

For the Canada Temperance Advocate.

NO. V.

"Who slew all these?" 2 Kings x. 9.

The sin of our Legislators in not using the means whereby the traffic in intoxicating liquors may be prevented, is shared by those by whom these Legislators are appointed. It is the duty of those who have a voice in the election of the representatives of the people in Parliament, to choose such persons as seem generally best fitted by their principles and talents, to advance the real interests and happiness of the community; to ascertain the sentiments and behaviour of those who are candidates, and to give their votes for men of integrity and sound principle,—men of wisdom, sober, and of good report, who will conscientiously, faithfully and impartially, and not for selfish and interested purposes, labour to promote the real and substantial prosperity of the land; and if they neglect to discriminate between the sober and intemperate; between those who are guided by principle, and those who are evidently influenced by mere interest or party, they are not using the power which God in his providence has put into their hands, according to the rules he has given them, and the standard by which they shall eventually be judged.

As there are few other subjects of greater importance to the interests of any country, than the one now under consideration, so just in proportion to its importance must be the guilt of those who in choosing their legislators, do not make it a matter of conscience, as far as practicable, to choose those who are willing to employ their legislative powers to put a stop to the murderous traffic in intoxicating drink.

To electors then, we would say, consider well the sentiments and practice, in regard to intoxicating drink, of those who offer themselves as your representatives in the Legislative Assembly. Let it be your endeavour, if possible, to send those who, while otherwise qualified for the office of passing wholesome laws, are disposed to put a stop to the business of drunkard making. As you wish to avoid partaking of the sin of helping to slay your fellow men, be careful to exercise the power and influence which God has given you, in choosing such men as from careful enquiry you conscientiously think are most likely to promote the real welfare of your country, by opposing vice and immorality of every kind, for the daily production of which no cause is operating more powerfully at the present time, than the licensed manufacture and sale of alcoholic drink.

T. C. W.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—Since my last from Toronto, I have much of a cheering nature to communicate.

On Christmas eve a joint meeting of the Amherstburgh Temperance Society, and that of the 34th Regiment stationed in that place, was held in the Presbyterian Church; which was addressed by all the Protestant clergymen of the town, viz: Church of England, Kirk of Scotland, and Methodist, as well as by myself in favor of total abstinence. The Amherstburgh Society which had suffered a good deal in the recent troubles, was reorganized. Mr. Paxton is still president, and Mr. Kevill, P. M. Secretary.

The history of the Society in the 34th Regt. is interesting. Six individuals continued true to their principles as tee-totalers through all the hardships of the long march over land in winter from Nova Scotia. These persons stood the fatigue of the journey better than any others in the Regiment, and after their arrival at Amherstburgh a number of others joined them. At the time of the meeting mentioned above the society numbered 70, and the last time I saw Sergeant Hebb, president of the Society, it numbered 110 members, and he said he expected that about a dozen more would join at next meeting.

There was also a meeting for the colored people of Amherstburgh at which I learned that a society consisting of 39 members had formerly existed, and a meeting is shortly to be held for the purpose of reorganizing that Society. It is unfortunate that the state of feeling respecting color is such even in Canada, that the colored people are not invited to join the societies formed by the whites.

I have attended two meetings at Sandwich, at which 16 soldiers

of the 85th Regt. and 17 civilians signed the pledge. A society was organized of which Mr. Stewart is President, Mr. Grant, Editor of the *Western Herald*, Vice President, and Mr. Fluett, teacher, Secretary.

At Windsor we have likewise had two temperance meetings, at the first of which 35 signed the pledge, and at the second 12. The whole number of members has since been increased to 55, which is a greater number in proportion to the population than is to be found, as far as I know, in any place in Canada.

A new society was organized, the old one having gone to wreck during the troubles, of which Mr. Tynas was elected President, Mr. Dougall Vice President, and Mr. Ritter Secretary.

All these societies are established on the Tee-total pledge, and the Rev. Mr. Scott of the Wesleyan Methodist connection, who is indefatigable in his labors for the moral improvement of this District, sustained the chief burthen of advocating it, at all the meetings which I have enumerated.

I am convinced that Tee-totalism has now gained a footing in the Western District that will defy all opposition, especially as in some instances, the formation of temperance societies is accompanied by the establishment of Sabbath Schools, and a desire for the public ordinances of religion. In producing this state of things I am convinced the *Temperance Advocate*, which has been pretty extensively circulated for two years back, has been to a considerable extent instrumental.

I see a ridiculous mistake has occurred in printing my last letter, viz: putting the seventy-fifth toast for the twenty-fifth. I have heard of a clergyman giving the twenty-fifth toast at a public dinner, but I must say I never heard that even the greatest opponent to temperance societies gave the seventy-fifth. Please forward 50 copies of the *Advocate* to this place, address J. & J. Dougall, who will deliver to subscribers. Trusting that the cause is prospering in Montreal, I am, dear Sir, yours ever truly,

JOHN DOUGALL.

Windsor, January 15, 1840.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—I am happy to inform you, that the Temperance Society in this village and its vicinity, is on the rise. Last Saturday evening we had a very interesting and profitable discourse on the subject delivered by Rev. Mr. Wilkinson from Prescott. About thirty individuals gave in their names, all of whom, with one or two exceptions, subscribed to the total abstinence pledge. This is the only system that will finally result in the entire suppression of the vice of intemperance.

Your excellent paper is read here with great interest; as a proof of which I send you the names of twenty-three new subscribers.

With much respect &c.

V. B. HOWARD, *W. Minister.*

Kempville U. C. Dec. 30, 1839.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—A motion was made at our last monthly meeting to send you some account of our society. At its formation, appearances were very strong in its favor; many enlisted in the cause, but from the sneers of the rich, who told them they were very foolish to debar themselves from drinking a little wine or beer occasionally; or from the enticement of the drunkard who offered them the social glass, several broke their pledge. About three months since it was found there were thirty who had not defiled their garments, and the work is again going forward. Among those who have joined us is one man, whose resolutions have frequently been broken by giving heed to those who wanted him to take "only one glass." But he now keeps the pledge, to the manifest joy of an affectionate wife; and to the increase of his own happiness, as he now sees the victory he has gained over these liquor friends. Two corporals of the 15th Regiment have joined us, they are Methodists and consistent Tee-totalers. The Society now numbers forty-three worthy members, 14 of whom are youth. We are determined to keep up our monthly meetings, and go forward. Any information or advice would be thankfully received, either through your *Advocate* or by post. I remain &c.

WILLIAM GENNIS, *Cor. Sec.*

Three Rivers, Dec. 24, 1839.