

liquors in our vicinity; still we can point to individual cases, where the ensnaring habit of using such drinks has been abandoned, and where acknowledgments could be obtained of the happy effects so produced—which of itself is sufficient inducement for us to continue the motto of “onward.” It is true that unfavorable circumstances surround us; the full operation of three distilleries in our very midst, and also wholesale and retail dealers in abundance; together with the enticing practices still existing, of proffering spirituous liquors to promote the cheerfulness of the social circle; all tend to oppose our operations;—and it may well be said that a host are against us—but as *truth* is on our side, we are the *strongest* still. The Society during the past year has had its regular meetings quarterly, and one additional meeting; and has been favored with addresses from Rev. J. Savage of Ogdensburg; Rev. H. Wilkinson of this place; John Dougall, Esq. of Montreal; and Mr. Hiram H. Peck of Potsdam.

The “Total Abstinence Pledge” only has been connected with the Society during the past year; the old pledge having been discontinued at the last Annual Meeting. One year’s experience has shown that the “Total” pledge is calculated to effect more good alone, than in connection with the “Old Pledge,” as the latter afforded too much temptation to the lover of spirituous liquors.

At the close of the last year the number of the Society’s members was 116, of which eighty-seven were to the “Total Abstinence Pledge,” and twenty-nine to the “Old Pledge.” Doing away with the latter pledge of course lessened our number at the time; nevertheless the increase has more than compensated for that loss, as the whole number of members in good standing is at present 134.

The Society has continued to insist upon the faithful observance of its rules, and not knowingly allowed them to be violated with impunity.

WILLIAMSBURG, January 12, 1841.

SIR,—A meeting was held in Maria Town on the 28th December, 1840, at which Peter Shaver, Esq., was called to the chair, and introduced the business of the evening with some appropriate remarks; after which the Rev. H. Wilkinson, Wesleyan Minister, of Prescott, delivered a very able address—in which, although he did not say all that could be said (for the subject is inexhaustible), he said quite enough to convince some who heretofore were opposed to the cause. And you, Sir, will be ready to admit that the feeling excited was a good one, when I tell you, that when the Constitution, which had been prepared on the tee-total plan, was read, and an opportunity given for subscribers, thirty-five united in the good work. After which, the following officers were elected for the current year:—*President*, Peter Shaver, Esq.; *Vice-President*, Dr. Joseph Corbin; *Secretary*, J. W. Rose; *Treasurer*, H. G. Stearns; and a Committee of six Managers. I have intimated that the “feeling” excited was a good one. Yes, Sir, while all, I trust, felt in their hearts, a goodly number felt in their pockets also; and I hope shortly to send you a little cash, with a list of subscribers for the *Advocate*.

Your’s, &c.

J. W. ROSE, *Secretary W. T. A. S.*

UPPER CANADA ACADEMY, COBBOURG, Jan. 20, 1841.

SIR,—A Temperance Society, formed in Cobourg, some years since, on the old pledge, was re-organized in January, 1840, embracing both pledges. At that time twenty males and two females subscribed the old, and fifty-six the new pledge. During the past year, there has been an accession of ninety-eight members to the number of tee-totalers, while but four additional subscribers were obtained for the pledge of moderation. The Anniversary of the Society was held on Monday, the 4th instant, when twenty others, convinced of the sin of using poisonous drinks, attached their names to the pledge of Total Abstinence.

During the year, various circumstances have tended to convince the Society, not only of the inadequacy of the old pledge to the suppression of intemperance, but also of the many evils and inconveniences of a union of associations so diverse in their nature and tendency. It was therefore resolved at our Annual meeting, with but a single dissentient, “That the Constitution of this Society be so altered and amended, as to embrace only the pledge of Total Abstinence.” This was moved by the Subscriber, and ably seconded

by Mr. W. M’Dugald of Vaughan, at present a student at the Upper Canada Academy. Mr. M’Laren afterwards addressed the Society rather facetiously, and Mr. Murray of Thornhill, a zealous intelligent advocate of strict temperance, very agreeably and profitably.

The services and results of our Anniversary were of a highly interesting character,—full of encouragement to the friends of temperance, inspiring them with renewed zeal, and tending to give a fresh impulse to the cause in this town.

We include in our ranks some who were far gone in the downward road, and who themselves, as well as their families and friends, rejoice in the happy change which has been effected, through the simple instrumentality of Total Abstinence. When we ourselves are branded as *ultra*, and our principles as the “insulting turgid effusions of a drivelling infidelity,” we point Professor Edgar and other scornors, to these “living epistles, known and read of all men,” and triumphantly and scripturally ask, “Can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit?” Such men may plead the example of the Saviour, in palliation of their use of wine, until the increased indulgence of a vitiated appetite may find them, or others through them, a drunkard’s grave. Our relations to the Creator and to our brethren of mankind, as well as his own word, demand of us to refrain from the use of every thing which has a tendency to render us less capable of discharging our personal duties to him, or our relative duties to each other. And is it possible, since we are commanded to “walk in his steps,” that he, our great exemplar, would have done any thing, the imitation of which may lead us into sin, or be the occasion of sin to us? “He who, through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot” or moral taint, to God for us, could have found in common use at all times in Judea, wine newly expressed from the cluster or preserved grape, or boiled wine, which had not undergone the process of fermentation, and which, therefore, could neither poison the system nor produce intoxication.

Although this communication is already much longer than was designed, yet will I state in this place what I am confident will cheer your heart, and the hearts of the friends of education through the Province, viz., that the students of the Upper Canada Academy commenced the year 1841 by the formation of a Total Abstinence Temperance Society, which already numbers thirty-seven of both sexes. This augurs well for the Institution. Next to a revival of religion, of which this frequently is the precursor, there is nothing which so directly tends to inspire us with gratitude to the Father of Mercies, and high hopes of the future destinies of our country, as to see so many interesting, talented young persons as are here at present preparing themselves for public and private stations in society, coming out thus voluntarily, and boldly, and publicly to espouse a cause so fraught with good to mankind. This Society, so replete with beneficial results to the Academy and to the country, was organized principally through the instrumentality of Messrs. Murray and M’Dugald. May it continue to prosper, so that all who from year to year visit this Institution shall be brought under its healthful influence! Our statistics are:

Present number of Tee-totalers in Cobourg Society 121

To which add the Student’s Society..... 37—158

Officers of the Society the present year: E. Perry, Esq. *President*; Mr. A. Jeffry, *Vice-President*; W. Kingston, *Corresponding*, and G. Pashly, *Recording Secretary*; Rev. D. C. Van Norman, Dr. H. Clarke, and Messrs. O. W. Powell, M’Allum, G. Edgecomb, together with the resident Ministers, who are members of the Society, and the other officers, an Executive Committee.

Sincerely yours, &c.,

W. KINGSTON, *Cor. Sec.*

P. S. The Editor of the *Christian Guardian* will please publish this.

RICHMOND, M. D., January 20, 1841.

SIR,—When I last wrote you, our Society in this place was acting on the moderate system, containing 100 members. At the eleventh Anniversary held on 24th June last, upon which occasion able addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Vandusen and Roblin, and Dr. Aylesworth, the entire abstinence pledge was adopted in the Society, with the proviso, that those on the old pledge could act their pleasure in signing the new pledge, still holding them as members of the Society. Eighteen