

importance of employing at least one travelling Agent for the Province of Canada. In Great Britain and Ireland, there are many itinerant Temperance lecturers; and in the United States we find that many state societies have travelling Agents of great respectability, who are continually in the field, holding meetings, forming new societies, strengthening old ones, distributing documents, and receiving subscriptions for Temperance papers. Why should our great and growing country be in this respect behind every other where the English language is spoken?

3. THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.—The Committee have continued to publish this periodical under a deep and increasing conviction of its great usefulness in promoting the interests of the Temperance Reformation. The average circulation of the *Advocate* in the year ending March 1840, was about 3000. The average circulation during the year now ending has been about 3500 copies monthly, showing an unprecedented and most encouraging increase. Of this number about 1200 copies are, in accordance with a vote of the Committee, sent monthly, free of expense, to Clergymen of all denominations, Teachers of youth, and Editors of newspapers, throughout the country; and if any individual of these influential professions be still unsupplied, it is because the Committee is ignorant of his address. Two Supplements were issued during the past year without any extra charge to subscribers, although they cost the Committee about £30; these, with the twelve regular numbers, make in all about 77,000 copies of the *Advocate*, which have been circulated through the length and breadth of the land, penetrating not only into every city and town, but into almost every township (from Lake Huron to the Gulph of St. Lawrence. And the Committee rejoice to add, that they have been much encouraged by the reception of strong and grateful testimonials in favor of this little herald of mercy, from almost every Society in the country. In fine, the character and circulation of the *Advocate* are established, and it is in the opinion of the Committee, a duty, more than any other solemnly obligatory on this Society, to maintain that character and extend that circulation.

4. TRACTS AND MEDALS.—A supply of Tracts to the value of £250 currency was imported from Britain last year, part of which has been sold, and part gratuitously distributed in the city of Montreal, and to poor societies in the country. These tracts are well assorted, contain excellent temperance matter, and are likely to be productive of excellent effects. Part of the supply, equal to £26 currency, still remains on hand for the operations of the coming season. A supply of Medals to the extent of £16 currency was imported with the tracts. But it was very soon disposed of, and found quite inadequate to meet the demand. A much larger supply has therefore been ordered by a member of the Committee for the year now beginning.

5. ABSTRACT OF TREASURER'S ACCOUNT:—

Montreal Temperance Society in account with James R. Orr.

	Dr.		Cr.
1840.			
To Cash paid Accounts of 1839	£16	9	7
for Publications, Tracts, and Medals	77	18	0
Expenses of Public Meetings	30	19	0
Loss on Pleasure Trip	11	7	6
Postages, Stationery, and Office Expenses	9	18	0
Paper, Printing, Postage, and delivering <i>Advocate</i>	317	1	3
	£463	13	4
1840.			
By Balance from last year	£5	3	0
Donations and Subscriptions	98	10	0
proceeds of Tracts and Medals, sold	34	5	0
Collections at Public Meetings	9	4	9
Subscriptions to <i>Advocate</i>	270	14	1
Balance	45	16	6
	£463	16	4
Feb. 22, 1841.—To Balance brought down due the Treasurer	£45	11	6

E. E. JAMES R. ORR, Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.

JOHN DOUGALL.
JOHN HOLLAND.

The debt in which this Society finds itself involved, is caused partly by the lack of any general subscription or contribution, to sustain its extended operations, and partly by the remissness of some subscribers to the *Advocate*, the amount of whose subscriptions now owing is upwards of £100. As, however, the Committee are convinced that their expenditure has been such as to yield ultimately a return to the community of at least a thousand fold, they would recommend no diminution of effort, but rather an increase of faith and reliance on Divine Providence for the necessary means to sustain future operations.

6. PROGRESS OF THE CAUSE IN MONTREAL.—The number of members added to this Society during the past year is 402, exclusive of 168 soldiers who were admitted as a branch society. The number which has been lost by death, removal, or inconsistency, is not known.

A very great impetus has been given to the Temperance cause within the past year by the powerful advocacy of the Rev. P. Phelan, a Roman Catholic Priest of this city, who has delivered many excellent addresses and exhortations on the subject, to his congregation, and has succeeded in forming a society of about 3000 members, which includes a great proportion of our fellow citizens of Irish origin in this city, as well as many from the surrounding country. We regret to add, that this Society is not strictly teetotal; but a large portion of its members act as if it were, and drinking is diminished to a great extent.

The Committee have also much satisfaction in stating that an impulse has been received from a heretofore unexpected quarter, namely, our brethren of French origin, whose attention has been turned to the subject of Temperance by the Bishop of Nancy and some other ecclesiastics. The lectures and exhortations of these influential men, have resulted in the formation of a well organized society of nearly 3000 members in this city, the influence and example of which are felt and imitated in the country places around. This Society, like the last, is not teetotal, but it has had the effect to render drinking less reputable, and greatly to diminish the quantity of liquor consumed in the meantime; and ultimately, we trust, it will lead to the adoption of Total Abstinence principles.

7. THE PAST.—Never before in the history of the world has the spectacle been seen of a reformation commenced feebly and doubtingly in an obscure part of the world, opposed by all the influence of rank, fashion, and wealth, as well as by the appetites, habits, and supposed pecuniary interests of mankind, and yet making way of itself against all opposition, until in the short space of thirteen or fourteen years, it has changed the character and destiny of nations, and commanded the attention and respect of the world. Truly may we say, the finger of God is here; for without his blessing this cause could never have so prospered, but must have been extinguished in its first feeble beginnings. With that blessing, however, it cannot fail to go on, conquering and to conquer, till it has overcome all opposition. Indeed, favour and respect with all classes have already taken the place of the almost universal contempt and derision with which it was regarded a few years ago, and all are now prepared to admit, that it has done much good, and to wish its ultimate success.

8. FUTURE OPERATIONS.—The Union of the Provinces constitutes an era in the history of Canada, which it is hoped will be distinguished by the prevalence of peace and prosperity. But what instrumentality is likely to contribute so much to these desired objects as the Temperance reformation? And should not, therefore, the energies of the Temperance men throughout the country be united to carry forward this glorious enterprise to a successful issue?

Deeply impressed with a consciousness of responsibility, as well as a conviction, that the day of small things has passed away, and that temperance men, if they would obtain a blessing on their stewardship must make a better use of their talents than they have hitherto done, encouraged also by the extraordinary triumphs of the cause elsewhere and the signs of victory which already begin to manifest themselves in our own country, your Committee, in humble reliance on Divine providence, have resolved upon endeavouring to effect, in addition to the means already employed, three great measures through the course of the coming year.

The first of these measures is to call a convention of delegates from all the temperance societies in Canada, (or in the absence of delegates,

* Viz.: Surveyor's fee, 17l.; Arbitrators' fee, 10l.; John E. Mills, 12l. 10s.; James Court, 11l. 10s.; John Dougall, 25l.; Mrs. Dougall, 12l. 10s.; Messrs. Morton and Wilson, collected in Grifftown, 4l. 12s.; Robert Morton, 2l. 10s.; Clarence Society, 8s. 9d.; Cash, 2l. 9s. 8d.; Capt. Young, 10s.