

Temperance Notes.



**G**RANK GOD the Church of Christ is not asleep respecting the evils of intemperance and the necessity of wide awake temperance legislation for remitting the sale and traffic of intoxicating drinks. But there are not a few half-hearted so-called temperance men, who think that men should have liberty and opportunity to drink if they will. Forgetful that the will to drink is too often but the outcome of a depraved taste, a morbid appetite, engendered and fed by the temptations and baneful frequency of places licensed to sell ALES, WINES and BEERS, to be drunk on the premises. We rejoice that before the House dissolved they passed a measure, which if actively enforced, and enforced it must and should be, will do much to hamper and limit the sale of intoxicating drinks by limiting the number of the places of sale in Halifax and otherwise restricting the sale. But alas, the liberty is yet a hundredfold too great. And all who desire to keep others from temptation, should sustain the new law and make it operative, and at the same time by educative and other measures prepare the people for active prohibition. Drink is a waster of means, and what is far more precious, the lives and souls of men. Why think of the enormous expenditure for the national drink bill. It being equal to the nation's expenditure for bread, butter, and cheese; is not far short of rents paid for farms and houses in the United Kingdom; is three times the amount spent for tea, sugar, coffee, and cocoa, and is six times the amount of our expenditure on linen and cotton goods.

Dawson Burns, D.D., F.S.S., thus writes upon this subject of this great waste and waster:—"The effects of diverting the national drink money into other channels would be, in every form, nationally beneficial.

First of all, disease and death, crime, pauperism, vice, lunacy, disease, family misery, and industrial disorganization caused by strong drink would disappear.

Another effect would be increased comfort and improvement of the population by the augmented purchase of food, clothes, furniture, books, pictures, and all things conducive to the best enjoyment of all classes and the development of better manners and morals—in other words, of a more civilized condition of society.

A third effect would be the stimulation of productive industry by the increased demand for articles of wearing and household utility; and also the greater accumulation of national wealth by the investment of a considerable portion of the savings from drink in societies and institutions whose funds are employed in adding to the property and developing the resources of the nation.

A fourth effect would be the encouragement of those educational, benevolent, and religious agencies which are among the chief factors of a pure and progressive national life. This effect would, in reality, be double; for while the withdrawal of this drink money would abate very largely the evils which philanthropy and religion seek to combat, the power of the latter for good would be proportionately increased against the still remaining evils."

**Do you smoke? Why this waste? Could not this constant leakage be stopped, and if you did not smoke could you not afford for yourself and family**

various other little comforts and indulgences more beneficial to yourself and family? Is not smoking selfish, and wasteful of time, health and money? Could you not give more to God's cause if you condensed, or rather saved your smoke? *It costs. Does it pay?* The Customs duty on tobacco is three shillings and sixpence a pound, or forty-two pence—that is, fourteen times the price of the cheaper tobacco, or 1,400 per cent. The duty paid on tobacco amounts to nine millions sterling. The whole of the revenue raised in the year ending last April from customs duties, excise duties, and all other taxes, amounted to £76,860,000. Towards this aggregate tobacco contributed nine millions or nearly one-eighth of the whole. The expenditure on the navy for the same year was £11,738,661. It thus appears that the tobacco used in the United Kingdom goes a very long way towards defraying the entire cost of the navy. The smokers must therefore be regarded as an important class of taxpayers.

**BUDS AND BLOSSOMS.**—Cash has come in very slowly—not equal to expenditure. Just when faith was most tested we had a special evidence that the Lord can and will provide. No money letters for a week, then the post brought a P. O. O. for nine shillings and nine pence from the Shingay mission, on the west coast of Africa, for two subscriptions; also two dollars from Florida. Who could doubt with supplies from such far off places? Surely the Lord liveth, and will provide, even though it must come from the ends of the earth. Rev. W. Swaffield has interested friends in B. & B., and the result has been within a few months over fifty new subscribers. One brother writes from Digby: "You are certainly the most uncomplaining man I ever met. I could not spare it sooner." We wish some who think us unreasonable in expecting payment for B. & B. to compare notes; then we think they will cry and pay us as soon as they can. If we had the \$150 due on last year's account it would be a great help. One dear friend, a son in the gospel, writes: "In sending my subscription I must acknowledge the great good I have received in reading its valuable pages, for it always inspires me with greater zeal and activity to work more faithfully for the Master, and to be more earnest in his cause. I am glad to notice its growing circulation because of its power to impart good to others. I am very glad to hear that the Tabernacle is to be completed. To you it must be a source of great satisfaction to know that after all those years of patient toil and unselfish devotion in the Master's work he has crowned your labors with many souls, and is now about to give you another of the desires of your heart. C. C. COVEY, Boston.

"P. S. I enclose \$5. Deduct and use balance as you see fit."

**Home Circle.**

During the month with the committee we have been busy in getting out the plans for the Tabernacle superstructure. Mr. Sellon has shown no small interest in executing the plans, manifesting a desire to see exhibit details to save expense and meet some of our new and original ideas.

The front of the building whilst plain, having no needless expenditure for towers and spires, is at the same time massive and noble in appearance, being neat and adapted for its pur-