

BOSTON.—It was stated at a recent meeting of the Boston Temperance Society, that about 8000 persons had signed the pledge of that association, (tee-total) during the past year. In addition to the above, nearly the same number have signed the pledge of the Washingtonians, and upwards of 4000, that of the Catholic Temperance Societies,—making in all, about 20,000 in that city alone, who have enrolled themselves as tee-totalers within the last twelve months.

SPRINGFIELD.—In less than four weeks, about eleven hundred have signed the Total Abstinence Pledge in this village. At no time since the recent efforts commenced, has the prospect appeared so auspicious as at the present moment. The probability now is, that nearly all of our citizens will sign the pledge. Many of our citizens who have never until recently been known as the active friends of the cause, are now zealously engaged in most praiseworthy efforts to benefit their fellow men.

BALTIMORE.—A movement is now in progress in Baltimore, which seems to promise most satisfactory results. The Howard Temperance Society has taken the matter in hand, and in a determined and praiseworthy spirit. This association has appointed a committee of three to apply to the mayor and city council, for an annual appropriation of one thousand dollars, or whatever other sum may, on examination of the facts that may be presented to a committee of that body, be deemed necessary, to maintain an establishment for the support of debilitated inebriates willing to reform their habits, until their constitutions shall be so far restored, that they can be pronounced fit to go to work and earn their own living.

THE EFFECTS OF DRUNKENNESS.—The great Lord Chancellor Bacon's opinion of drunkenness was, that "All the crimes on earth do not destroy so many of the human race, nor alienate so much property, as drunkenness."

THE VISITOR.

HALIFAX, N. S.

SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 15, 1842.

THE VISITOR.

The publication of a small periodical, whose leading feature should be the advocacy of Temperance, has been spoken for some time in Halifax. The publisher of these pages resolved on attempting to supply the want, and, accordingly, presents the first number of the *Visitor* to the Public. The Halifax Temperance Society have given the attempt their patronage, and similar support is hoped respecting the St. Mary's Society, and others throughout the Province.

Temperance is a subject of such importance, as to demand an organ at least, in which its interests shall be attended to, a matter of course; its friends hope, however, that the establishment of such an organ will not lessen the friendly efforts of other papers; the assistance of all is wanted, and the good in view is worthy of united exertion.

Temperance is a social virtue,—it inculcates its rules in preference to other virtues may follow. It is the friend of innocent cheerfulness, of information, and of human happiness generally,—its interests should never be separated from those of Piety and Philanthropy,—and every Member of a Temperance Society should feel, that the credit of his cause is to be supported, in the eyes of Heaven and of men, by the production of "good fruit" in all the departments of life. The person to whom is entrusted the Editorship of the *Visitor*, believes that he would do most good, by not confining the paper to one subject,—but, while making one the

chief, by blending articles of literature, education, useful knowledge, and general morality, in his pages, and thus making a useful, interesting, and novel addition to the publications of the week. He thus hopes to be able to present a small work, which may circulate generally among the population, but be particularly acceptable to those who have not much access to other works, and who may hail the *Visitor* as an agreeable companion to the Saturday evening's fire side.

The first number is not precisely a specimen of what the *Visitor* will be; some departments have been omitted, and others have over-run their share of space; we will soon be more acquainted with our limits, and have further sources to draw from.

We thank the Correspondents whose favours appear to-day,—and request them and others to enrich and diversify our pages by their contributions. We would gladly make the *Visitor* a vehicle by which the moral essayist and poet, might, in moments of leisure, communicate with the public, and employ their talents for the pleasure and improvement of others. Statistical information, reports, and other documentary papers connected with Temperance, are solicited from Town and Country. The Editor however, must exercise the right with which he is entrusted for the general good, by such supervision, as regards contributions, as may appear called for by circumstances.

Our object is to serve, and please, and give no just cause of offence. If, in opposing vice and its sources we shall cause objections among any portion of our fellow Colonists, we can only regret the result, but must not turn from the path of duty. Temperance has erected her banner for the union of all,—she knows no parties; but the holiest cause which the world ever knew had its difficulties—opponents who withstood, or lukewarm spectators who refused a helping hand. This must be expected, yet we trust to lessen such influence, by conciliation, and to see it yield before conviction and christian charity.

The terms of the *Visitor* are very low—none of its space is to be occupied by advertisements, except those connected with its objects—a large list, therefore, is essential, to prevent pecuniary loss to those who have undertaken the task, and who hope for such future improvements as an extensive sphere may render possible.

Secretaries of Temperance Societies, and others friendly to the cause, are requested to act as Agents for the *Visitor*.

Several articles intended for this department of the paper have been superceded, unexpectedly, by the extent of other matter.

We intend to insert a brief summary of late News in our future numbers.

The 37th Regiment, many of whom belonged to Halifax Temperance Societies, embarked in excellent style on Tuesday the 28th ultimo.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The winter, hitherto, has been marked by prevalence of scarlet fever, measles, and influenza. The continuance of wet weather, probably, tended to introduce these epidemics; and the great changes which followed frost and snow have been very trying to delicate persons.—*Novascotian*.