

In the course of another hour, Frederick Bondi was seated in his own private study, his head resting upon his clasped hands, his lips compressed, and his whole attitude indicating the most intense and earnest thought.

(To be Continued.)

Dogs and Temperance Houses.

A Bill has recently been introduced into the House of Assembly to impose a tax on Dogs and Temperance Houses! Rather a curious association this certainly. But our senators are rather a curious body, and therefore no surprise need be felt at any emanation either of their individual or collective wisdom. The merits of this sapient measure it is not our present intention to discuss; we refer to it purposely, for placing before our readers the dignified addresses of two of our honoured Legislators:—

"Col Prince was in favour of taxing temperance houses, for no sooner had a licensed tavern keeper opened his house, and laid in a stock of good cognac and whiskey, which he contended a man could not live without in this country, than along came a temperance man, opening a house opposite to him, with barrels of beef and pork, and the run of a pump, and took away the tavern keeper's profits. For his own part he had no great opinion of temperance people, he had always found them the greatest gluttons in the world, for they would drink nothing of boiling five pounds of beef, where another man would not take as many ounces. The temperance house was in fact a tavern, and he did not see why a man who preached temperance with a long face, and said his grace over a cup of cold water, should be exempted from the taxation which the other who furnished the traveller with a good horn of stuff, paid; the more particularly as in these temperance houses, in spite of all their protestations, there was generally a sly bottle to be found in the cupboard. (The hon. gentleman was greeted with shouts of laughter throughout.)

"Dr. Dunlop objected to the coupling of the two things together which were found in this Bill—he was a friend to dogs, but he was no friend to temperance houses—(Laughter) As for temperance houses, he thought they ought to be subject to the same regulations as taverns, for they sold the meat if they did not the drink. The hon member for Prince Edward had quoted a sign from Hogarth as being one now exhibited in London, to the effect that a man might get drunk for a penny, dead drunk for two-pence, and straw for nothing. But he would assure that gentleman that whatever might have been the case in the time of George II. a man could not now get drunk so cheap, and as straw for nothing, there was no such luxurious accommodation provided. (Shouts of laughter.) Drinking depended entirely upon the wish of the individual, there was no law to compel him, he might go without if he chose, therefore the tavern keeper could not be blamed if he got drunk. A man might take one horn, and be like one of the supporters of her Majesty's Arms, an Unicorn, if he chose; or he might take many horns, and be like the beast in the Revelations which had ten horns: but there was no compulsion for him to take horns at all unless he was a married man, when they followed as a matter of course. (Loud laughter.) If it was necessary for safety to tax dogs, a fortiori it was necessary to tax temperance houses."

The utterance of such ribaldry and trash tarnishes the moral dignity of the Legislature; and is calculated to repel from its precincts the virtuous of every grade. And are these the men on whom rests the solemn responsibility of framing the laws for the preservation of the morals, health, and safety of the community? Is it to such the guardianship of our Country's weal is entrusted? What a melancholy spectacle to witness, so often, the aged votary of Bacchus luxuriating in his own offensive utterance, redolent of the intoxicating cup. Friends of the Temperance Reformation to you it specially belongs to note these things. Dare you send such men to the Hall of Legislation? If so, on you must rest an accumulated weight of guilt.

The records of our Courts of Justice and Jails, furnish the most appalling proofs of the pestiferous influence of the intoxicating cup, and the withering curse of intemperance. Yet the abject and squalid poverty—the ruined health—the agonies of broken hearts,—the perpetration of the foulest crimes,—with the long train of other deadly evils which follow in its course and flows from its maddening influence, these Legislators view with cold and scornful indifference, or make the butt of their ridicule and sport. And while the Hall of Legislation reverberates with laughter at the freaks of the anti-temperance Harlequins, the debased and degraded

and inebriate quaffs with glee another and another glass, encouraged by the constitutional conservators of law, of order, and of morals, till he end his inebriated course, either by the self-inflicted blow, or the arm of retributive justice."—*Observer*

PROGRESS OF THE CAUSE.

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP, Jan. 3.—ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALTIMORE TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.—It becomes my duty to give you an abstract of the report adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Baltimore Total Abstinence Society, held on 3rd January, 1845. Fifty names have been added to the pledge during the year, making in all 171 on the books of the society, in good standing. Six or seven have violated the pledge, and remain to be dealt with by the Committee. Eighty more names were added during the year from an adjoining neighbourhood, but have since withdrawn, without assigning any reason, and assumed their former position as a society distinct. The Committee regret, that although no licensed tavern or distillery exists within the bounds of the society's operations, yet, their proximity to the town of Cobourg, exposes the whole community to all the perils incident to the making and vending in other places. They regret that an additional distillery is about to be erected in Cobourg, and that the vendors are arduously engaged in their nefarious traffic, consequently serious injury is done to members and the cause generally. The want of a temperance house in Cobourg is much felt; but the apathy of temperance men in regard to patronizing such houses, forbids enterprising individuals from engaging in so praiseworthy an employment, from almost certain exposure to failure, for want of sufficient public countenance. The Committee, generally, are resolved to push forward in their endeavours to benefit the interest of the society during the coming year. But, cannot conclude this report without expressing their conviction of the importance, in addition to local endeavours, of patronizing the *Advocate*, believing its circulation one of the most efficient means of promoting the best interest of the cause, both here and elsewhere. They are deeply impressed with the hopeful labours of the Montreal Society, and wish them every possible success, as upon them more immediately devolves our hope of future success throughout the country. On the adoption of the report the nomination of office-bearers took place, when A. G. Alexander was elected President; Levi Bates, J. J. Densmore, John Breslin, Vice-Presidents; and a Committee of five was appointed, after which, a speech was delivered by Mr. English, eleven names taken to the pledge and the meeting adjourned.—LEWIS WARREN JOYCE, Sec.

BARN, Jan. 10.—We are still on the gaining hand, there is at the present time not more than two or three hard drinkers in this place, and I am in hopes there will be less in a short time; we have by a good deal of exertion stopped one of the rum-selling places and one of the greatest nuisances that we were troubled with; our society still stands good with a few exceptions.—T. C. JOHNSTON, Sec.

STOUFFVILLE, Jan. 13.—The cause of temperance is progressing slowly in this place; our society numbers at present, about 170 members. Our magistrates have been very kind to us—they have licensed three grog shops, two in Stouffville and another within three quarters of a mile, where the liquid poison is dealt out very freely to persons having cash, but when that is gone the poor inebriate must seek for lodgings elsewhere.—HENRY WIDEMAN.

DRUMMONDVILLE, Jan. 21.—Two or three years ago we numbered eighteen taverns, this year we number only eight, and we have only one store at present in this place that is licensed to sell spirituous liquor—where only three years ago we had five. We have an excellent temperance house in the village kept by Mrs. Abigail Frahek, which is well worthy of the patronage of the travelling community of the temperance cause; so the watchword is forward, forward, until old alcohol is banished from our land. About the 1st of April I intend to make a return of the articles sold by me for the Montreal Society, I have not said much yet, but I think I will be enabled to effect some sales this winter.—W. E. POINTEA.

COBOURG, Jan. 21.—I cannot say that the society is in a healthy state, or that intemperance is on the decline. The cause is obvious, too great indifference on the part of its officers, thus we all see and deplore, and yet the pressure of other duties seems to