthful female have been added also—because the companion of her childhood; the brother of her youth has fallen away from the integrity of his early virtue? Her young heart may have never known misfortune; she may have never felt the corroding cares of life until this greatest of all miseries flowed in upon her with a power indescribable? Then, sir, let not the hon. and learned gentleman imagine, that all who have signed the document have been governed by the motives ascribed by him. I admit that home is woman's sphere; and it is because she has not gone beyond that sphere that he has no right to complain; it is because that home is desolated, its endearing and ennobling ties riven asunder, its holiest virtues violated, and desolation and misery and distress enter, where happiness and virtue and peace should dwell—that I deem the fifteen or sixteen thousand females have not stepped without the pale of their circle in signing this petition. The names here set forth have not been appended thoughtlessly, but thoughtfully, prayerfully, deliberately, and anxiously; they are the best judges of this fearful evil; they feel the direful effects of which the petition speaks; the politician, political economist, moralist, and philanthropist, may all understand its evil consequences, but it is woman who feels and knows them in her hopes blasted and joys withered—and it is woman who comes before this house now asking Legislative aid to suppress the vice which works all this evil.

The petition was read.

Mr. Hall.—Am I to understand that the petitions require the Prohibition of liquor importations into this Province entirely?

Hon. J. W. Johnston.—Some of them do; he would ask leave to present another petition, asking aid to pay a Temperance Lecturer.

Mr. Zwicker—could not perceive any necessity for the opposition which seemed to be offered to the appointment of a committee. He considered the Railway an important subject but that of Temperance was of infinitely more importance; he was a Temperance man, and should give the Temperance cause his support; the committee ought to be appointed and the petitions referred to them.

After some further discussion—a committee composed of Messrs. Johnston, James Campbell, Shaw, Stewart Campbell, Holmes, Young, T. Coffin and John Campbell were appointed to whom the petitions were referred.

Mr. Stewart Campbell, presented a petition from the inhabitants of Guysborough relating to Temperance.

Mr. Zwicker presented two from Lunenburg.

Mr. John Campbell presented one from Queen's.

Mr. McQueen presented one from the County of Cape Breton.

Mr. Archibald presented two from Colchester.

Mr. Mosher presented two.

Mr. Moore presented one from Queen's.

Mr. Bent presented one from the County of Cumberland.

Mr. Shaw presented one from Yarmouth.

Mr. T. Coffin presented one from Shelburne.

Mr. Essoon presented one from the County of Halifax. Also one signed by about 1000 persons on the same subject.

Mr. John Campbell presented a petition asking aid to a lecturer.

Mr. Stewart Campbell presented one from the County of Guysborough.

Mr. Archibald presented one from Colchester.

All the above petitions were received and referred to the Temperance Committee.

On MONDAY, MARCH 1st, Hon. J. W. Johnston presented several Temperance petitions.

Mr. Chipman presented the petition of Henry Owen and others on the subject of Temperance.

Mr. Archibald said, I rise, Mr. Speaker, to ask the leave of the House to present a petition on the subject of Temperance from the Ladies of the County of Colchester, and notwithstanding the observations that were made on a former day, I do not feel that I am out of place in presenting—or the Ladies of the County of Colchester out of their place in forwarding the petition I now hold in my hand. Indeed, Sir, when I opened this petition, I had some pride as well as pleasure

in observing at the head of the signatures to it, that of one who holds a very near and dear relation to myself; and so far from considering a woman out of her own proper sphere when she exerts herself in promoting social, moral, and religious improvement, I feel that she is never better employed than when so engaged. I believe, Sir, that it would be better for us Lords of the Creation if we were oftener to feel and profit by suggestions of this kind coming from the gentler sex. In woman, the instinctive impulses of right feeling, dictate conclusions which men attain only by the slower and more circuitous process of reasoning. Woman feels what is right, and does it; but with us action must be decided by calculation and delineation. Sir, I am glad to see the Ladies engaged in helping on the cause of Temperance. In doing so they are promoting at once their own best interests, and the interests of the community; and it is with great pleasure I now present their petition on this subject.

General Miscellany.

What are Consols?

They are three per cent English stock which had its origin in an act of the British Parliament, consolidating, (hence their name,) several distinct government stocks into one general stock, called in the act "Consolidated Annuities," and commonly quoted for brevity as "consols."

When the consolidation took place, the principal of the several funds thus merged amounted to £9,137,821, but by the funding of additional and subsequent loans and parts of loans into this stock, it amounted, on the 5th of January, 1836, to £356,768,821. Since that period only one loan has been raised—that for compensation to the West India Planters, on the emancipation of the slaves—£20,000,000—and a few millions have been paid. The total at the present time is between 370 and £375,000,000 sterling.

This stock, from its amount, and the immense number of holders, is more sensitive to financial influences than any other, and is, therefore, the favourite stock for the operations of speculators and jobbers. Its dividends are payable semi-annually.

How to do Good.

Dr. Johnson wisely said, "He who waits to do a great deal of good at once, will never do anything." Life is made up of little things. It is but once in an age that occasion is offered for doing a great deed. True greatness consists in being great in little things. How are railroads built? By one shovelful of dirt after another; one shovelful at a time. Thus drops make the ocean. Hence, we should be willing to do a little good at a time, and never "wait to do a great deal of good at once." If we would do much good in the world, we must be willing to do good in little things, little acts one after another; speaking a word here, giving a tract there, and setting a good example all the time: we must do the first good thing we can, and then the next, and the next, and so keep on doing good. This is the way to accomplish anything. Thus only shall we do all the good in our power.—American Messenger.

Russia.

Rev. Dr. Baird in his lectures recently delivered at Newark, said—that Russia had a total population of 67,000,000—of which 54,000,000 are in Europe. Of the whole number 47,000,000 are serfs; 20,000,000 belong to the Emperor. They are sold with the lands. There are no serfs in Poland and Finland. The design of the present Emperor is to abolish serfdom, and the lecturer remarked that if he lived 30 years, he would do it, and added, that if he accomplished that, humanity would pardon many of his bad deeds. The army of Russia consists of 1,000,000 men, who are generally ignorant, and in perfect subordination. The revenue is \$130,000,000, and the debt is \$600,000,000.—New York paper, Jan. 27.

To Cure Nose Bleeding.

The Scientific American says—"Roll up a piece of paper and press it up under the upper lip. We have tried this plan in a great number of cases, and have only seen it fail on one occasion."

For Farmers.

The Value of Carrots.

Very few persons are aware that carrots are among the most wholesome of vegetables, and greatly assist digestion. French cooks, in many of their stewed dishes, introduce small slices of small carrots; and the Julienne soup, so common on every French table, is seasoned with finely chopped vegetables, young carrots being the most important; and the difference in digestion between a dinner eaten at a French cafe and an English hotel is not alone in cooking, but in the vegetable condiments introduced. It is only lately that chemists have explained the digestive stimulus known to exist in the carrot, to consist of the pectic acid found in the vegetable.

After saying so much, with a view to the promotion of a better understanding with the carrot in our kitchen garden, we quote the following from the Working Farmer, calculated to increase the field cultivation of this useful vegetable.

Two bushels of oats and one of carrots is better food for a horse than three bushels of oats; and when used for light work, the quantity of the carrots may be increased. With such food, horses will enjoy good health and spirits, a loose hide, shining coat, and improved digestion. It may be thus explained. The carrot is very nutritious, and, in addition, aids in gelatinizing the watery solutions contained in the stomach of a horse. Carrots contain pectic acid, a single drop of which mixed with the juice of an orange or other fruit, immediately turns it into jelly, and the Paris confectioners use it for that purpose. Soups in which carrots have been boiled are always gelatinous when cold, and are more easily digested than soups otherwise made.

The benne plant has similar properties. A thin slice of this plant thrown into a glass of water, renders itropy and gelatinous, and for this reason it is a specific for summer complaint in children.

The manure of a horse fed in part on carrots, contains no undigested hay or oats, and therefore less quantities of those materials are necessary than when the amount swallowed is parted with in an undigested state. For fattening animals the carrot is equally valuable, and for milch cows they surpass any other food. The milk of a cow at midwinter, fed on carrots, is equal in flavour to that supplied from clover in summer, while the butter made from the milk is finely coloured and highly flavoured.

In soils containing proper proportions of bonedust, sulphuric acid, potash and common salt, eight hundred bushels of long orange, or eleven hundred bushels of white Belgian carrots may be easily raised per acre, while the same land will not produce one tenth the quantity of oats.

Philosophy of Farming.

Different soils may require different modes of treatment and cropping, but in every variety of soil there are golden rules to attend to. Drain until you find that the water which falls from the heavens does not stagnate the soil, but runs through it and off it freely. Turn up and till the land until your foot sinks into a loose, powdery loam, that the sun and air readily pass through. Let no weeds occupy a place where a useful plant could grow. Collect every particle of manure that you can, whether liquid or solid. Let nothing on the farm go to waste. Put in your crops in that course which experience has shown to lead to succession in their growth, and to an enrichment, not impoverishment, of the land. Give every plant room to spread its roots in the soil and its leaves in the air.

Lice on Cattle, and Ticks on Sheep.

During the winter season, cattle and sheep are oftentimes infected with vermin, such as lice and ticks, &c. This trouble generally happens to those lean in flesh, and the vermin prevent their thriving, and sometimes have been known to cause the death of the animal itself by the irritation and prostration of strength which they occasion. We have tried all the different washes and