

self-privation of abstaining from muddling my brain by any intoxicating liquor whatever. On the one hand there is human and paternal and christian duty; on the other hand, there is mere self, self, self.—And mind! there is no middle course. That has been tried long and often enough. Again, therefore, I say, which of the two shall I choose?

The above has had the desired effect upon the very first person to whom it was presented by the writer.

Extract from a Speech of Mr. Stubbin, London.

Let us turn to the Sandwich Islands. There a Society was established on the American principle of neither using nor giving or offering. Its constitution, as literally translated by the Rev. C. Stewart, a missionary there, was as follows:—

STYLE, &c.—A Company to put out the drinking of rum—This our thought by which we are alike.

PLEDGE.—1. Not we to drink rum for pleasure—2. Not we to buy rum for property—3. Not we to make rum—Not we to give drink of rum to relations, neighbours, or strangers, without the direction of the doctor not drinking—Not we to give rum to a company during work for their work.

It is only necessary to observe that rum was almost the only intoxicating liquor with which these simple and otherwise happy islanders were acquainted, and that the effect of parting with rum was equivalent to introducing teetotalism. They had, doubtless, (like other nations) their courtesies and hospitalities, which were intimately connected with it; and against which the fourth section of the pledge was levelled. There existed, also, the same habits as in civilized society, of encouraging, by drink, the labouring part of the community to the performance of their ordinary work, or of bribing them to extra exertion. Yet, with one stroke, they cut them off at once, resolving neither to drink rum themselves, nor to give it to their relations, neighbours, or strangers, except under the direction of a tee-total doctor; nor to give it to their workmen. The result is stated in the 4th American Report in 1831. "Numerous villages, whose inhabitants, a few years ago, were, as a body, often intoxicated for days together, have not now an individual in them who uses any thing that intoxicates;" and drunkenness has since been put an end to—the manufacture, sale, and importation of ardent spirits being prohibited by law. If my countrymen are not too haughty or self-sufficient to take a lesson of improvement from a tribe of uncultivated savages, they might here learn what might be done by a comprehensive remedy unflinchingly applied, and pursued with a single-mindedness and simplicity of purpose, which I am fearful is scarcely to be found in any perfection amidst the refinements and sophistries of civilization.

Letters to the Editor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

"*Ev'n vain dreams sport not themselves in vain.*"—YOUNG.

SIR,—Some years ago, a certain drunkard, going away on a journey, went to a *grog-shop*, and filled his bottle, which contained about two quarts. His road lay through some clearings which had been recently prepared for burning. As he went, he now and then tasted the contents of his bottle, and soon became so much intoxicated that he could proceed no farther. He lay down on the roadside to sleep; and, as chance, or Providence would have it, he lay down at the side of a pile of brushwood which had just been drawn together in order to be burned. The poison which he had swallowed soon threw him into a profound sleep; but, in a dream, his conscience began to upbraid him for the wicked life which he had led, summoned him to the bar of God, and pronounced over him the irrevocable doom. He dreamed that he was in the *arc of hell*, and it may be conceived therefore that his feelings were not of the most enviable kind.

In the meantime the farmers had set fire to all the brush which lay upon the clearing; and, as the drunkard's dream was proceeding, the fire reached the pile at which he lay. The agony of his mind, together with the roaring of the flames, awoke him; and when he opened his eyes he saw nothing but *fire!* For a moment he thought his dream was a reality; at the same time he made an involuntary

effort to escape, and as he had been lying at the very edge of the clearing, his escape was easily effected; but the impression made upon his mind was indelible; from that day forward he never tasted any intoxicating drink. May all drunkards be led to do the same; for the reality of their condition is terrible enough, without any darker colouring from fancy in a dream. T. O.

THE FIRST FRUIT OF THE DISTILLERY.

B——, September 24, 1838.

SIR,—Not many months since a distillery was erected in the vicinity of ———. Scarcely, however, had it gone into operation when a labourer, a quiet inoffensive man, who resided with his widowed mother in the country during the winter, and who was her only stay and support in her declining years, came into town to resume his labour during the summer. Meeting with a fellow-labourer with whom he had formerly boarded, his friend resolved to comply with the usages on such occasions and give him a treat. He procured an order from his employer, and with his keg they both proceeded to the distillery, where they filled and drank till the clerk told them he thought they had each a pretty good load. They then started for home; but, being filled with the good creature, they naturally became very generous in treating all whom they met, and drinking with them, till it was at last with difficulty they reached home. Here, however, the good creature changed his nature and became a fury, and the result was the guest was pitched head-long into the street. Stupified with drink, and suffering with pain from internal injury he had received, he crawled to a neighbouring house, where he was kindly received. He was laid in a bed. Next day he complained of pain, but thought it the effect of intoxication. He returned in the evening to the same house, got another beating, was again thrown out, and again received by the hospitable neighbours. His illness now became so alarming that medical aid was procured; but it was in vain; he died next day. An inquest was called, and a post-mortem examination had, when it was clearly shewn the deceased came to his death in consequence of injuries he had received while in a state of intoxication, and a verdict rendered accordingly. But the scene did not end here. Two evenings afterwards, amid the pelting of a storm, I heard a female voice moaning in the street, Oh! my son! Oh! my son! They have murdered my son! I did not need to enquire who she was; her deep sorrow told it well. She had heard the story of her son's melancholy end, and had dragged her aged and weary limbs many miles, through mud and rain, in the vain hope of taking one last, lingering look of him she loved. I could not speak; consolation, could I have offered it, would but have mocked the deep anguish of her soul. I followed in silence her tottering steps to the door whence her son's mangled body, stiff in death, had been last carried out. Could the distiller have stood there one moment, and beheld the agony which he had caused, hard must have been his heart if he had not sorely repented of his doings. The tear trembled in the eyes of more than one of the few that stood around, as her last hope, that of beholding her son, was dashed from her. She could only go to his grave and weep there; but her tears, her sorrows, and complaint, were registered on high; and will be a swift witness against him who kindled those fires, of which this is most natural, though diabolical fruit, and the only fruit which it ever can yield, except that of the gratification of avarice.

AN EYE WITNESS.

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, NOVEMBER, 1838.

There is an account in the *Missionary Herald* of a conversation which took place between a traveller in Persia and one of the inhabitants of the mountainous districts called Koords.

In reply to some questions, the Koord avowed that he and his