

who do employ them as drinks. Compare them in point of health, ability to endure fatigue, and duration of life, and the balance is greatly in favor of the total abstainers.

In the State of Massachusetts—of which I am a citizen—we have two counties, in which the effects of the two opposite systems have been exhibited for a number of years. Barnstable County, through the action of its County Commissioners,—who have the power of granting or refusing licenses with us, put an end to the legalized traffic in strong drink; and the law against the unlicensed traffic has been as sternly enforced in that county as in any portion of the country. What now is the result?—

Why, Sir, the last news I had from that quarter, the jail of Barnstable County contained *one man*. A few years since, a judge of the county courts visited that county to hold a session for the trial of criminal cases, and found himself, to be sure, in a very curious dilemma. His Honor was ready for the discharge of his duty; the lawyers were ready; and the juries were ready; what now could delay proceedings? Sir, there was not a criminal to come before them! The judge, therefore, took occasion to address the assembled citizens of the county; paid the county a deserved and handsome compliment for its freedom from crime, its increasing intelligence and morality, and expressed his ardent hope for their continued progress in excellence. He then addressed the jury for a few moments in a most happy manner, and closed by expressing his hope for their pleasant and safe return to the bosom of their families; and then, sir, he dismissed the jury. Thus closed the criminal court for that county *without a criminal*.

Now, Sir, in another county, Hampden, the license system was continued until 1850, when the people, having become heartily sick of it, went to the polls and elected a Board of Commissioners who would not grant licenses. For ten years, however, Hampden granted license to grog sellers, while Barnstable refused so to do. What were the results? Instead of its jail being empty, like that of Barnstable, it had to be enlarged twice within the brief space of five years, at a very heavy expense to the county; and a considerable portion of the money was, of course, drawn from the pockets of Temperance men, who, though they had nothing to do with the sale or use of strong drink, had nevertheless to pay the bills of that infamous system. The Doctor then went on to show that it was an expensive system; and stated that from the most reliable statistics he could obtain, he was driven to the conclusion that not less than one-eighth part of all the labor performed by man had in many parts of the world been wasted on the support of this worse than useless system. He referred to the famine in Ireland, and to the fact, that while England and America were sending bread to the starving poor, heartless wretches in some parts of that island were working up into intoxicating liquors hundreds of bushels of grain daily.

He admirably sustained the position he had assumed in the discourse, by a great variety of facts and illustrations.

In addition to the other features of the system which he had sketched in the commencement of the series, he brought out in a forcible manner the fact that the system had secured to itself a degree of impunity by the very extent and variety of its mischievous results; and the additional fact that it is a system that with all our talk about regulation, was never regulated, and from its nature never can be, for it is itself an irregularity.

We, in the foregoing, only sketch a few of the points of a discourse which occupied in its delivery an hour and a half, and was listened to with the most marked attention.

Temperance Visitor and Tract Distributor in Montreal.

The Montreal Temperance Society having, in accordance with the recommendation adopted at their recent Anniversary Meeting engaged the services of a Temperance Visitor and Tract Distributor, are happy to present the following as an abstract of his first week's labor, as reported by himself:—

Feb. 9.—St. Antoine and Mountain Streets, and vicinity, delivered in nearly as many different houses, 120 tracts. Was told in one genteel house not to call again.

Feb. 10.—St. Antoine and Craig Streets,—distributed 244 tracts.

At a manufactory they tramped the tracts in the dirt, calling me all sorts of vile names. It was an old man who shewed the example to the others; I was glad to get away without further abuse. I thought the old man had a deal to answer for; instead of giving them good advice, he was leading those apprentices astray by his bad example."

Feb. 11.—Beaver Hall, Bleury Street, &c., 240 tracts distributed, generally well received.

At a house in ——— street, the Mrs. told me if her husband was in he would beat me. I said I was very glad he was out."

Feb. 12.—St. Lawrence Suburbs: 195 tracts distributed, generally well received.

Feb. 13.—St. Lawrence Suburbs: 200 tracts distributed, well received.

A blacksmith invited me into his shop to talk with his men, but none would sign the pledge."

Feb. 14.—At St. Charles Barronmce and Main Streets, 140 tracts left.

I have not seen any appearance of drunkenness in any of the places visited this week.

THOS. THOMPSON.

Important Meeting in Galt.

We thank Mr R. McLean for his attention in sending us an account of the above meeting, though it came too late for the present number of the *Advocate*. He says:—A meeting was held in the Free Church in this place, on Thursday evening last, Feb. 12th, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament to enact a law similar to the Maine liquor law. The meeting was a public one, and the largest evening meeting ever held in Galt. No amendments were offered, and the resolutions passed by sweeping majorities.—From an experience of thirteen years' working in the temperance movement, I am persuaded that nothing will ever banish the curse of drunkenness from the land but a total interdiction of the manufacture and sale of all kinds of intoxicating drinks,—the accomplishment of which is certain, and that, too, at no very distant day. Let us only keep in view the glorious results that are sure to flow from the prohibition of the accursed traffic in these body-killing and soul-destroying drinks, and our hands shall be strengthened and our hearts encouraged in the labor of love and mercy in which we are engaged. Let us act in the concluding words of Rev. Mr Bayne's speech:—"The flag has been unfurled—let it not be lowered till success has crowned the battle; the sword has been drawn—let it not be returned to the scabbard until it can be sheathed amidst shouts of victory."

Galt has shown a noble example; let it be followed all over the country, and what is to hinder the enactment of a law similar to that of the Maine liquor law?

At the meeting of Montreal District Tent held on Friday evening, Feb. 13th, in the Rechabite Hall, Great St. James street, the following officers were duly installed by the installing officer:—J. S. Hall, D. P. C. R.; W. R. Tabb, D. C. R.; Joseph Currihan D. D. R.; Henry Jackson, D. R. S.; Wm. Hodgson, D. F. S.; James Gill, D. Treas.; James Foote, D. L. Any communications addressed to the Tent's box, 51, P. O., will be duly attended to.