

A cunning fisherman was he,
His angles were all right,
And when he scratched his aged poll,
You'd know he'd got a bite,
To charm the fish he never spoke,
Although his voice was fine,
He found the most convenient way
Was just to "drop a line."

And many a "gudgeon" of the pond,
If made to speak to day,
Would own, with grief, this angler had
A mighty "taking way."
One day, while fishing on a log,
He mourned his want of luck,
When suddenly he felt a bite.
And jerking—caught a duck.

Alas that day the fisherman
Had taken too much grog,
And being but a landsman, too,
He couldn't keep the log.
In vain he strove with all his might,
And tried to gain the shore;
Down, down he went, to feed the fish
He'd baited off before!

The moral of this mournful tale
To all is plain and clear;
A single "drop too much" of rum
May make a watery bier.
And he who will not "sign the pledge,"
And keep the promise fast,
May be, in spite of fate, a stiff
Cold water man at last.

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.*

PLEDGE OF THE MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO AGREE, THAT WE WILL NOT USE INTOXICATING LIQUORS AS A BEVERAGE, NOR TRAFFIC IN THEM; THAT WE WILL NOT PROVIDE THEM AS AN ARTICLE OF ENTERTAINMENT, NOR FOR PERSONS IN OUR EMPLOYMENT; AND THAT IN ALL SUITABLE WAYS WE WILL DISCOURTEGE THEIR USE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

MONTREAL, DECEMBER 15, 1848.

Believing that a small space devoted to obituary notices, and the record of cases of drunkenness, and crimes arising out of this evil, brought before the Montreal Police Court, will enhance the *Advocate* to the general reader, and more especially our friends, we intend to set aside a portion of each number to the above objects. The record of the police cases, we are afraid, will show an amount of crime and guilt, arising from intoxication, truly deplorable, but we expect it will place statistics and arguments in the hands of our friends that may do much to turn the public mind more directly to the benefits derivable from total abstinence, and thereby be the means of adding to our ranks.

Subjoined is a summary of the remainder of returns to the Montreal Temperance Convention, received since our number for the 16th of October. We may add that we are encouraged

with the promises made, so far as we have had returns; and if all places, where we know the cause has taken root, come out in a similar way, the work may be expected to go on vigorously. There is now a fine opportunity given to the friends, throughout the country, to express whether or not they wish the *Advocate* continued; we have given that opportunity at great pecuniary risk, but it has been done in the unwavering faith that the country will sustain the effort; we ask no more than a return for our labours, and should it appear at the end of the year that there is an overplus, we will cheerfully hand it over to the committee in liquidation of the debt. We may refer subscribers to the prospectus on our last page, and if it does not seem fully to meet their views, we would be glad to hear, *post free*, their suggestions, for we intend to labour for the good of all.—JOHN C. BECKET.

Society's Boundary	Population		Total Abstinence Members.		Total Abst. Voters		Distillers		Breweries		Dynamite Destroyed		Licensed		Unlicensed		Drunkards		Deaths by Intemper.		Term. Meetings held during the year		Temper. Advocate wanted		Contributors to debt of Montreal Society	
31 Barnston	2386	400	130	2		208	4	2		208	4	2	12	12	9	10	13	4	3							
32 Chingacousy, (Springbrook)		20																								
33 Cooksville, (Home District)	1900	300	30	2		1600	5	2		1600	5	2	60	60	27	23	11	11	11							
34 Crowland		180																								
35 Gaderich,	1200	100	12	3		6260	7	1		6260	7	1	2	2	4	8	15	210	210							
36 Tonark,	1500	250	100																							
37 L'Orignal,																										
38 *Midland District,	2000	2517	323	3		6000	57			6000	57		456	456	9	36	2	2	2							
39 Yonge Street,	1100	648	57			1200	5			1200	5		37	37	4	25	2	2	2							

* This report is incomplete, there being omitted of the Townships not included in replies to some of the queries, such as that referring to *Drunkards*, &c.; the number of such persons is probably double that reported. There are also many neighbourhoods where there never has been a Society formed.

Query No. 16.—Influence of the Temperance Reformation ?

Answer.—These returns, like the former, are unanimous in describing its effects as beneficial. The following are some of the testimonies:—A majority of the most influential and respectable portion of the community are with us—several have been reclaimed—others prevented from becoming drunkards—drinking usages restrained to a good extent, and many youth prevented from becoming tipplers—an apparent and progressive beneficial influence—good, to an extent which cannot be described.

Query No. 17.—Chief hinderances to the Temperance Reformation ?

Answer.—Supposed profit connected with distilling—exposing the article for sale in taverns, inhabited by idle landlords, whose sole business seems to be to allure the unwary—the want of ma-