

by the fear of man. There was not an individual in the village, beside himself, who would have ventured, in the hearing of Mr Sharp, to speak openly and decidedly in favour of the temperance reform.

(To be continued.)

STATISTICS.

(From the *National Temperance Advocate*.)

We beg to direct attention to the following address, issued by the British Temperance Association. The subject it treats upon is of vast importance, and has been too long neglected. The division of labor pointed out by the resolution will, if attended to, render the collecting of the requisite information comparatively easy. Copies have been widely circulated amongst the societies in the North of England, and also forwarded to most of the leading friends of the cause in other parts of the Empire. We earnestly hope they will zealously co-operate with the committee of the Association, and that we shall, ere long, be able to present to the world a correct and extensive table of statistics bearing on the temperance reformation.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE — TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

Gentlemen,—The Executive Committee of the British Temperance Association begs to direct your most careful attention to the following resolution, passed at its last Conference, viz.:—

That this Conference would direct the attention of all its auxiliaries, and of Temperance Societies in general, to the vast importance of forming a Statistical Committee, whose object shall be to collect facts favorable or opposed to, and directly or indirectly connected with the Temperance Reformation, in their respective towns or districts; such as—

1. The number of inns, dram-shops, and public-houses; of flour-dealers, grocers, and bakers, in each street.
2. The number of malsters, brewers, wine and spirit-merchants.
3. Concerning the drinking usages in workshops, factories, &c.
4. The number of drunkards in the town, or in such streets or districts as can be investigated.
5. The number of persons, male and female, young and old, who enter within a given time the principal dram-shops.
6. The quantity of intoxicating liquors consumed in public institutions, such as poor-houses, penitentiaries, infirmaries, and dispensaries.
7. The number of members of Christian Churches who have backslidden through the effects of strong drink.
8. The number of teetotal ministers, deacons, local preachers, class-leaders, Sunday-school teachers and scholars, and medical men.
9. The number of places of worship in which the Lord's supper is celebrated in unfermented wine, and of vestries from which intoxicating wine has been banished.
10. The number of teetotals and reformed characters, and instances of remarkable reformation.

The particular evidence of the inestimable value of teetotalism, lies in its statistics; and yet there is no branch of the temperance question about which there is less certainty, whether considered as to the exact and positive amount of practical good done, or the extent of intemperance. It is cheerfully conceded that, wherever the temperance reformation has extended its operations, it has been accompanied with glorious results; but in consequence of its defective organization, their manifestation has been confined chiefly to the platform, to public meetings, or personal knowledge. They have not been reduced to system. Many attempts have at various times been made by the Committees of the British Association, as well as by other bodies of temperance reformers, to obtain statistics; but from want of adequate co-opera-

tion in every town or district, these attempts have not been crowned with results so satisfactory as are either desirable or even necessary.

Conscious of this defect, the Conference of the British Association has repeatedly and earnestly pressed this question upon the attention of the Delegates, who have warmly, at the time, recognized the very great and most essential use of a complete table of statistics. The subject seems, however, to have been passed over, and many causes have been assigned, but none of these, when carefully examined, have been by the Executive deemed justifiable. The absence of exertion in that line of direction which leads to the procuring of statistics, is admitted to have been the principal cause; and, hence, the committee most earnestly invites the co-operation of every one of its branches, and societies in general, to the accomplishment of an object so paramount to the success of the temperance reformation. It has been already admitted, that every teetotaler is furnished with abundant cases of reformation, to confirm all his arguments in favour of the temperance principles. Having these cases at command, and the knowledge of others obtained from advocates and periodicals, he fancies he is fully armed for the campaign against strong drink; hence his mind is quite prepared to admit the truth of statements such as the following:—“There are in Great Britain and Ireland 600,000 drunkards, and 60,000 of these die annually.” “There are 60,000 backsliders from the Church of Christ every year through the effects of strong drink.” The probability is that the number of drunkards is much greater; but, were an advocate publicly making these assertions called upon for proof, upon what statistical data would he proceed? And, if closely cross-examined, with what credit would he demonstrate the truth of his assertion? Is there a single advocate in England, Scotland, or Ireland, thus prepared with proof? Arguments in reference to Britain on this point are not, and ought not, to be founded upon data drawn from America. The Committee of the British Association is constrained to believe that there is not a writer or an advocate in Great Britain who is supplied with statistical evidence to carry him through such an ordeal. Let every committee then pause for a moment to consult how he would feel if deprived of such facts. The case is thus strongly put to arrest the attention and attract the deliberation of committees generally to this most essential—this invaluable sphere of labor.

The Executive Committee in thus stating its views, is exceedingly anxious to place the statistics of the temperance reformation in an unquestionable position; and now that teetotalism has become a great institution, the imperative necessity is felt of investigating it with all the strength that can be imparted by figures and numbers. In the city of York, instructions have been given to the temperance missionary to visit every house in certain districts, and after careful investigation the following is the total result:—

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| Number of families visited..... | 198 |
| Number of persons do | 766 |
| Families without Bibles | 66 |
| Drunkards met with..... | 33 |
| Persons attending no place of worship..... | 231 |
| Persons above 5 years of age who cannot read or write..... | 126 |

According to the census of 1831, out of a population of 24,100,376, there were 5,812,276 male adults of the age of 20 years and upwards. Assuming the same number of females, it gives 11,624,552 male and female adults. According to this ratio, of the 776 mentioned in the table, there will be 369 males and females of 20 years and upwards; and hence the number of drunkards to the adults is as 83 to 369, or nearly one-fourth of this portion of the population are drunkards! One-third of the families possess no Bibles! And nearly one-third attend no place of worship! Knowing that these, the most degraded districts of York, are no exception to similar districts in other large towns, it might be