

this spot, for the purpose of having it examined: when my glove was removed, it was found that the extremity was so far severed, that it was only held together by a fibre of the skin. The surgeon was of opinion that the first joint must be immediately removed; but, whilst he was preparing his instruments for that purpose, it occurred to me that it was not *impossible*, from the state in which I was quite sure my blood *then* was, that it would re-unite, and I expressed my desire that it should be allowed the trial. The idea was ridiculed, and preparations to take off the first joint were not relinquished. I, however, was determined to make the trial. The surgeon remonstrated with me; said that if I *did*, it would be on my own responsibility; and pointed out the danger likely to attend it; adding that, after causing myself much pain, I at last should be obliged to yield to the operation. Seeing, however, that my determination was fixed, he splintered it up; and in the course of a very few days, it was evidently adhering, and in the space of three weeks, it was completely united and well. I make this digression merely to show what a security against the ill effects of accidents, a pure state of the blood may prove."

A case of a similar kind was recently mentioned to us by a tee-totaller at Gomersal, near Leeds. His finger was nearly cut off; but it united and healed rapidly, and is now quite well. These two facts present a striking contrast to the first mentioned, and the conclusion to which they inevitably lead is this—alcoholic beverages weaken the *vis medicatrix*, or healing power, implanted in the human system; and that total abstinence gives a better chance of recovery from any injury or accident which it may sustain.—*National Temperance Advocate*.

### Is Alcohol Requisite in Severe Cold?

During the late insurrection in our Canadian possessions, in 1837, a detachment of six companies of the 31st Regiment of Infantry was engaged in quelling the insurrectionists, and marching in various parts of the British possessions. The detachment has since returned to England; and some time ago being in the company of one of the soldiers, I questioned him respecting the campaign, and he answered about as follows:—

CIVILIAN.—I suppose you felt keenly the severity of a Canadian winter?

SOLDIER.—Yes; the winter in Canada is exceedingly cold, and we were much exposed to it during the insurrection, more particularly when travelling from Nova Scotia to Quebec. We were 14 days marching across the lakes and over the snow; and never saw a house of any kind. The cold was very severe, in the night especially.

C.—But how did you sleep during that time?

S.—Why, at night, we struck into the forest, and cut down branches of trees, and placed them between the trunks of other trees, so as to serve for walls. We then made a fire in the middle of the bush-house, and then lay down to sleep, with our feet towards the fire in the middle, and our heads, of course, towards the trees. When we awoke in the morning, our feet were warm enough, but the hairs on our heads were frozen together.

C.—Had you any *drink* during that time?

S.—Yes; we had a quantity of *rum*.

C.—Had you any tee-totallers in the regiment?

S.—O yes; we had a temperance society among us;

C.—And did any of them violate their pledge?

S.—No; I believe not. I have seen them turn their backs on the drink, and refuse to look at it.

C.—How did they manage, then?—did you carry water for them?

S.—No. When they wanted any drink, they took snow in their hands to melt it, and then drank it.

C.—And did they seem to preserve their health without drink, having nothing but snow-water?

S.—Yes; they seemed quite healthy—*more healthy* than some who took rum.

C.—What sort of habits had the tee-totallers generally?

S.—Why, you know, when they gave over drinking, they spent their time in reading: principally books out of the regiment library.

C.—I suppose you had not many books in the library of a *religious* nature?

S.—O yes; there were many; *those* were the books which the tee-totallers read most.

Such are the facts; and any person of common understanding may reason from them.

1st. There was evident advantage on the side of abstinence, on the ground of health, even in the extreme of cold.

2nd. There was a saving of money, (for the soldiers paid for their rum 1d per day,) as those who drank none, paid for none.

3d. And, better than all, when the men became abstainers, they began to see the folly of boisterous mirth, and of every species of sin, and were led to "ponder their ways and be wise."

If the indifferent will look at these circumstances, they certainly will be the subjects of indifference no longer. Who does not see, in such circumstances, the utter uselessness of intoxicating drinks, and the contemptibleness of that system which upholds their use in society?—*National Temperance Advocate*.

### PROGRESS OF THE CAUSE.

LONDON, Nov. 25.—On the 13th ult we held a meeting of the London Township Temperance Society. The meeting was addressed by Mr. G. W. Bungay, and four signatures were obtained. Mr. Bungay agreed, at our request, to attend our Annual Meeting on the 6th inst.: and we trust great good has resulted from his excellent lectures in these parts. After the address was delivered four more names were added to the pledge. The Secretary then read the report of the society for the past year, which stated that 11 members were added to the Society, 12 have been expelled, and 6 withdrawn, leaving 153 in good standing. We then proceeded to appoint officers for the ensuing year; Mr. William Odell was appointed President; Messrs. James Morden and Orange Clark, Vice Presidents; Thomas S. Keays, Sec.; and Mr. Armon Clark, Assistant Secretary, and a Committee of five. We held our meetings monthly, which are generally well attended. But I much regret that the friends of the moderation pledge are reluctant in joining with us, which is rather a hindrance to the cause. There is but one grog-shop in the neighbourhood, which has done us a great injury, but it is not patronised much at present. On the whole, the cause looks prosperous, and I trust before our next annual meeting many members will be added to the cause.—THOS. S. KEAYS, Cor. Sec.

NIAGARA, Dec. 19.—Although we are not allowed temperance societies in the Army, yet we have, by the blessing of the allwise Being, a means of giving the pledge to the poor inebriate, which has already proved a great blessing to many. About the beginning of September 1842 there appeared to be no one to take up the cause of the poor soldier; I felt it my duty, with several others, to take the cause in hand; we did so, and from that period up to the 14th of May, 1843, we obtained 113 signatures. 'Tis true a great number have not been true to their pledge, but I have no doubt if I could go to the several stations, and make inquiry, I should find from 49 to 50 who have kept it. I find also by looking over the records since the 14th of May 1843 to the 18th of December, 1843, that 83 have signed the pledge, and that only about 30 have had their names erased. Let it be remembered that we have not had more than 250 stationed at Niagara during the last mentioned period. Amidst all difficulties I feel determined to go on in the strength of the Mighty God of Jacob.—WILLIAM NIXON, Band, R. C. R. Regts.

CHINGACOSY, Dec. 21.—We have organized a society last Monday, and obtained thirty-five signatures, all of them new, except five which had their names transferred from other societies. I have been canvassing about for subscribers for the *Advocate*, I