

so improved and amended the law regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors in the Province, that "all liquors found exposed for sale within one mile of any mine or mining place" can, on the warrant of any Magistrate or Clerk of License, be summarily destroyed without notice, or trial, or conviction; and also that any liquor-seller who has once been convicted of the illicit sale of intoxicating beverages is bound to prove when demanded, that he has in his possession no liquors for sale; and if he has been twice convicted all liquors found on his premises can be destroyed without notice, or trial.

Your Committee are pleased to record that great honor is due to the principal temperance organization,—viz., the Son of Temperance, the British Templars, and the Independent Order of Good Templars,—inasmuch as they were especially instrumental in bringing about this improved state of affairs, by issuing circulars and canvassing the Province for signatures to petitions to the Legislature for more stringent legislation anent the liquor traffic.

THE GIANT VICE; STARTLING CALCULATIONS

However, notwithstanding the hopeful signs of the times, your Committee are still compelled to regard the use of intoxicating liquors as the great vice of our land. The pecuniary loss to the country is most appalling. The select Committee of the House of Commons and the Senate of the Dominion, in their official report, state that in their opinion no less a sum than fifty millions of dollars (\$50,000,000) was spent last year in the Dominion, in supporting the liquor traffic. According to the official report of the Inland Revenue Department it has been calculated that the Dominion of Canada paid last year for alcoholic beverages, a sum which would have provided 20 City Churches, at \$40,000 each; 200 County Churches, at \$5000 each; 20 City Temperance Halls, at \$40,000 each; 500 County Halls, at \$3000 each; 1000 School Houses, \$1000 each; 20 Y. M. C. A. Buildings at \$40,000 each; 1000 Reading Rooms at \$500 each; 100 Libraries at \$10,000 each; 5 Universities at \$300,000 each; 20 Mercantile and Agricultural Schools, at \$10,000 each; 20 Orphan Asylums, at \$10,000; 20 Asylums for deaf-mutes and insane persons at \$100,000 each; 10,000 Mechanical and Agricultural prizes, at \$50 each; 10,000 prizes for Stock, at \$50 each; 1000 Literary prizes, at \$100 each. It would also employ 100 Temperance Lecturers at \$1000; 500 City Missionaries, at \$1000; 1000 Bible Women, at \$500; 100 Missionaries to the Heathen, at \$2000; 400 Assistant teachers, at \$1000. And it would give 3000 Clergymen \$200 additional salary; 2000 aged and infirm persons, \$200 each; and a Bible to every man, woman, and child in the Dominion of Canada.

DUTY OF CHRISTIANS.

Is it not heart-rending to think how our industrial and benevolent institutions have been defrauded during the past year, in order to pay this enormous tribute to that insatiable tyrant—ALCOHOL. And not only are these large sums lost to benevolence and philan-

thropy; but if we gaze on the other side of the picture what do we behold? How many ruined homes, how many desolated careers, how much misery, and anguish, and premature death, and vice, and crime, and brutality are painted in lines of blood on the canvass! Ought not the Church, therefore, if she is really alive to her duty, to rise in her might and shake off this terrible incubus, which is dragging humanity down into the sloughs of wretchedness and reckless impiety? As the Church of God, and as individual christians, does it not become us to diligently, use every legitimate means; and form every possible organization to remodel society, and place it on a firm basis by purging it of its social drinking customs, that the blood of the victims be not required at our hands. If the Church of Christ were to summon her united forces and make a grand rally for the suppression of the liquor traffic, your Committee are confident that great and lasting benefits would be the result of such united action. The time has fully come, we think, when christian principles should permeate, and christian influence control our politics. It is right and proper; it is the bounden duty of the Christian Church to exert her influence in every possible way to elevate the nation and promote the glory of God, to put down evil doing, and repress these pernicious drinking customs of society. It is not enough that Christian men sympathize with the cause. It wants active support, it wants more power, it wants votes. And if christian men are true to the principles which they profess, if they are as loyal to their order and profession as the liquor-seller is to his; if public spirit and true patriotism, and true religion have not ceased to be motives of action which will far outweigh self-interest, and a thirst for ill gotten gain, there can be no doubt as to what will be the issue of such an effort.

St. Paul says of professing christians "None of us liveth to himself." True religion teaches us that we should care for our brother and live to do him good. The christian lives not merely to promote his own interests, but to advance the interests and happiness of others. He is ready to deny himself,—to sacrifice his own pleasure that thereby he may elevate and ennoble his fellow-men.

DUTY OF THE CHURCH.

While your Committee give all due credit and honor to the many noble men and women who are zealously engaged in the Temperance Reform, and heartily bid them God speed in that work; yet we feel that the entire removal of this terrible evil cannot be effected till the Church of Christ rises in her might and stamps the traffic in intoxicating liquors with her unqualified disapproval. A general public sentiment awakened and sustained by the clergy and membership of the Christian Church, in every city and town, and village, cannot fail to speak, through the Legislative bodies, and must eventually secure a law to prohibit the sale of intoxicating beverages. If we are to have reform, the public mind must not only be awakened and enlightened, it must be raised and set in