

call "The Victoria Temperance Society," which held its first meeting last evening, with a gratifying prospect of success.—With our fellow-members in this vicinity, we wish the temperance reformation an universal influence.—*Christian Guardian.*

TEMPERANCE IN OHIO.—The cause of Temperance is still progressing in Ohio. The Washingtonians are at work, and their labours seem every where attended with success. The *Hooking Valley Gazette*, contains a letter from a correspondent at Columbus, Ohio, from which we extract the following paragraph:—"Nearly every toper in Columbus is reformed; one man, who 3 months ago was a drunken sot, drank up all his earnings, and his wife and children had not been to church for two years for want of decent clothing, came to the temperance meeting and brought all his family with him comfortably dressed. Bringing his children forward to the light, he called on all his drunken comrades to look; says he, you never saw my children before with a shoe on their feet or a *dud* on their back sufficient to cover their nakedness; now see how comfortably they are clothed; see how comfortable my wife looks; she is not ashamed of me now.—God bless her—I am proud of her. When he named his children's shoes, a little girl close by spoke out, 'See, me got new shoes, m'a got a new shawl, and Mr. —, is making Will a new coat.' The scene was most affecting."

CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor drink wine, nor do any thing by which thy brother is made to stumble, or to fall, or is weakened."—Rom. xiv. 21.—*Macnight's Translation.*

MONTREAL, JUNE 15, 1842.

HIGHLAND HOSPITALITY.

Many persons, especially Scotchmen of Highland origin, look back with reverence to the practices of their forefathers. The writings of many of their countrymen have contributed to these feelings, and have invested the drinking customs of their ancestors with a glory and romance which are entirely lost in viewing the reality. Nor are the inhabitants of this section of Great Britain single in their admiration of ancient manners. How often are the "days of good Queen Bess" alluded to with high approval, or "the fine Old English Gentleman" held up for admiration. To convey a just notion of ancient manners with respect to the use of liquor is the object of this article, and to prove that the usages of our forefathers, stripped of the false glare which the poet or novelist has thrown over them, were as injurious to their happiness, degrading to their state as intelligent beings, and as sinful in the eye of God, as are drinking habits at the present day. In a subsequent number, we purpose referring to the manners of Southern Britain in the "olden time;" the present notice alludes to their countrymen in the north, whose usage of the more potent stimulants, was scarcely more degrading and pernicious than that of the ale and beer with which the intemperance of England was more particularly allied.

The following statements are taken from a pamphlet written by a Minister of the Church of Scotland, giving an account of the state of religion and morals in the Isle of Skye, previous to the year 1805. They show a deplorable state of things, and must convince any unprejudiced mind, that the use of intoxicating liquor leads to every thing that is evil in a community.

"Assemblies for dancing," says the author, "were frequent among them, and as they were accompanied with the drinking of ardent spirits to excess, they almost invariably ended in quarrels and scuffles. Nothing can serve to give a clearer idea of the extent to which the vice of drunkenness abounded among them, than a description of the barbarous manner in which their funerals were conducted. Some were free enough to acknowledge, that they experienced delight at hearing of the death of a man or woman, because of the prospect it afforded them of getting their

fill of whiskey; the friends of the deceased were particularly anxious to solemnize the funeral with a great feast. This was what they called burying their deceased friend with decency. Hence they wasted, not only unnecessarily, but most wantonly, a great quantity of liquor and victuals on those occasions. This woeful and barbarous practice was so general and of so long standing, that persons, when arrived at old age, manifested a great anxiety to lay by a certain sum of money against their funeral. And upon their death-beds, while indifferent about the state of their souls, they would not forget to order matters regarding their funeral; often expressing, that they could not be happy, unless men were drunk and fought at their funerals. Their surviving relations would not neglect to attend to their dying requests. For honour's sake, this barbarous custom must be complied with.—Not to do so was incurring much disgrace. Hence many who were poor in circumstances, in order to attend to it, ran themselves deep into debt, which some of them were never able to discharge. Surely it was a spectacle calculated to awaken deep regret in the bosom of an enlightened and benevolent Christian, to behold the distressed widow in the most destitute circumstances, going without shoes or head-dress, with six, seven, or eight ragged and starving children; while, perhaps, her only cow must be disposed of, to procure whiskey to make her neighbours drunk, and fight one another. Although the people, on other occasions, would walk twenty or thirty miles without either food or drink, yet, at funerals, the persons assembled must be treated to excess, though the place of interment should not be a mile distant.—Scores of men must be invited, and every man served with four or even five glasses of strong whiskey, and some food, before they moved. Horse-loads of bread and cheese, dressed fowls, beef, and whiskey, went along with them to the burying-ground. The funeral procession marched in good humour, preceded by a piper, to the place of interment. When the corpse was laid in the grave, a papistical cross was drawn with a spade upon the breast of the coffin, to render the deceased blessed. When the grave was secured, they sat down in some convenient place in the open air, but not unfrequently in the church, when the minister happened to be so generous as to grant his permission. The feasting then commenced. The rulers of the feast were always most pressing in their liberality. A number of uninvited persons were sure to make their appearance; they were served separately. Bread and beef were tossed in the air, that they might alight among boys, to produce scuffling among them, to the no small amusement of the assembly, and to the great honour of the deceased. As the drinking advanced, they became wildly obstreperous and tumultuous, so that the clamour might be heard at a great distance.—When the day was far spent, and the excessive drinking of ardent spirits had produced general intoxication, fighting and bloodshed ensued. The men of different clans would form themselves into parties and would furiously attack each other. Many would be so overcome with drunkenness, that they could not move. The grosser the transactions of the day, it was considered the more honourable, and a more lasting monument to the memory of the deceased who was buried on that day. At a gentleman's funeral, five or six ankers of whiskey would perhaps be consumed. Most of the ministers would countenance this barbarous custom with their presence, and none of them ever made any vigorous effort to suppress and abolish it."

THE USE OF INTOXICATING DRINKS, IN NURSING CHILDREN.

The practice of nursing-women employing habitually porter, beer, and especially ardent spirits, in order to afford them strength and supply milk, cannot be too strongly reprobated. Not to mention the danger of the mother herself acquiring habits of intemperance, there is much fear that the health of the child may be affected, and a taste for alcoholic stimulants imbibed. It is well known that the milk of the nurse is much influenced by the food and medicine she takes. The infant can be purged by the medicine taken by the nurse, and is there not the same certainty of the tender and susceptible frame of the infant being injuriously affected by the intoxicating drinks used by her? A nutritious diet will be amply sufficient to sustain a woman while nur-