

perance kills the mind and poisons its very fountain. These benefits are conferred on society by the proper discharge of our duties. The inebriate unfits himself for their performance and disregards this obligation. How can he love his country, who loves no part of it, nay, who loves not his nearest and best friend? How can he guard her interest, who cannot manage his own affairs?

Correspondence.

Pelham, Feb. 3, 1852.

I hope, dear sir, to live to render you faithful service in your labors to extend the blessings of our common cause. The *Advocate* is my favorite paper; in it I ever find the same steadfast, zealous, and consistent friend to temperance. Though others may claim the honor of zealous efforts, of untiring zeal, of superior appearance, and extensive circulation, yet it belongs to the *Advocate* to enjoy the honor of having, from an early day in the history of temperance organizations, stood foremost in the rank, and fought the battles, when friends were few, and enemies numerous and powerful. While others have flourished for a season and then disappeared, it has withstood the storm of persecution, and yet lives to enjoy the great moral triumph it has been the honored instrument of hastening.—The great doctrines of total abstinence, now receiving almost universal approbation, were just as great, just as much entitled to consideration, when held up and defended by the *Advocate* many years ago, though repudiated by the community, as they are at the present day.

J. R. C.

12th Concession of London, Feb. 9, 1852.

Sir:—As Secretary to the 12th Concession of London Temperance Society, I take the liberty of sending you an account of our situation at present, which, from a small and unpromising beginning, has become a very flourishing branch of the present society.

I am happy to inform you that we now number 130 faithful members, and that our ranks are slowly, but certainly, increasing, as nearly every public meeting we hold is sure to add some to our numbers. These meetings we hold once every two months, which are extremely well attended, as we have the good fortune to be very generally supplied with efficient speakers. It was formerly a great drawback to our advancement, that we were deprived of the advantages of the resistless eloquence which wins its way to the dark regions of the drunkard's heart—consequently, our progress was slow and difficult; but this obstacle to our success, I am happy to state, is now in a great measure removed. The star of Temperance is certainly in the ascendant here, and though there are some who are slaves to the demon of intemperance, such is the firm hold our principles have gained, that the most hardened drunkard seems to be sensible of his degradation, and endeavors to practice his beastly vice as secretly as he can.

R. CROZIER.

English Settlement, London Township, Feb. 13, 1852.

The Second Annual Meeting of the English Settlement Total Abstinence Society, was held on Thursday Evening, the 5th instant, in the United Presbyterian Church, on the 9th Concession—when a Report was submitted by the Committee, which was received and approved.

REPORT.

As the time for which your committee were appointed to manage the affairs of this Society has expired, it becomes their duty, according to its constitution, to lay before you an account of their proceedings for the past, and also what course they would recommend for the future. As was anticipated at last annual meeting, this Society had to submit to a painful privation, in the departure from this place to the United States of its late President, and the greater part of his numerous family, nearly all of whom were members—and some of them among the most active members of this Society.

At the first meeting that was held after the annual meeting, it was resolved, "that the meetings be held monthly." This your committee have endeavored to carry out, with the exception of two months in haying and harvest, during which no meeting was held. Some delay beyond the regular time was also occasioned by their efforts to suit the convenience of speakers. For some time, however, the meetings have been held regularly once a month. Considerable exertions have been made by your committee, in rotation, to obtain lecturers; and they acknowledge with gratitude the kind services of the Rev. Messrs. Scott, Phelps, Skinner, and Campbell, who have severally addressed the Society in the course of the year; the two last mentioned having done so repeatedly.

The number of names on the roll at the beginning of the year was 68, and the number added during the year was 22, making a total of 90. This, however, does not give a correct estimate of the number of total abstainers in the neighborhood, as many of the members of the old temperance society (which seems to have gone entirely down) who approve of the total abstinence principles, and act upon them as far as they are personally concerned as to practice, have not yet seen fit to join us. It must, however, be confessed, that the promoters of temperance principles have much yet to contend against—old and deeply rooted prejudices have to be removed—former associations to be broken up—the force of public opinion yet to be withstood—the love of that pleasure which is produced by unnatural stimulants to be overcome. We have also the license system in opposition to us, although your committee are not of opinion that the time has yet come when the traffic in intoxicating liquors can be put down by legislation, as any act passed into law contrary to public opinion must remain a dead letter upon the statute book; yet no plea of expediency can justify the legalizing of a system of iniquity; and the license system, by giving a degree of respectability to the trade, tends, in the opinion of your committee, to extend its influence much longer than if left to its natural course. Your committee mention these facts, not for the purpose of discouraging, but to excite to greater vigilance and activity. The public mind needs yet to be leavened with the principles of this society or of kindred associations. And as all our exertions will be vain without the Divine blessing, they would recommend that the success of these principles be made the subject of constant and earnest prayer, that the author of all good may at length crown our efforts with success.

WILLIAM WHILBANS, President.

JOHN ROBSON, Secretary.

Bowmanville, 3d March, 1852.

SIR,—Permit me to mention a few things that may interest your readers in reference to the progress of the cause in this locality. It has been here, as in many other parts of the country, that wherever the Sons commence their operations, the old Temperance Society begins to languish, and its members cease to exert themselves, as formerly, in the good cause. This has been the case to a great extent, in Darlington and in other townships which I have lately visited. I have noticed also, that there is a bad feeling, in many cases, existing between the different temperance societies that are seeking after the same great and glorious end. A striking instance of this may be seen in the back part of the township of Whitby. I had occasion, a short time ago, to visit that locality. I found that the Old Temperance Society, which had for some time been in a very prosperous condition, is now dwindled away to a very few. The cause of this is, partly at least, to be attributed to a division which arose amongst the members of the Society in reference to the Sons. Some were in favor of organizing a division of the Sons, and others opposed it. The result was, that no division of the Sons was organized, and on account of the division among the members, the old Society did not hold a single meeting during the last year. We called a meeting, however, and re-organized the Society, and I trust it will now go on with its usual vigor. Now, although there has been no contention between the different societies in Darlington, still, as soon as the Sons commenced their operations amongst us, the Old Society has ceased its exertions and left the battle to be fought wholly by the Sons. This, I conceive, is not the way to overcome the great monster intemperance.

The common enemy with which we have to contend is very powerful, and we therefore require the united efforts of all the