

existence, of 229 members, as follows.—Expelled, 29; withdrawn, 10; removed, 165; died, 23; dropped, 3; leaving 392, nearly all of whom are members good and true. It may be well here to remark, that nearly, if not quite, all the members of our Society who have ceased to work and live, died in peace with God, and many of them in joyous triumphs of faith. No orthodox Christian will presume to say that the most warm-hearted, zealous advocate of the temperance cause, is fit for the kingdom of heaven without the converting grace of God. But this much I am bold to affirm, that those who, from a consciousness of duty, subscribe to and practise the principle of total abstinence, are far more likely to be converted to God, and to persevere to the end, than those who still continue, however moderately, to partake of the intoxicating poison. The contrast between the deaths of those who have been taken from our Society, and the deaths of the devotees of Bacchus, are encouraging to the friends of our good cause still to persevere in their truly patriotic and benevolent work; and while we mourn over the unhappy end of the miserable votaries of strong drink, we rejoice that so many have been saved from a drunkard's grave, and been enabled, through the instrumentality of the temperance reformation, to lie down in peace upon the bed of death. We have held four meetings during the past year, at which we received respectively the following number of signatures, viz., 9, 10, 5, and 52; in all, 76. The last meeting was held in a place hitherto almost impervious to the influence of temperance principles, and at the close of an interesting and important revival of religion. It has frequently been the case that revivals of religion have followed the adoption of total abstinence in different localities, and temperance has often been the harbinger of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and conversions to God. But in this instance the scene was changed; the ministers of the Gospel laboured in the spirit of faith; their labours were abundantly blessed; and those who received the truth in the love of it, saw at once the necessity of guarding against the insidious attacks of rum, and, as their only safeguard, gave their names to the temperance pledge, and banished the enemy of their morals and happiness from their houses. This is as it should be. The church should be the first to move in this important matter. But she has been fearfully remiss in this department of her duty. Ministers of the Gospel have not only refused to adopt the principle of total abstinence, but in many instances have stood in the way of the temperance reformation, and thus assumed a responsibility which it is fearful to contemplate. But I am happy to know that the preachers of some churches are generally exempt from this charge. This Society is among the first established in this part of Canada, and its course has been steadily onwards. We have more or less opposition and difficulties, in common with other kindred associations, to combat with and overcome; but, until this winter, this locality has not been cursed with those moral pestilences, drunkenness, or would-be public houses, for the accommodation of the travelling community. Seldom was a human being, shorn of his strength and reason by the use of intoxicating drinks, seen in our peaceful little village, until an apostate from our Society and his own former professed principles, and another individual, applied for, and obtained, from our rum-loving magistrates, a "License to sell wines and other spirituous liquors." Drunkenness, brawls, profanity, and quarrels, are now no uncommon occurrence. Surely the vendors of intoxicating drinks will have a fearful account to render, when inquisition shall be made for blood. Notwithstanding so many obstacles thrown in the way, our cause is not receding, but steadily and successfully advancing; and I expect to live to see the day when those sinks of vice, and foun-

tains of immorality and crime, in view of which I write, will be converted into abodes of virtue and peace, and their proprietors become virtuous, useful members of the community, and employ their time and means to a better purpose. With my best wishes for your success, and the universal spread, not only of temperance, but of every virtue, I remain yours, &c.—H. W. BLANCHARD, Sec.

WHITBY, MARCH 16.—You will, perhaps, be rather surprised to receive, at this late period, a Report of the present state of the Whitby Temperance Association, and of its progress during the past year. But in consequence of circumstances, not necessary to be mentioned, the annual meeting of the Association was deferred until the 2nd instant, when it took place in the Rev. Mr. Thornton's Brick Chapel, at the hour of Twelve o'clock; for receiving reports, appointing officers, and general transaction of business; the President of the Association, Rev. R. H. Thornton, in the chair; and in the absence of the Secretary, Mr. L. C. Thomas, acted as Secretary, pro tem.; who, after the reappointment of the Rev. Mr. Thornton as President, was also appointed Secretary and Treasurer of the Association for the current year. The meeting was large and interesting, being composed of many of the most respectable from all parts of the Township, who were entertained with delightful Temperance Odes, sung at intervals, in a most enchanting manner, by a band of juvenile singers from the different branches of the Association in various parts of the Township, under the instruction and superintendence of Mr. D. Cory. We were also favoured with brief, but able addresses, from different individuals; one of whom, the Rev. Mr. Cremin, presented and read a report of Nine meetings, held in nine several divisions of the Township Association by himself, during the last two weeks previous to this meeting, having been employed by the Association as Agent. After this some resolutions were carried, and the officers chosen for the current year. You are probably aware that this Township is divided into ten different divisions, or regular organized Societies united in one, and known as the "Whitby Township Association for the suppression of Intemperance," under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Thornton; each division reporting annually to the general secretary of the Association. The Association is also required by the constitution to meet quarterly for the purpose of hearing lectures, reading essays, and hearing reports from the several branches, &c. These quarterly meetings have been all attended to, I believe, during the past year, and with very good results; but in consequence of no records having been kept of these meetings by the secretary, I am not able to give you the details. By the constitutions of the several branches, as well as by the general constitution, every division is also required to hold monthly meetings, which have in some divisions been very strictly attended to, as I see by the reports lying before me, especially in division No 7, in the Village of Brooklin, as may be seen by the following extract from the report of said division, to the secretary of the Association: "We are happy to inform you that since our last Annual Report, our Society has not only been increasing in numbers, but the friends of the cause in general have been, and still are, manifesting an increasing interest in this great and noble enterprise. During the past year there have been held in this division eleven regular monthly meetings of the Society, and eight regular meetings of the Committee, the most of which have been well attended. Our Society now numbers 288, showing an increase of 58 since our last report." Some time in the month of July, I think, we had a grand Pic-nic; than which, a greater display of sociality and friendship, perhaps was never made; an account of which was published in the *Advocate* not many weeks