

tion to commence, the Temperance Hall was crowded before the time for opening the meeting had arrived.

According to the usual practice, the meeting was opened by singing an appropriate hymn and praying for God's blessing to rest upon the exercises of the evening.

It was not intended by the committee that this trial should be conducted in strict conformity with the proceedings of the Courts of Judicature, none of them laying claim to legal acumen, or wishing to fetter themselves with legal technicalities. Requesting that this may be borne in mind, we shall now proceed to give a brief statement of the proceedings of this novel court.

The Rev. President took his seat as judge.

The Attorney-General then prayed that the prisoner might be placed at the bar; upon which the door of an adjoining vestry was opened, and a man was seen carrying a high stool, on which were several black bottles labeled brandy, gin, rum, whisky, wine, ale and porter. Surrounding the necks of the bottles was a paper band with the words "*alcohol*" printed in large letters. The prisoner was placed in front of the jury, after which the clerk of the court read the following indictment:—

Montreal.—The jury on behalf of our glorious constitution and of suffering humanity, in this hall assembled, present to this honorable court that General Alcohol, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being seduced and employed by the devil, did heretofore, to wit, at Montreal aforesaid, at divers times, with malice aforethought, many thousands of the subjects of our Lady the Queen, and others, good unoffending Christian men, women and children, seduce and lead into *poverty, destitution, insanity, infamy and death*; and then did, by means of *brandy, gin, rum and other spirituous liquors*, to the jury unknown, cause to *blaspheme and to disturb the peace of society*, to commit the crimes of arson and murder in contempt of the laws of God, and to the great advancement and promotion of the works and designs of the Devil.

The prisoner, by his counsel, pleading "Not Guilty," and stating his readiness for the trial, the jury was then empanelled by the judge calling upon all present, ladies and gentlemen, who were disposed to pledge themselves that they would give a verdict according to the evidence which should be adduced, to hold up their right hand, which was done.

The Attorney-General addressed the jury, and the following witnesses were examined:—

Alfred Perry,—whose testimony related principally to the evils he had seen produced by the influence of the prisoner amongst the Fire companies of this city, with which Mr. Perry has for several years been connected. The witness testified that he had known the prisoner on various occasions cause great disorder, waste of property, destruction of health, great risk of lives, and numberless accidents. Knew a sober, industrious, and good man who, from the influence of prisoner, knocked a man down, came to his house, kicked the panels off the door, was taken up by a policeman, and lodged in gaol. Had known the prisoner incite persons to blasphemy and murder. Knew that prisoner caused one man to turn his wife out of the house, and then murder his child.

Counsel for prisoner sharply cross-examined witness, but did not in the least weaken his evidence.

James Cooper testified that he had known the prisoner for 45 years; had not known him do any good all that time. Had frequently seen unoffending, kind-hearted men incited by the prisoner to cruelty: disturbance of the peace and riots were often occasioned by prisoner; rendered men unfit for work: produced

poverty and deepest degradation. Knew a young man who became acquainted with prisoner—were for some time always in company; the young man was found dead—the doctor made a post mortem examination, found his internal parts much discolored, his liver being the color of brown paper, and the doctor affirmed that the prisoner had murdered the young man.

Cross-examined:—Prisoner had often sadly disfigured the countenance of his friends; had frequently taken from them their good clothes and clad them in rags; had known good workmen not earn 10d a day when under the influence of prisoner.

James Brown, clerk, was called, deposed that he had been personally acquainted with the prisoner; first knew him on board ship, some of prisoner's friends having compelled him to submit to the prisoner being introduced to him. At this first interview, the prisoner treated him so cruelly that he was senseless for some days after, and his life was despaired of. On one occasion while in the East Indies, was sailing in a long boat over smooth water, with carpenter, second mate and prisoner; the second mate was pushed over by prisoner and drowned. Knew a gentleman in the Isle of France, to whom the prisoner brought the *Delirium Tremens*, and before they parted, the gentleman died of the wounds and bruises inflicted by the prisoner.

E. C. Longley, grocer, knew the prisoner frequently go into the hay field with reapers, and would lie in a shady place, and entice the laborers from their work, cause their heads to ache, unfit them for labor, and often produce quarrels. Knew industrious and respectable men whom the prisoner had made bad citizens, quarrelsome neighbors, cruel husbands, and inhuman fathers. Knew a man who, in company with the prisoner, went into the woods and was lost for some time—the prisoner having knocked him off his horse, and kept him "hollering" all night. Knew many instances in which the prisoner had produced extreme poverty and misery, and incited men to break the Sabbath.

Cross-examined:—Was no friend to the prisoner, but had said nothing but the truth. The man lost in the woods was an intelligent and respectable man, when not under the influence of the prisoner at the bar. Had known quiet, well-behaved men whom the prisoner had made passionate and quarrelsome; knew one such man who, at the instigation of the prisoner, went into the house as dinner was ready, dragged off the cloth and swept the table.

The Court rose at 10 o'clock.

[To be continued.]

THE LICENSE LAW.

[FOR THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.]

SIR,—I have taken, for a number of years, a most lively interest in the progress of the Temperance cause in Canada, and have watched the success of the various methods adopted for the eradication of intemperance. But I have long been of the opinion, which has been confirmed by my past experience, that in this reformation the enactments of Parliaments, or the strong arm of the law, are vain and useless; but if successfully carried on, it must be so by the same power and persons which commenced it, and that have thus far supported it, viz.: *The powerful voice of public opinion amongst the middle class of Society.* Of ignorance, Bishop Taylor says:—"It is impossible to make people understand their ignorance, for it requires knowledge to perceive it; therefore he that can perceive it hath it not." Just so, I think, with Parliamentary enactments of any kind, for the suppression of intemperance. For if we had such a state of so-