

clean, and comfortable, your children well clothed and well fed, and yourself and your wife happy and contented; whereas now your heart is the seat of painful distracting cares, and every thing looks cold and cheerless. Take my advice, James, and leave it off. Instead of doing you good, it has plunged you into poverty, and made your life a burden.

(To be continued.)

Progress of the Temperance Reform.

We recommend attention to the following:—

Bytown, February 12, 1839.

"I trust an effort will be made to procure subscribers for 100 copies previous to the commencement of the fifth volume, to meet in some measure the generous and philanthropic proposals of the Montreal Society, by extending its usefulness as widely as possible. The spirit of the prospectus for the fifth volume will surely meet the feelings of every benevolent mind.

C. B. KNAPP.

We are highly delighted with the following letter from Prescott. The conduct of this Society might be referred to as an example to others, in any state of the political affairs of the Province, but in a state of war, and especially considering that Prescott has been the very seat of the war, we feel we cannot speak of it too highly. In most other parts of the Province, temperance operations have been suspended, almost wholly, though the rumour of war only reached them from a distance, but in Prescott, where the storm actually burst, the Society has kept together, meetings have been held, and discipline exercised. Let all Societies throughout the Province imitate the example.

Prescott, January 19, 1839.

DEAR SIR,—Supposing that you would wish to know whether the "Prescott Temperance Society" is still in existence, and if so, what has been done since the Secretary's Report of the 22d May last; I have the pleasure of informing you that it still shows signs of life; and on the whole appearances are encouraging. Since the last Report, three meetings of the society have been held; the first, on the 16th of July, and addressed by the Rev. P. C. Campbell, of Brockville; the second, was a special meeting, called on the 24th September, to hear an address from the Rev. Mr. Taylor, of Montreal; but from some unavoidable occurrence, that gentleman did not arrive, and an address, delivered at the first public meeting of the Edinburgh Association in Scotland, by Mr. Collins; was read by the Secretary, and found to contain many important arguments in favour of temperance societies. No additional members joined at the above meeting. Our last, was the annual meeting held on the 14th inst., the Secretary's Report for the past year was read, by which it appeared that during the year, the number of members had only increased thirteen, viz. seven added to the total abstinence, and six to the old pledge against ardent spirits only; making a total of forty-three to the former, and thirty-five to the latter; though a few more might have been added, of members who have joined during the year and have since removed from the place. After the reading and approval of the Report, the Officers of the Society for the next year were chosen, viz. C. H. Peck, President, Wm. Hillyard, Vice President, W. D. Dickinson, Secretary, and a Corresponding Committee of five; after which the meeting was favoured with a most able and interesting address from the Rev. Henry Wilkinson, of Brockville, seventeen persons then offered their names for "total abstinence," and two for the old pledge; also two of the subscribers to the old pledge, transferred their names to the new. The present number of members is ninety-seven, viz. sixty-two for total abstinence, and thirty-five for the old pledge. The former pledge is likely to accomplish the greatest good, and this belief is becoming more general than formerly. The Society since its formation has endeavoured to have its rules strictly enforced, and in no case allow a member to violate his pledge with impunity; accordingly during its existence, five of its members have been requested to withdraw their names, and such a course is intended to be continued (agreeably to the constitution), rather than allow the

cause of temperance to be injured by the inconsistent practice of its professed friends.

W. D. DICKINSON.

Kenyon, February 2, 1839.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—Our temperance meetings have been much neglected on account of the stir that is among people here for military service; but we strive to keep them as often as possible. Our last meeting was held on the 22nd of January, and, though it could not be expected to be throng, owing to the greatest part of the heads of families and young men being out as Volunteers, yet it was a very interesting meeting. Present of the Office-bearers, as follows:—Murdo M'Millan, President; Donald Cattanch, Esq. Lieut. A. Stewart, Vice-Presidents; Murdoch Stewart, Murdoch M'Rae, Kenneth M'Rae, Roderick Chisholm, Capt. John M'Kenzie, &c., Committee. The President, after taking the Chair, opened the business of the meeting with an address on these words—"Whether of the two will ye have released unto you, Christ or Barabbas!" Their respective natures were disclosed, comparing the former to Temperance, and the latter to intemperance. The Rev. Daniel Clark, of Martintown, who gave his countenance to the meeting, rose and spoke a good while in the favour of temperance, and concluded by subscribing the *Total Abstinence Declaration*, which does him great honour as a Minister and a Christian in this respect, as in other good works in which this faithful labourer has distinguished himself. Though he came to Canada last Autumn only, he understood it to be his duty, while observing the evil consequence of drinking ardent spirits, and the end of moderation, to set the good example of self-denial before his flock and the public. Three other names, besides, were added to the list. So you may see, Sir, that our labour has not been vain, that we are encouraged to persevere in the good work, for He, in whose hands are the hearts of all men, can dispose them, when he pleases, to further his glory; and as we believe that this is one of the means for preparing his way, those that look for the hope of Israel, will not, nor cannot be long indifferent towards it.

MURDO M'MILLAN.

The *Peterboro' Sentinel* of Feb. 1st, contains an extract from the Annual Report of the Peterboro' Temperance Society. It gratifies us much to learn from this document that temperance operations are prosecuted with vigour in that neighbourhood, despite the *volunteering*. Nor are these operations unnecessary; for the Report states that "Since the year 1825, the death of not less than 14 persons in Peterboro' and its immediate neighbourhood has been produced or caused by drunkenness; nor in this number do we include several whose death has been occasioned more remotely by drunken habits; for in such cases we have only circumstantial proof.

"Your Committee cannot allow this mournful statement to pass without remarking that out of these 14, five belong to one family—the Father, Son, Daughter-in-law, Grand-child, and another son murdered."

This terrible destruction is fully accounted for by what follows. "Your Committee have also been at some pains to ascertain the extent of distillation in the Newcastle District;—and find, they are sorry to say, not less than 20 distilleries—at a very moderate calculation they produce 283,920 gallons per annum, and destroy 81,120 bushels of grain, of which it is thought not less than 12,168 pass through the destructible process at Peterboro'.

"Now your Committee ask affectionately and earnestly, that since so much skill, energy and property are employed in producing this ruinous draught, in their neighbourhood, if something should not be done, done openly, done boldly—done loudly, to counteract its pestiferous influence. We should protest strongly against the men who would import Cholera Morbus into our Colony, and still more strongly against him who would make a gain of its produc-