

of any measure calculated to effect so very desirable an object. In St. John's Newfoundland, the temperance cause was progressing, while in the Bahama in the West Indies, temperance societies had been formed of large numbers of the inhabitants. In Barbice and Bermuda the returns exhibited a falling off in the consumption of spirituous liquors, which was attributable to the growing habits of temperance exhibited by the inhabitants. At St. Kitt's a society had been formed which already numbered 4,000. Similar results were reported of Jamaica, the Mauritius, Montserrat, Antigua, Anguilla, Tobago, &c. In the Sandwich Islands, New Zealand, China, India, Africa, Sierra Leone, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Bavaria, Germany, the cause of temperance had greatly triumphed. In Ireland Father Mathew was still engaged in his patriotic efforts among the dissipated portion of his countrymen, while in Scotland and Wales, large sums of money were subscribed towards advancing habits of temperance amongst the people. In England the consumption of spirituous liquors had decreased while the number of persons who had joined temperance societies amounted to upwards of 1,000,000.

#### 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 DISCOURTAGE THEIR USE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

MONTREAL, JULY 2, 1844.

#### THE LAST CLAUSE OF THE PLEDGE.

The chief differences of opinion which manifested themselves at the recent Convention, grew out of conflicting views respecting the scope and force of the last clause of the Pledge, and a specific motion was made by Dr. BEADLE, delegate from the Niagara District, and seconded we believe by Mr. LAMBE, delegate from the Home District, to the effect that whilst the specific clauses of the Pledge respecting using, selling, or giving, should be strictly enforced, the last clause which provides that we shall in all suitable ways discourage the use of intoxicating drinks, should be left entirely to the conscientious conviction of each individual tee-totaller, and no infraction of this clause, whether supposed or real, should in any case form the subject of discipline. The reasons urged in favor of this view were, that it was desirable to have a platform sufficiently broad and liberal to receive all who were willing to unite with us on the great principle of abstinence, and that it was highly inexpedient to lose the influence of wealthy and influential men who were good tee-totallers themselves, and brought up their families as such, because they might have a house let as a tavern, or might in the exercise of what they deemed their official duties as Magistrates, sign tavern-keepers' certificates, or grant them licenses. That it was just to require men to act up to an agreement which they had made in the specific clauses, but it was unjust to demand the fulfilment of conditions which they never had agreed to, and upon which conscientious difference of opinion might and did exist. That until "the all suitable ways" could be defined, it was improper to make them the basis of discipline and that in the present state of things, there was great irregularity of action amongst temperance societies, in so much that a person might be expelled from one society, and by removing to another place, without in any way changing his conduct, be admitted as a member in good standing.

The arguments used on the other side were, that the temperance cause did not so much depend on numbers as on moral power, and that could be best secured by the consistency of those

who espoused it, whilst it would be more damaged by their inconsistency than by any thing else. That if it were impossible to define "the all suitable ways," it was very easy to define ways that were not suitable to discountenance the use of intoxicating drinks, such for instance as signing a certificate that a tavern was needed in such a place, or granting a license to sell intoxicating drinks, or leasing a house to be used as a tavern, or tending bar, or raising and selling grain for the express purpose of being made into whiskey. That if no action was ever to be had on the last clause of the Pledge, if it were in fact to mean nothing, it should have been left out, whereas it was perhaps the most important clause in it, containing, as it did, an expansive power, capable of suiting itself to every advance of knowledge on the subject. That it was at variance with common sense to say that any person with ordinary faculties, signing such a pledge, would not be aware that he was acting contrary to it, if he were, directly or indirectly, facilitating the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drink; and that if such a motion passed, the president of a Temperance Society might build a distillery, supplying all the apparatus needed, let it to a friend, lend the money to carry it on, employ his teams to convey grain to it and whiskey from it, and still continue in his office in perfectly good standing. But in such a case, would the Society over which he presided continue in good standing? Would it not be the reproach and by-word, the contempt and the loathing of the whole country? And would not such conduct more than any other tend to retard the Temperance reformation?

Although the majority of the delegates were manifestly in favour of these latter views, yet the delegates representing a great number of tee-totallers were in favour of the former. Now we think it a matter of very great importance that every society in the country should consider and decide this very delicate and somewhat intricate point, and express, by resolutions or otherwise, its views thereupon; for we deem the idea of a provincial union perfectly vain until societies are generally united in opinion upon principles of action so vitally important to them as the one under consideration.

In point of fact, we have known several societies ruined, and others reduced to a lifeless state, by the inconsistency of some of their leading men—not as regards the specific clauses of the Pledge, but in some similar ways to those above mentioned, so that instead of providing an addition of strength, these highly respectable but inconsistent individuals proved a source of weakness.

#### DR. BEADLE'S ADDRESS.

We have often lamented that so few medical gentlemen in Canada have given their names and influence to the Temperance cause especially since the testimony which science and practical investigation enable them to bear must necessarily and deservedly have great weight with the public. Feeling this want for a long time, it gives us great gratification to be enabled, in this number, to lay before our readers an address upon the insidious nature of drinking habits, from the pen of Dr. BEADLE, of St. Catharines, in which, though of a scientific nature, the clearness and simplicity of the language employed is peculiarly to be admired. We earnestly recommend it for perusal to all, and especially to that very large class who quite are satisfied that they can take care of themselves.

#### RIGAUD.

By the communication from Rigaud, it will be seen that the moral sense of the people of that place has been outraged in the