

audacity of the liquor dealers is detrimental to the very being of law and order, as their trade itself is destructive of morals and happiness.—*New York Evangelist*.

EFFECTS OF INTEMPERANCE.

The sufferings of animal nature, occasioned by intemperance, are not to be compared with the moral agonies which convulse the soul. It is an immortal being who sins and suffers, and as his earthly house dissolves, he is approaching the Judgment-seat in anticipation of a miserable eternity. He feels his captivity, and, in anguish of spirit, clanks his chain, and cries for help. Conscience thunders, remorse goads, and, as the gulf opens before him, he recoils and trembles, and weeps, and prays, and resolves, and promises, and reforms, and "seeks it yet again!" again resolves, and weeps, and prays, and "seeks it yet again!" Wretched man! he has placed himself in the hands of a giant, who never pities, and never relaxes his iron grasp. He may struggle, but he is in chains. He may cry for release, but it comes not; and lost! lost! may be inscribed on the door-posts of his dwelling.

In the meantime these paroxysms of his dying nature decline, and a fearful apathy, the harbinger of spiritual death, comes on. His resolution fails, and his mental energy, and his vigorous enterprise; and nervous irritation and depression ensue. The social affections lose their fullness and tenderness, and conscience loses its power, and the heart its sensibility, until all that was once lovely and of good report, retires and leaves the wretch, abandoned to the appetites of a ruined animal.

In this deplorable condition, reputation expires, business falters, and becomes perplexed, and temptations to drink multiply, as inclination to do so increases, and the power of resistance declines. And now the vortex roars, and the struggling victim buffets the fiery wave, with feeble stroke, and warning application, until despair flashes upon his soul, and with an outcry that pierces the heavens, he ceases to strive, and disappears.—*Dr. Beecher*.

Progress of the Cause.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.—The Scottish League Commissioner gives the following statement respecting Glasgow:—

It was our privilege to address the weekly meeting of the "Glasgow Commercial Abstinence Society," on the evening of Tuesday the 30th November. From the first time we heard of this society we have felt specially interested in its prosperity. It has always been difficult to prevail upon mercantile men to investigate the abstinence principle, and next to impossible to induce commercial travellers to bestow even a passing glance on the subject. Not that hundreds of merchants were not brought to bankruptcy in consequence of squandering the time in the bar parlour, or at the evening toddy party, which ought to have been devoted to business; or that scores of travellers were being turned annually off "the road" from dissipation, and others, after a career of some four years, falling victims, and expiring in delirium tremens; but even in the face of such startling facts, the great majority continued to treat the temperance enterprise as a subject unworthy of notice. Now, however, the question assumes a very different aspect, and the Commercial Society has, perhaps, accomplished more good indirectly, in having given a turn to public opinion, than in the numbers who have actually become members.

After holding a few preliminary meetings, a number of friends assembled on the 16th February, 1846, when the society was instituted, regulations adopted, office-bearers appointed; and before separating, fifty individuals became members, ten of whom were commercial travellers, the others being gentlemen in business, merchants, travellers, clerks, &c. A meeting is held on Tuesday evening, in the hall, 24 Stockwell Street, for the advocacy of the principle, which is generally well attended, and has, doubtless, been productive of much good. John McGavin, the respected president, takes the chair punctually at half past eight o'clock, and after a brief introductory address, calls upon the different speakers (who are generally previously engaged) to address the people. Towards the close of the meeting a short time is spent in discussion, or parties present offering a few observations on the topics referred to by the previous speakers. We have no objection whatever to free expression of opinion, but we are far mistaken if such incoherent, and, at times, irrelevant altercation, is not productive of more harm than good. It has a tendency, we fear, to divert the attention of the audience, not only from the train of thought pursued by the parties who came prepared to speak, but from the general object of the meeting. The registrar attends every Tuesday about eight o'clock, in a room adjoining the hall, for the purpose of furnishing cards of membership to those who have purchased and filled up the requisite schedule. James Muir, the active secretary, states that 628 individuals have been enrolled since the commencement of the society, and about one hundred delinquents have been reported.—*Scottish Temperance Review*.

SOCIAL MEETINGS.—Notwithstanding the general depression of trade, and other unfavourable circumstances, the social gatherings of the friends of temperance at the close of last year, and the commencement of the present have not been less numerous and effective than on former similar occasions. We have been kindly furnished with many lengthened and interesting reports of these meetings, but want of space compels us to give them in a condensed form. At Paisley the chair was taken by Dr. Daniel Richmond, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Banks, Kennedy, and Muir; and Messrs. McGavin, Muir, and Wilson. Johnstone—Chairman, Mr. J. Maxton; Speakers, Messrs. Johnstone, Peacock, and Samuel. Stirling—Chairman, Rev. A. Russell; Speakers, Rev. Messrs. Page, Steedman, Rawson, and Muir. Hawick—Chairman, Mr. Richard Purdom; Speakers, Messrs. Easton, Douglas, and Irvine. Coatbridge—Chairman, Rev. Wm. Stirling; Speakers, Messrs. Thomson, Mitchell, McDonald, and Robertson. Uddington—Chairman, Mr. Robert Rae; Speakers, Messrs. Robertson and McDonald. Kilsyth—Speakers Messrs. Mitchell and McDonald. Balfour—Speakers, Messrs. Thomas Reid, Fairlie, Mackie, &c. Langholm—Chairman, Rev. Wm. Watson. Shotts Works—Speakers, Messrs. Walker and Hutcheson. Cambuslang—Speakers, Messrs. Ferguson, Trench, &c. Chryston—Speakers, Messrs. Wingate, Robertson, Weir, and Rae. Elgin—Chairman, Rev. John Whyte; Speakers, Rev. John Miller, and Messrs. McKay, McSween, Stewart, and Wm. Logan. Carlisle—Speakers, Messrs. Robertson and Robson. Kirkintilloch—Speakers, Messrs. Thomas