

## TEMPERANCE RECORD.

## STATEMENT OF EXPERIENCE,

BY SOME MEMBERS OF THE VICTORIA TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

W. H. has been a hard drinker for ten years. His work being very laborious, and in the open air, he believed he needed strong drink to enable him to perform it, and was frequently drawn into intoxication; but since he joined this Society, he finds that strong drinks have been deceiving him, as he can now labour better, sleep sounder, rise in the morning fresher, and be more happy and comfortable upon Adam's wine. He would advise all hard working men to try for themselves.

W. S. has been a hard drinker for five years. Strong drink had brought him to the brink of the grave, although neither he nor his friends knew it. He attended one of our meetings, became sensible of his disease, and joined the Society the same night. He has recovered every day since, and is now attending his work regularly. He believes that Teetotalism is the best and cheapest physician.

A. H. has been a confirmed drunkard for twelve years, and was six years without being in a place of worship; he joined the Society about five weeks ago, and is now attending worship, and reading his bible, the preciousness of which he never knew before. His wife and family, who had separated from him on account of his drunkenness, have again returned to him, and are living happily together; instead of coming home drunk on a Saturday night, he brings home some article of clothing or furniture, and a piece of beef for his family. His wife declares it is only now that she knows the happiness of a married life.

E. H. has been a confirmed drunkard for fifteen years. He drank to that excess that he had not a shirt to his back, and his family were equally destitute; but since he joined the Society he has begun to replenish his house, and he hopes before long to be in a condition to go with them to the house of God, where he has not been for five years at least; when he can attend it again, he means never to forsake it.

J. C. has been a hard drinker for ten years; for the last five years he has not attended church, partly because he had no desire to go, and partly because he did not feel well on the Sabbath days. This he attributed to the week's work, but now attributes it to the week's drinking; for since he joined this Society, he can attend the house of God, and other social meetings beside, and his health never was better.

P. S. has been a hard drinker for six years, and cared nothing about religion; but since he has joined the Society, delights to attend public worship, and, being a single man, is determined to look out for a teetotal partner.

P. W. has been a hard drinker for four years, for two of which he has not been in a church; since joining the society he has begun to attend Divine service, and feels great happiness in doing so. He believes abstinence to be the handmaid of religion, at least, it has been so in his case, and that of many others. He says:—"I am happy, my family are happy, and I am a new man."

The foregoing are the outlines of a few of the statements of experience, which are laid before the Victoria Temperance Society.

This Society, which is established for the especial object of reforming drunkards, and managed by working men, has its regular meetings twice a week, as follows, viz: on Tuesday evenings, in the British and Canadian School, St. Lawrence Suburbs. On Thursday evenings in the Methodist New Connexion Chapel, College Street, where the public, and more especially the intemperate, are earnestly invited to attend. The Society already numbers upwards of eighty members, half of whom were drunkards.

JAMES WILSON,  
Secretary.

PROGRESS OF TEMPERANCE.—The "Martha Washington Temperance Society," is the name of a new society formed in New York, by the wives of reformed drunkards, whose object is the reformation of female inebriates, and to give relief to drunkards' wives and children.

M. Parmenter, a blind man, and once a drunkard, is lecturing in the Northern States on Temperance.

## RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

At the late Anniversary Meeting of this noble Institution, the following abstract of the Report was read:—

In its commencement, it alluded to certain movements which had been going forward, and in which the Committee had been invited to take a part, on the subject of the exclusive right of printing the Bible, enjoyed by the two Universities, and the Queen's Printers. On one point, connected with that subject, entire unanimity prevailed in the Committee, and they took the opportunity of recording their solemn and deliberate conviction that it was the duty not only of the Committee, but of the Society at large as a Society, to abstain from any interference in the matter, either as to the promotion or countenancing of, or as to the removal of, the restriction. (Hear, hear.) The members of the Society were, of course, left to act entirely according to their own judgment, in their private capacities; but as the peace and usefulness of the Society were regarded, the Committee implored the Committees of Auxiliary Societies, branches, and associations, to occupy, with themselves, an entirely neutral position. While the Committee did not intend to enlarge upon that subject, there were one or two statements which they did feel called upon to make. As regarded themselves, they were bold to say that the subject of prices paid for the Bibles, including the purchase of the copies in sheets, and the binding, had ever been one that had engaged a very large share of their attention, and that they had laboured to obtain them at the lowest possible price, consistent with a due regard to the general execution of the work, and the quality of the paper. They looked partly, indeed, to the beauty of the appearance of the volume, but more at its texture and promise of durability. The Committee might go into details, showing that while the general character of the books issued had been manifestly improving, the prices paid had been proportionably decreasing for years. To determine the point at which it should be said that excellency had reached its height, was no easy matter, and it was one on which the Committee claimed to exercise the best judgment they could. In adopting the standard by which they had been guided, the Committee might have erred, and raised it too high; but it became them frankly to admit, that up to the time of the suspension of the issue of cheapened copies, they thought that Bibles and Testaments inferior to those previously circulated, ought not to be issued, so that they were ready to admit that any portion of blame, if blame there were, because of the comparatively high price paid for the Scriptures, rested on themselves. It would seem from the recently published catalogues of the Queen's printed, that great reductions were to be made, and the books still to be kept up to that standard, below which the Committee could not heretofore make purchases; but the Committee did not feel it to be their duty to offer explanation or apology for that reduction. It was, however, only just to themselves and to the printer to say, that for a considerable time before the present agitation on the subject arose, the printer had been supplying the Bible Society, as large consumers, at prices below those which were now advertised as those at which the public and the trade were to be supplied. On the subject of the remarkably cheap editions now offered to the Society, the Committee had only to say, that they freely relinquished their long cherished opinions as to the standard of quality, and had placed them on the Society's list; and they rejoiced in the hope that it would contribute to a much larger distribution of the sacred volume in their own beloved land, the wants of which were still far from being supplied. The Report then detailed, at great length the foreign operations of the Society, from which it appeared that its labours had been very successful, particularly in France. The total receipts of the Society during the past year had been £101,322 9s. 2d., being 10,127 3s. 11d. less than last year; but that was accounted for by the fact, that last year legacies had been received amounting to £13,000. The amount received for sales, included in the above sum, £57,585 17s. 8d., leaving for

general purposes £42,742 12s. 5d. The total expenditure amounted to £132,934 18s. 9d., being larger by £10,000 than on any former year. There had been issued during the past year 900,912 copies of the Sacred Scriptures, making a total, since the establishment of the Society, of more than 13 millions, which, added to the issues on the continent of Europe, and in America, made a grand total of more than 22 millions.

## PICTURE OF IDOLATRY.

MR. SUTTON, a Missionary in India, writes thus:—"I saw many pilgrims, and many of them the most miserable objects that can be imagined. One or two particularly attracted my attention; one was a blind old man, wasted away to such a degree, that with his sunken sightless eyes, he formed a very striking resemblance to the picture of death; another was an old woman, with tottering steps and emaciated body, bending her course to a home which it is next to impossible she can ever reach. Others were young men who had performed a pilgrimage of perhaps 1000, or 1500 miles, and now, naked and starving, and exhausted with fatigue, they are slowly retracing their weary way. Most of them are worn out with walking, and their feet so blistered and torn, that they are obliged to bind them up with the only piece of cloth they have, to enable them to prosecute their journey at all. And what is the fruit of all this toil? Why, they have a picture of Juggernaut, such as you have seen in England, suspended round their necks, and two or three little sticks coloured with red ochre, to take home, if they ever reach it, as a memorial of their pilgrimage.

"We have now travelled about fifty miles along the great road to Juggernaut, and every where it is alike full of pilgrims passing to and from that accursed thing. O that I could describe in proper language, the miseries of its wretched votaries. But the accounts would scarcely be believed in America, and here they are unnoticed. Many are blind, who go to obtain holiness by approaching the vile block; one of this description lies now at the door of our tents, at the foot of a tree. What a poor wretch he is! He is perpetually crying, 'Give me some food—I die, I die—my body is shrivelled up, my feet are broken, and my substance is passing away with the cholera. Ah Boba, Boba, I am a blind Padre, and have nobody to help me. Here I am come four months journey to visit Juggernaut, and he gave me nothing but sorrow. What can I do? Ram, Ram, Ram, O Juggernaut!' I have now given him a rupee and some rice, and put him in the road; and now, afflicted and alone, he is gone, groping his forlorn way, blind in body and soul. But this is not a solitary case. I think I have noticed ten blind pilgrims in these four days journeying, and I cannot be supposed to have seen a fourth of the pilgrims on the road. The majority of those who return, go labouring along with tottering steps, and broken feet, and bended backs, and a death-like emaciated frame, heaving, and sighing, and groaning all the way. Oh, idolatry!"

## AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

It is stated in the *Commercial Advertiser*, that at the monthly meeting of the managers, last Thursday, it was resolved, on request of Dr. Howe, of Boston, and others, to stereotype and publish the New Testament and the Book of Psalms, in raised letters, for the use of the blind.

To complete this work, and to meet the numerous calls for the Scriptures, in various tongues, from foreign countries, it was found that \$52,000 at least, would be required. It was determined, therefore, after mature deliberation, to attempt to collect the above sum (aside from the ordinary operations at home) in the course of the twenty-sixth year, not doubting that the friends of the Bible, when they come to learn the urgency of these calls, will cheerfully assist in meeting them.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Baptist General Convention sustains eleven missions to the Indians; eight in Asia, and three in Europe; employing 192 Missionaries and assistants, 98 of whom were sent from the United States.