

perous state, in this town than it is at present. Weekly meetings are held for the purpose of looking after new members, at each of which two addresses are delivered—the first, of a general character, to the whole meeting; and the other to the newly-admitted members—and from 10 to 15 persons are usually admitted. These meetings are conducted by a sub-committee of five, which is appointed monthly to provide speakers, and make other necessary arrangements. By thus dividing the work among the different members of committee, the labour becomes comparatively light, while the good that is accomplished is very great. The success which has attended the operations of this society, has been mainly owing to the oneness of sentiment and action at all times shown by the committee. If at any time differences of opinion exist, the minority regularly and at once unite with the majority, in working out their plans, although they should not altogether meet their approval. This conduct is worthy the imitation of all; and, if universally followed, would do the temperance movement more real and lasting benefit than any plan we could name. Many flourishing societies have been rent asunder by imprudent individuals allowing petty personal quarrels to get the better of principle. We trust that such persons will now forget the bickerings and heart-burnings of former times, and devote themselves anew to the uprooting of their country's greatest curse, in which work they will find abundant room for all the time and energy at their command.—*Scottish Temperance Review*.

#### UNITED STATES.

**New York.**—*Synod of Albany.*—In regard to temperance, as intimately connected with the influence and reign of the purifying spirit of Christ, we both rejoice and weep together—rejoice, that our churches, without exception, and almost without exception of members in them; are firmly based on the principles of total abstinence from everything that can intoxicate—weep, that the barriers of legal prohibition swept away, nay, the law gilding the black deeds of the retailer, the traffic has greatly increased, and drunkenness, *out of the church*, proportionably augmented. In Troy, since the repeal of the law, under the fostering hand of 142 *licensed* retailing establishments, to say nothing of those selling without license, intemperance has quadrupled. In this city, under a like care of more than twice this number *licensed*, and about as many more unlicensed, about the same increase is reported. One brother from a distant village says, that though of late there has been a number of very remarkable cases of reformation that have come to his knowledge, yet within the last six months he has seen more *drunkenness* than he has before for the six years of his residence in the place—and another from an opposite direction, reports the same essentially of his village.

*Synod of Geneva.*—In the Temperance cause we have not so much cause of joy and congratulation as formerly. Less has been done, for a year past, than consists with our duty to inebriates, to those who traffic in intoxicating drinks, to the cause of good morals, and to the general welfare of society. Still there is no

reason to believe that we have lost our conscience in this matter, but that when providential indications shall be more directly encouraging, this cause will again receive our hearty co-operation in carrying it on to its destined result in the annihilation of the traffic as legalized, and in the legal security of the exposed from its temptations and its curses.

*Synod of New York.*—I'pon an overture on the question, "Is the retailing of intoxicating liquors a disqualification for church membership?" it was resolved that the constitution of the church furnishes a sufficient answer to the question. Referred to the Directory, ch. 9, sec. 2 and 3.

In the Presbytery of Columbia it was resolved that no answer can be given which could justly be applied to every case which now exists or may hereafter arise. If a man gives evidence that he is a child of God, he is to be admitted, but it is scarcely possible for any one to give such evidence and engage in the infamous business. The Presbytery resolved that it is the duty of every member to abstain from the manufacture, sale, and use of all intoxicating drinks, and to sign the total abstinence pledge.

**CONNECTICUT.**—Dr. Jewitt, the State agent, has resumed his labours in the State. His lectures are very able, and leave a good impression.

A writer from Meriden says:—"We have formed a cold water army here of about 600 children, and have so suppressed the sale of intoxicating drinks, that, if sold at all, they are sold very secretly."

The annual meeting of the State Society is appointed at Middletown. The Fairfield County meeting on the 31st October, was appointed at Weston.

#### Poetry.

##### THE FISHERMAN.

BY JOHN G. SAXE.

There lived an honest fisherman,  
I knew him passing well,  
Who dwelt hard by a little pond,  
Within a little dell.  
A grave and quiet man was he,  
Who loved his hook and rod;  
So even ran his line of life,  
His neighbours thought it odd.

For science and for books, he said  
He never had a wish;  
No school with him was worth a fig,  
Except a "school of fish."  
The single minded fisherman  
A double calling had—  
To tend his flock in winter time,  
In summer fish for shad.

In short, this honest fisherman  
All other toils forsook,  
And though no vagrant man was he,  
He lived by "hook and crook."  
All day that fisherman would sit  
Upon an ancient log,  
And gaze into the water, like  
Some sedentary frog.