

after; and at our last annual meeting, a resolution was carried, that another Pic-nic shall be got up sometime in the ensuing summer, previous to which the Rev. Mr. Crollin has been engaged to make two more tours throughout the Township, having already made one as noticed above, and with very good success. During the past year a number of Juvenile Singing Chords have been formed under the instruction and by the exertions of Mr. Cory, to whom we are under obligations of great respect. With the additions of the last year, our Association now numbers about 1850; so that our noble cause appears to be advancing steadily. Our motto is, ONWARD! It is not, however, merely to the direct increase that we have to look in speaking of its prosperity, but to the state of the public mind as being influenced by our principles. It is daily becoming more and more obvious, that in the most moral and respectable portion of the community, drinking customs are losing their hold over the minds of many, and not a few have been led to act upon the abstinence principles, although not yet associated with us. It is believed that a most favourable impression upon the minds of the people was produced by our soiree last summer. We are continually gaining upon the more influential part of the population, and we are occasionally bringing about the reformation of a degraded drunkard, awakening in his breast a consciousness of his situation, his dignity as a human being, as a husband and a father, and restoring him to the embraces of a once forsaken and miserable, but now happy family. Nor are our efforts confined exclusively to our own Township, for during the past year we have extended them into the adjoining Townships with very good success. We have effected a great deal by enlisting the influence of the female part of the community, in appointing female committees, &c., and we are likely to effect much more in the same way, especially among the young men of our Society. But although much has been done, yet much remains to be done still. The greatest obstacle against which we have to contend, seems to emanate from a sordid avariciousness, by which means are continually made use of to feed and nourish the cravings of a depraved and unnatural appetite, thereby throwing a barrier in the way of the great social and moral reform of temperance.—I refer to the practices of making and vending poisons. It is astonishing, after all the light we have had on this subject, what an amount of ignorance prevails even among professed Christians, as to the sin of the horrid traffic, and the debasing practice of drinking intoxicating drinks. Religious influence must be brought to bear more directly and universally upon the great principle of temperance ere we shall accomplish the desired object. Mr. R. D. Wadsworth lately passed through our Township on his tour through this part of the province, giving us two or three lectures in different parts of the Township. We had the pleasure of hearing him lecture on Saturday evening, the 11th instant, in the village of Brooklin, and again on Sabbath morning in the same place. The friends of temperance were highly entertained. During the first part of the lecture on Saturday evening, the few who stand aloof from us seemed fairly to shrink from the arguments presented, as if they would hide in darkness, for fear their sin would be exposed by the light of good reasoning. About the close, the younger part of the congregation were quite transported with the "history of William." After which a number of names were obtained to the pledge, and the meeting adjourned in good order.—L. C. THOMAS, Secretary.

PHILIPSBURG.—The meeting of the Philipsburg Total Abstinence Society, held in this village on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday last, turned out to be, as was desired, a general Temperance Meeting, and, considering the unfavourable state

of the roads, was well attended both by residents of the village and vicinity, and persons from a distance. At 2 p. m. the hour appointed, the exercises were opened by prayer by the Rev. Mr. French, of Franklin, Vermont. The Rev. Mr. Fisk then made a few brief but appropriate introductory remarks. After appointing Mr. J. B. Nichols, Secretary, *pro tem.*, and going through with some few preliminaries, addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Hitchcock, Jersey, Geer, and Cox, in such a manner as to please and interest the audience. The objections usually raised against total abstinence societies, were met by Mr. Cox, whose remarks were made in that happy, clear, and argumentative manner, which has the double tendency of pleasing and convincing at the same time. In the evening an address was delivered by J. G. Saxe, A.M., of Highgate, Vermont, to a delighted audience. Mr. S., as a lecturer, at once combines that ability, energy, and eloquence which cannot fail to strongly impress an auditory.—May he "let his light shine."—*Philipsburg Gleaner.*

COMMENT.—It has seldom been our good fortune to hearken to so powerful a temperance address as that delivered on Thursday last in the Congregational Church in this town, by Mr. Wadsworth, the excellent Agent of the Montreal Temperance Society. His arguments were based on scriptural, moral, and physiological principles; and in addition to the important information afforded, his powerful, pointed appeals to the hearts of his numerous and respectable audience, were really irresistible; at least it seemed so to us.

He showed clearly that what are sometimes called extreme views upon the use and traffic of intoxicating drinks, are not so new under the sun as many imagine, and in proof gave the following quotation from Mr. Wesley's "Thoughts on Scarcity," published in 1773. Mr. Wesley says of distilling—

"Have we not reason to believe that little less than half the grain produced in the kingdom is every year consumed, not by so harmless a way as throwing it into the sea, but by converting it into a deadly poison; poison that naturally destroys not only the strength of life, but also the morals of our countrymen. O! tell it not in Constantinople, that the English raise the royal revenue by selling the flesh and blood of their countrymen."

The followers of this eminent man in England or America, cannot entertain any other views of the manufacture and traffic in intoxicating drinks. Before subjoining the following statistics and reflections, we would just remark, that when the people on this side of the Atlantic were called upon to contribute for the support of their starving fellow-men in 1847, it was under the very general impression, that there was not food enough in Great Britain and Ireland to support the inhabitants of those countries. But what will be thought when they read the following facts?

"Sixty two million bushels of grain were consumed or manufactured into intoxicating drinks in the United Empire, in 1846. This would be sufficient, at the ordinary rate of consumption, to support seven millions of our population a whole year. The rick-burner and incendiary who would destroy the food of the people, would be deservedly held up to public execration—his crime would be said to involve the crime of murder; but, the manufacturer of strong drinks inflicts a far greater mischief on society; he not only destroys a much greater amount of food than the rick-burner, but he returns it upon the community as a poison which drains their purses, ruins their morals, beggars their families, and sends all to perdition: the rick-burner destroys once, the manufacturer of strong drinks twice."

Will our friends who traffic in strong drinks look at this subject seriously? We entreat them to lay it to heart.—*Provincialist.*

#### THE LICENSE LAWS.

It appears, by a copy of a Petition to Parliament, which is subjoined, that the friends of Temperance in the Johnstown District intend to strike at the root of what is infinitely worse than the most unfavourable representation of the deadly upas tree. It is not likely they will at once succeed, but united action, and repeated strokes, would in all probability bring the giant down. A constant dropping will wear away a stone, and by energy and perseverance in bringing the evils of the License System before the Legislature, long-established prejudices in favour of the legalized traffic in spirituous liquors, would give way and disappear. Until this is the case, the friends of humanity labour under a great disadvantage. So long as schools for making drunkards are established in every town and township of the Province in