

ties, which, though extremely valuable and convincing, are not usually considered as original Essays; and others again, though but the smallest number, were feeble and common-place. The manuscripts, with the notes unopened, are left with the Secretary, and it is recommended that such as are not claimed within six months, be considered as at the disposal of the publishing Committee of the *Advocate*, to make extracts from them.

JOHN McDUGALL, *Rec. Sec.*

INTENDED WINTER TOUR IN CANADA WEST.

As Mr. R. D. Wadsworth, Corresponding Secretary of the Montreal Temperance Society, intends to travel in Canada West, in connexion with various Societies and publications of a religious and moral kind: the Committee of the Montreal Temperance Society have requested him to embrace the following objects:—

1st. To deliver Temperance Lectures whenever opportunity presents. The object of said Lectures being to advance the interests of the Temperance cause, and to obtain collections at each meeting towards paying off the debt on the *Canada Temperance Advocate*; for as this debt has been incurred in the service of the whole Province, it is hoped that Temperance men throughout the Province will aid in liquidating it.

2nd. To obtain new subscribers for the *Advocate*. All old subscribers will, it is hoped, remit immediately, and in no case wait for Mr. Wadsworth's visit, which must not only be uncertain in point of time, but some localities he will not be able to reach.

3rd. To collect the proceeds of Temperance publications, &c., sent on consignment, so far as they may be realized, and any other debts due to the Montreal Society.

Mr. Wadsworth intends to begin his tour about the New Year, and authorises us to say, that the chief object of his Lectures will be, to promote the organization of Cold Water Armies among the young, and a Provincial Union or League of the adult Teetotallers of Canada.

Mr. Wadsworth is, of course, fully authorised to receive subscriptions and donations for the Montreal Temperance Society; and it is hoped that the usual hospitality of the friends of the Temperance cause will be extended to him.

MONTREAL TEMPERANCE HALL.

The want of a Temperance Hall has been deeply felt in Montreal—of a place where the society might hold its ordinary meetings to suit its own convenience, and feel itself at home in. This want is about to be remedied by the opening of the centre part of the building in St. Maurice street, formerly occupied as a Congregational church, for the purpose referred to. The Hall is, we understand, to be opened next Thursday evening with a social party, or Soiree, at which, it is hoped, there will be a large attendance of the members of the society, and their friends; and soon after this meeting, there is, we are informed, to be a juvenile party, at which, doubtless, the cold water army will muster strong.

The intention of the Committee is to hold ordinary meetings in the same place, weekly, on Thursday evening, throughout the remainder of the winter season. And it is hoped that thereby, interest in the cause may be awakened and kept up, and the ranks of Teetotallers be recruited.

AGENTS'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.

Distributed this month, 5687 tracts.

Contributions received this month, £7 4s 3½d.

Also visited the Barracks, and distributed 209 *Temperance*

Advocates, 275 tracts, and 300 handbills. The tracts are generally thankfully received, but still a few oppose them with all their might. I shall mention one case, which will present to the thinking mind a strange sight. I entered a tavern, and offered a tract to the tavern-keeper; he took it, and tore it to pieces, and threw it at me. I tried calmly to reason with him on the subject, and when he came to himself, as I thought, offered him another, when he received it, and tore it with his teeth, and chewed it, as if it had been an article of food.

23d: Visited this day the same person referred to in the report of 17th August. He made the following remark, "that he would not take one hundred pounds to be seen in the tavern on Sabbath morning as he was accustomed to be."

Bytown, CANADA WEST, December 8, 1847.—I take up my pen with a trembling hand, conscious of my own inability, to communicate a few reflections upon a subject of vital importance. A trifling occurrence, which recently took place, has aroused my mind from its dreamy torpor, and has caused me to reflect upon my responsibility. It appears to me as plain as the sun at noon, that if "the Giver of every good and perfect gift" has entrusted me with but half a talent, I have no license or authority to bury that precious gift. I feel it to be my duty, as well as my interest, as far as it lies in my power, to strengthen that cause which you so honourably advocate, and which has been the instrument, in the hands of God, of doing me so much good. Gratitude constrains me to declare, that it has been the efficient means of snatching me from a drunkard's grave; yes, a drunkard's doom. The following narrative is a recital of facts, which occurred under my own observation.

In the year 1842, I became acquainted with an individual, who, notwithstanding he was a husband and a father, was nevertheless a drunkard. But he was not always addicted to that ruinous vice. When he first beheld the light of the sun, he was as free from alcohol as the pure drops which descend from heaven to replenish the weary land. The appetite for strong drink is altogether unnatural and self-acquired. As he advanced in age, we see him surrounded by his companions and associates, whose minds are deeply impregnated with the drinking maxims and ruinous customs of the age. He partakes of a spurious decoction called *beer*; but ah! the maddening poison was there. The seeds of that unholy thirst were planted: they strengthened with his strength, and ripened with his maturity. Methinks that fiends laugh with all their hideous malignity in beholding a youth's first outset to drunkenness and everlasting ruin. (It is true that at that part of his history, the great temperance cause had not erected its standard or unfurled its banners.) As time rolled steadily along, his habits became more confirmed; he is now become not only a moderate drinker, but, alas! a confirmed drunkard. This brings him down to the period, when, in the order of Providence, we first met. He was a violent and turbulent companion, a troublesome neighbour, and a very indifferent subject. He had often been faithfully remonstrated with, and earnestly entreated to take the pledge; but all in vain. At length he committed an unusual outbreak; he was arrested, and placed in safe keeping. Whilst a prisoner, and deprived of his liberty, which was for many days, he had time to get sober, and to reflect. One thing seemed to possess his thoughts more than anything else, and that was, that none of his wanton and riotous companions came to enquire about him; a drink of water, if he needed it, they would not supply him with. Ah, how true,