

in the majority of instances it is *intoxicating liquor*; or, if it is not the first cause, it is yet such a powerful secondary one as ultimately to take the lead. If people did not madden themselves with alcohol, there would be fewer midnight brawls, or fights at markets and fairs, or examples of international warfare; which are just fights upon a larger scale. While we persuade people therefore to abandon the use of intoxicating liquor, we are promoting the reign of universal peace.

We stated in our last number that the Committee of the Temperance Society had written to J. S. Buckingham, Esq., requesting a visit from that eminent and tried friend of Temperance. We are happy to be able to state now, that a favourable reply has been received to that communication. Mr. Buckingham writes that "as it is his intention to visit, if spared, every part of America," Montreal is of course included in his route. A variety of engagements, however, prevent him from coming so early as we could wish, and indeed render it impossible for him, at present, to fix the period of his visit. But we rely with gratitude on the certainty of it.

We have received a letter from "A Teetotaller," inquiring "whether any *Christian* man can now be engaged in the traffic in intoxicating liquors when so much light has been thrown upon its nature and consequences;" insinuating at the same time that it is possible there may be some so situated that that light has never reached them, who are consequently pursuing the traffic quite innocently.

To this we reply, *first*, It is admitted by all *Teetotallers*, and thousands besides, that the traffic itself is most iniquitous, its direct tendency being to ruin man, body and soul. *Secondly*, There are some who pursue it in a more iniquitous manner than others, and render themselves blameable to a much greater degree. This may either arise from their resisting greater light, or resorting to more questionable methods of enticing men to drink, &c. *Thirdly*, Though a person engaged in the traffic should be entirely destitute of the light which Temperance investigations have thrown upon it, it will not follow that he is innocent. The guilt arises from the *nature* of the traffic, not the amount of the individual's information respecting it. "A sin of ignorance" is a *sin*. It is never accounted an indifferent action, though it is less aggravated than a trespass committed in other circumstances. If ignorance entirely exempted from guilt, it would then follow that the morality of actions did not depend on *their nature*, but on the state of our knowledge. But we ought to recollect *Fourthly*, That as a "Christian" does not mean a person who commits no sin, it may become a question to what extent an individual may carry it before he "falls away from grace." But this is a question which we are not competent to answer. It is a speculation in which we ought not to indulge. It is sufficient for us to know that the traffic is wrong; to know the amount of guilt belonging to each individual engaged in it, and to ascertain whether or not it is consistent with a state of grace, is the prerogative of God. *Fifthly*, The guilt does not belong exclusively to those who are engaged

in the traffic. It belongs also to the *public*, which encourages the traffic, to the *church* which does not condemn it, and to *drinkers*, who support it, whether they drink in *great* or *small* quantities.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE WEST.—A letter from Sandwich informs us that Malcolm Cameron, Esq. M. P. P., an enterprising merchant of Port Sarnia, on Lake Huron, has become a teetotaller, and organized a flourishing Society in that prosperous settlement. We expect an order from him for *Advocates*. The good seed should be plentifully sowed in the mighty regions of the West.

We are glad to learn that the Michigan State Agent, Dr. Gibson, sometimes visits and lectures on the Canada side.

CHARACTERISTIC.—Fronting the steambot-landing at Sorel, L. C., there are SEVEN successive taverns and groceries, having on the one side the military hospital, and on the other two miserable looking huts, showing strikingly the universal tendency of the traffic in intoxicating drinks to produce disease and poverty. One of the largest mansions, if not the most splendid about Quebec, belongs to a brewer. Query? How many bodies and souls have been ruined to erect it?

MARLBORO' HOTEL, BOSTON.—The *Boston Recorder* says it approximates near to the order and convenience of a well-regulated and religious family household.

The United States Legislature has passed the following resolution:—"That no spirituous liquors shall be offered for sale or exhibited within the Capitol, or on the public grounds adjacent thereto."

There is a brewery in London to which a rise or fall in the price of beer of one half-penny per pot, makes a difference of £40,000 a year.

### *Progress of the Temperance Reform.*

#### MOVEMENT AT ST. LOUIS.

The St. Louis papers give many interesting particulars of a meeting there. Mr. G. K. Budd moved that 1000 dollars be raised by voluntary subscription for the support of an agent. Mr. T. G. Settle seconded the resolution, and mentioned the following facts.

By an examination recently made, it is ascertained, that there are in St. Louis and its precincts, 160 dram shops (including groceries and coffee houses) which retail spirituous liquors. Estimating the average sales of each at four dollars per day, gives an aggregate amount of 640 dollars per day, and 233,600 dollars per year. Estimating the average quantity of spirituous liquors sold by each at two gallons per day, it amounts to three hundred and twenty gallons per day, and one hundred and sixteen thousand eight hundred per year; which estimated to cost the consumer on'y 3½ cents per wine glass, or two dollars per gallon, it amounts to