

consider it necessary for their health. Of course with our knowledge that these drinks are never necessary for health, except perhaps in some rare case as a medicine, we regret this last exception; but incomplete as the measure is, it will unquestionably abolish, in a great measure, the drinking usages which have so long and disastrously obtained among the French Canadian people, and diminish, to a very great extent, the quantity of liquor consumed.

The Rev. P. PHELAN's Society now numbers about 3000 members, and continues to increase.

An excellent meeting took place at Quebec on the 13th ultimo, at which the Rev. Mr. CAGHEY delivered an address, and an addition of sixty members was obtained to the Total Abstinence Society. Some of these new members are likely to be very efficient, being Doctors and heads of large works and establishments. The hall of the House of Assembly was kindly granted for the occasion by the Governor General.

A public temperance meeting took place in the Congregational Chapel of this city, on the evening of the 26th ult., when a respectable, though not numerous, audience was addressed by our old friend, Mr. ALEX. CAMERON, now of Bury, Eastern Townships, and the Rev. J. T. BYRNE, of L'Orignal. The lecture delivered by the last named gentleman was a very complete and masterly exposition of the claims of Temperance Societies, chiefly addressed to the young.

In answer to numerous applications for *Bacchus* and *Anti-Bacchus*, we have to state that the Committee of the Montreal Temperance Society will either import a considerable number of copies of these works, to sell at the cost price, or publish editions of one or both of them here: it being deemed a matter of great importance to procure for these excellent and standard works a wide circulation.

There is still on hand an assortment of Teetotal tracts for sale at cost price. A large supply of medals, and a quantity of pure unfermented wine, have also been ordered, which will no doubt arrive by the spring vessels.

Orders for tracts, medals, or pure unintoxicating wine, may be addressed to Mr. JOHN DOUGALL, Montreal.

We have been favoured with a copy of the Canada Spelling Book by A. DAVIDSON, Toronto. This book appears to us to be better adapted for schools in this country than any other we have seen; and we may notice, as a pleasing evidence of the progress of our cause, that part of it is devoted to Temperance. We trust that the author will be more explicit in the next edition upon the duty of total abstinence from *all that can intoxicate*.

We have also received a copy of the excellent Discourse, "On the Principles of Strict Temperance," by the Rev. W. SCOTT, of the Wesleyan Church, which we formerly noticed as about to be published in Toronto.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Interesting Reports from M. McDONALD, Clarenceville, and D. J. McDONALD, Sombra, in our next.

## PROGRESS OF THE REFORMATION.

### THE MARCH OF TEMPERANCE.

By the *Acadia* we have received London and Dublin papers as late as the 28th November. The temperance cause in England, Scotland and Ireland, is still onward. Father Mathew has visited Dublin for the third time, and taken 40,000 pledges, a greater

proportion than usual, from the higher classes. At Castlerea he had taken 65,000, and in Ulster County he had been received with the greatest enthusiasm. His army of teetotallers now numbers over three millions. In Dublin an offer of £1000 had been made him, but he would not accept of it. A member of the Society of Friends in England had requested him to draw on him for £1000 to promote the cause of temperance, but he had declined doing it. A gentleman from London offered £500 to bring him to London, this he refused, saying, that to the Providence of God, and not to human aid, must he look for the furtherance of the cause.—**SMITHFIELD PENITENTIARY IS CLOSED!**—There was no longer any pretext for keeping it open. The steady declension of commitments to Richmond Bridewell—twelve hundred this year less than last—has left a hundred cells empty. Here is one of the many savings arising from temperance: the *Citizens of Dublin are relieved of the entire expense of one prison*.

Father Mathew had been to Cork to see the violators of the pledge, who had told him that they were compelled to give up their pledge or their employment.

A simultaneous prayer meeting was to be held for the Temperance cause through the West of Scotland, on the last Sabbath evening of the year.—*Journal of American Temperance Union.*

**DECREASE OF CRIME IN IRELAND.**—Our readers have frequently, of late, perused observations delivered by Irish judges on their circuits, on the lightness of the calendars. But in order that the great moral revolution which has taken place in Ireland may be correctly appreciated, we communicate the following account of the homicides in that country, taken from the constabulary returns:

	1838.	1839.	1840.
January ...	24	17	6
February ...	26	20	12
March ...	8	17	12
April ...	22	17	8
May ...	11	21	13
June ...	25	19	* 8
July ...	19	14	10
	141	125	69

These particulars may be implicitly relied on. We have selected homicides, because the Irish have been so often reproached with their proneness to crimes of violence. But the decrease has taken place in crime in general.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Not less than three or four hundred books have been opened in the Cork Savings Bank, since the spread of temperance there. By laying up money in that manner, they would have but little need of poor laws or work houses. By becoming teetotallers, the people would, in fact, constitute poor law societies among themselves. Then, neither the aged father nor mother of a teetotaller would be under the heart-rending necessity of applying for admission to a work house.—*Temperance Almanac.*

**GREENOCK TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.**—The fourth annual meeting of this Society was held in the Relief Church, on Monday evening last. Previously to the business of the meeting, the Rev. Dr. Ritchie, of Edinburgh, delivered a long and very impressive sermon from Isaiah chap. v., verses 11 and 22, in which he ably advocated temperance principles. At its close, the Rev. Andrew Gilmour, the president of the Society, took the chair. As usual, he opened the meeting with prayer, and called on Mr. J. S. Bowman, secretary, to read the last year's report of the Society. It appeared from this, that, during last year, 1400 have joined the Society, independently of many Catholics who have joined their own Temperance Association, which now numbers 1540; and, from pretty accurate data which have been obtained by visiting committees, it has been ascertained that there are about 5000 staunch tee-totalers in Greenock.—*Greenock Advertiser*, 27th Nov.

The "Albany Catholic Total Abstinence Association," of which the Rev. J. A. Schneller is President, has exceeded any other instrumentality brought to bear on the capital of the state, the past