

Again, it will naturally be supposed that the free use of liquor in Montreal is a principal cause of its extreme mortality; the Catholic rural population being peculiarly sober in their habits. How great is the effect of drinking on health, the two following classes of facts will testify. The first is from an analysis of the books of eleven Sick Clubs in the town of Preston, Lancashire; of which 8 were open to all, and three were restricted to teetotalers. They are each corrected to a scale of 1,000 members.

Average of Preston Benefit Societies.	Number of members sick.	Average time of sickness.	Total weeks sick.	Cost to the Club.
Temperance clubs,	139	3 wks. 2 ds.	458	\$1013
General clubs,	233	7 " 4 "	1770	\$4012

The second is extracted from the "Journal de Société de la Morale Chrétienne" for Aug. 1847. The testimony is very accurately ascertained, and gives a comparison of *strong country labourers* where liquor was distributed, with *sickly inhabitants of towns* where the drink money was expended on better food. Both parties were employed on government work. In the country districts of Holstein, Mecklenbourg, Oldenbourg, and Hanôvre, *where drink was given*, out of 20,952 labourers employed, 472 became sick, or one out of every 44. Whereas out of 7107 labourers from the towns of Brunswick, Oldenbourg, and the Hanseboroughs, *to whom drink was not supplied*, there were only 70 sick, or one out of every 90.

But the deaths in towns do not so much result directly from drinking, as is shown by comparing Montreal with Toronto and Ottawa, where drinking was just as much followed, and yet the mortality continued low. The usual effect of liquor is to weaken the constitution of its votaries, and thus render them an easy prey to the various forms of town disease, which abstainers are frequently able to avoid or at least to throw off.

The early exposure of infants by Catholic parents, for baptismal purposes, has also been assigned as a cause for the extreme mortality of Montreal. But this cause will affect, to an equal or even greater extent, the adjacent or rural districts; whereas, out of every 100 deaths in Montreal, 43 are of children under 5 years of age; in the country only 37: while in the Protestant cities of Upper Canada, the mortality is much greater, varying from 47 to 56. In England the fourth column of the original table furnishes a very exact guide to the amount of preventible mortality. In Canada there appear anomalies which would perhaps be explained