

**Temperance Column.**

During Mr. W. Noble's recent visit to Hull, over one thousand three hundred persons signed the pledge.

The work of the English National Temperance League, as so many years carried on by Miss Weston among sailors of the Royal Navy continues to advance. Much good has lately been done by a series of meetings on board ship in harbor at Plymouth.

A remarkable instance of the spread of temperance principles was cited by Mr. Peter McLagan, M.P., in the course of a speech at a local option meeting at Chislehurst recently: "Twenty years ago," he said, "when entering the House of Commons, about four or five o'clock in the afternoon, the wine bar or the spirit bar was crowded with members going to get what they called a 'pick-me-up.' The tea-room was open, but very few went in there. Now, at four or five o'clock, very few would be seen at the wine bar. But on going to the tea-room, there would be a difficulty in obtaining a seat, because of the members taking their afternoon tea."

The Church of England Temperance Society's work among cabmen is making steady progress. The Branch of the Cabmen's Division planted by Driver Thomas Death in the parish of St. John's, Fulham, is rapidly enrolling members.

The Bishop of Manchester, speaking at a public meeting held in his district lately, said that last year upwards of a million householders, in more than six hundred and fifty places in England, were asked to give their opinion by means of a voting paper in regard to the Sunday closing, with the following result: For Sunday closing, 826,211; against, 111,801; neutral, 72,899.

The following is said to be a fair record of the Drink-bill of the American nation for 1883:—

Loss of productive labor of 70,000 drunkards \$175,000,000.

Total cost of drinks—domestic spirits: ale, beer, &c.; imported spirits: cordials, ale, wine, etc., 944,629,580.

Loss of productive labor of 2,138,391 moderate drinkers 222,392,664.

Loss of time, cost of medical attendance, and medicine in sickness caused by drinking 119,368,576.

Loss of productive labor of 585,472 persons in the liquor trade 293,236,000.

Loss to employers by drinking employees 10,000,000.

Cost of supporting 83,899 defective persons, by drink, as insane, etc., \$16,779,800.

Cost of supporting 59,110 paupers, etc., made such by strong drink, at \$100 per year 5,911,000.

Loss of Labor of 59,110 paupers and vagrants, at \$300 per year 17,733,000.

Cost of supporting 39,481 prisoners at \$100 per year, made such by strong drink 3,948,100.

Loss of labor of 39,481 prisoners, at \$300 per year 11,844,300.

Cost of police persecutions, court

expenses, losses by juries, witnesses etc. 15,000,000.

Value of grain destroyed to make the drinks 33,330,396—Total \$1,860,173,116.

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