

PURE GOLD. A WEEKLY JOURNAL FOR CANADIAN HOMES.

NINE months ago we began the publication of PURE GOLD—not without prognostications of failure from various quarters. So many enterprises of the kind (it was said) had failed, that it is as useless trying again. Still, we were convinced that there was abundant room for just such a paper as was contemplated, and that, if it was made worthy of support it would receive it, and so PURE GOLD was issued. For the first six months it was all up-hill work. Prejudices had to be overcome and public confidence in the stability of the enterprise established. But as the merits of the publication began to be known, prejudices gave way, and some who had prophesied failure became numbered among our warmest supporters.

Since the opening of the present year, many enquiries have been made concerning PURE GOLD—its character, objects, etc. For the information of all such, we re-publish the following from our Prospectus, issued in May, 1871: "The publication of the above named Journal is prompted by the following considerations:—1. 'The felt need of a Publication in which great moral and social questions—scarcely noticed by the present daily or weekly press—will have a prominent place.' 2. 'The value, to the public; of an able and reliable Journal in which public questions, of general interest, will be viewed from a high moral stand-point, and free from mere party bias.' 3. 'A desire to aid in circulating a pure, strong, healthful literature, throughout the Dominion.' 4. 'A desire to aid in producing a National Literature, and to encourage and develop home talent.' 5. 'The character of the proposed Journal may, in part, be inferred from the preceding statements. In its management the following principles will be kept in view:—1. 'In regard to Public Affairs:—All public measures to be judged on their merits, irrespective of mere party watchwords.' 2. 'In regard to Public Men:—Integrity, Morality and Intelligence, indispensable qualifications in our Public Men, and of vastly greater importance than party relationships.' 3. 'In regard to Education:—A liberal National system of Education, in which the great truths of the Christian religion shall be recognized as essential to the highest intellectual culture as well as to the future safety and well-being of the State.' 4. 'In regard to Religious Questions:—In things essential, unity, in things non-essential, liberty; in all things, charity.' 5. 'In regard to Temperance:—The education of public sentiment until it demands the entire prohibition of the Liqueur Traffic.' PURE GOLD will contain, from time to time,—2. LIVE ARTICLES, by able writers, on the most important MORAL, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL and PUBLIC QUESTIONS OF THE DAY. 3. A BRIEF RECORD OF PUBLIC OPINION; OR SELECTIONS FROM THE CONTEMPORARY PRESS. 4. TALES, SKETCHES OF TRAVEL, LITERARY SELECTIONS, IN POETRY AND PROSE, SCIENTIFIC READINGS, &c., such as may be read with pleasure and profit at every fireside in the Dominion. 5. RURAL AFFAIRS. 6. PROGRESS OF THE TEMPERANCE REFORM. 7. REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF BOOKS. TERMS: \$2.00 per ANNUM; \$1.00 for six months, invariably in advance. Any person sending the names of FIVE Subscribers, with \$10.00, will receive an extra copy GRATIS. All letters to be addressed, pre-paid, to PURE GOLD PUBLISHING CO., Toronto.

NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

1.—Any person who takes a paper regularly from the post-office whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment. 2.—If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrears, or the publishers may continue to send it until payment is made and then collect the whole amount, when the paper is taken from the office or not. 3.—The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the post-office, or removing and leaving them uncollected for, is "prima facie" evidence of intentional fraud.

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PURE GOLD.

TORONTO, AUG. 16th, 1872.

POLITICAL SITUATIONS.

THE following letter was sent on behalf of a committee of the Temperance men of this city. Answers as published, have been received from all the candidates without exception. Toronto, Aug. 5th 1872.

Dear Sir:—At a meeting of Temperance friends held on Saturday evening it was resolved as follows. That viewing Intemperance as the greatest curse under which our country suffers, and recognizing the duty of Government to legislate for its removal, to be a matter of graver moment, than any other question now before the electors, we request those gentlemen, who are seeking the

franchise of their fellow citizens, to state their views on this question, so that Temperance men, may be enabled to vote for those candidates favorable to their views. I therefore respectfully call your attention to the above, and hope to have a reply at your earliest convenience.

I am yours respectfully M. NASMITH. Box, 1,044. On behalf of the Committee. Toronto Aug. 8th, 1872.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your favor of the 5th inst., I beg to say that, in the event of my election, my voice shall be freely and boldly raised, to promote any measure, for the removal or mitigation of the causes of intemperance which may be brought under the consideration of the House of Commons.

I have the honor to be Sir, Your obt. servt. JOHN O'DONOHUE. North Adams, Mass. 8th. Aug. 1872.

DEAR SIR:—Your letter of the 5th inst. carrying a resolution passed by the Temperance friends of Toronto has just now reached me. In reply, I have to say that, I fully concur in the statements of the resolution, and if returned to parliament for the Centre Division of Toronto, will do all in my power to remedy the evil complained of.

Yours respectfully, F. SHANLY. Toronto Aug. 6th, 1872.

M. NASMITH ESQ. G. W. T. Good Templars. Toronto.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your favor of the 4th inst., enclosing a resolution passed by the friends of Temperance in this city, asking the views of candidates for parliament on the subject of Temperance, I have great pleasure in stating as follows:—1st, That I have been a member of the Toronto T. Reformation Society for many years. 2nd, That I entertain strong convictions of the evils of Intemperance. 3rd, That I am an advocate of any practical legislation for the abatement or suppression of Intemperance. 4th, I understand that, I am everywhere spoken against by the opponents of Temperance reformation because of these views. Should any of the Temperance voters of Toronto desire a personal interview, or any further explanation, I shall be most happy to give them.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT WILKS. Royal Canadian Bank. Toronto, 6th Aug. 1872.

DEAR SIR:—I have received your note of yesterday embodying a resolution, proposed at a meeting of the friends of Temperance in reference to the coming elections. The subject of prohibition or regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors comes within the powers exercised by the Provincial Legislature. The Dominion Parliament has no control over the matter. I may say however that, I am an advocate of Temperance, and I sincerely hope that, the efforts of those who are exerting themselves in its cause may meet with entire success.

Yours truly JOHN CRAWFORD. M. NASMITH ESQ. Toronto 10th Aug. 1872.

MY DEAR M. NASMITH:—In reply to your letter of enquiry referring to my views on Temperance, I beg to state that, ever since I joined the church of the living God about 40 years ago I have advocated the cause of Temperance, and I intend to do so in whatever position in life I may be placed. I shall give my support to any measure that will lead to the suppression of Intemperance.

I remain Sir, yours truly, JAMES BEATY. M. NASMITH ESQ. Toronto, 16th Aug. 1872.

SIR:—In reply to your note of 5th inst. requesting an expression of my views upon the Temperance questions, I have to say that having been an active advocate in the Cause for nearly twenty years, I heartily approve of the sentiments expressed in the resolution quoted in your letter. The principal argument in support of the legalizing of the liquor traffic is that the revenue of the country is greatly increased thereby; but as I consider this an unsound position, and as the moral and intellectual interests of a people transcend all others, I am in favor of legislative enactments to restrain, or, if possible, to entirely prohibit a traffic so disastrous to the highest and best interests of humanity.

J. A. McLELLAN

It may be said that election promises are like after-dinner speeches, for effect rather than to be acted upon, but in this case it is not so, for the convictions of the greater portion of the candidates we know by previous conduct are in favor of total abstinence and it remains to be seen if they will be put into practice. Every candidate is prepared to follow a leader in this matter. We can promise them that the leader and the measures both will be found and wherever elected we expect them not to be conveniently absent but to be present when the matter will be brought up, and support what they have pledged themselves to support, a measure for the removal of intemperance, or in one word for Prohibition.

ALCOHOL.

ONE of the Greek legends indicates that the knowledge of alcohol was coeval with the existence of mankind, or, at least, was known so early, that its discovery cannot be fixed at any definite period.

In Anthon's Classical Dictionary we find the following hint:—"Pandora, the first created female, and celebrated as having been the cause of the introduction of evil into the world,—was brought by Mercury to the dwelling of Epimetheus, who, though his brother Prometheus had warned him to be on his guard and to receive no gift from Jupiter, dazzled with her charms, took her into his house and made her his wife. In the dwelling of Epimetheus stood a closed jar, which he had been forbidden to open.—Pandora, under the influence of female curiosity, disregarding the injunction, raised the lid, and all the evils hitherto unknown to man poured out and spread themselves over the earth." Taking into consideration that there is no known evil which has not been promoted by alcoholic drinks, that there has been no kind of sorrow or suffering that has not had its origin in a measure from this same cause, that there is no known curse which has not sprung from it, may we not fairly infer that this jar of Pandora was simply a jug of whiskey? Surely no greater number of evils could have been contained in any one jar, than is caused by the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage. We can imagine that when Pandora raised the lid she partook of the contained liquor to ebriety. Epimetheus, her husband, coming in, partook also with the same result. The two became noisy,—called in the neighbours, and a general drunken row was the consequence. From the time of Pandora to the present, the drinking of alcoholic liquors has been a common habit, and, as yet, there seems to be no abatement in it. Medical research has proved that alcohol is always poisonous to the healthy human system, and should never be used except therapeutically, as other poisons are, and, even thus, it is seldom needed. We have the testimony of many occupying the first positions in America, that the use of alcoholic drinks is injurious. Vice-President Colfax, a life abstainer, was once present at a dinner. Wine was drunk pretty freely, when a Senator truthfully exclaimed:—"Colfax dare not drink!" "You are right," said Mr. Colfax, seriously, "I dare not! An experience of twenty-five years has convinced me that the best, wisest and safest rule for all, old and young, and more especially for those in public life, is total abstinence from everything that can intoxicate."

Senator Wilson, for 40 years a teetotaler, a present candidate for the Vice-Presidency, said:—"In Congress during the last 17 years I have found that the members, who used alcohol, were invariably the first to be prostrated by protracted work, and in my experience, while chairman of the committee on military affairs, I always found that the men to be relied on were those who drank not at all."

It is related of the late Gen. Robert E. Lee commander of the Confederate army during the late rebellion, that one morning shortly before the battle of Fredericksburgh, he and his staff were camped out in tents about three miles south of the Rappahannock River. Standing round the camp fire, shivering before each blast of biting wind which came from the frozen north, and reminding the sufferers that the thermometer was below zero, more than one was heard to mutter an aspiration for a glass of whiskey toddy or some other alcoholic stimulant. No one noticed that the general took any cognizance, or was even aware of this half-articulate expression of a wish. But presently emerging from his tent with a stone bottle or demijohn under his arm, he drew near to the camp fire and said:—"Gentlemen, the morning is very cold—the kindness of a friend enabled me to offer you a cordial; bring your tin cups and taste what I have here." There were one or two on-lookers who noticed a twinkle in the old soldier's eye and a lurking smile upon his mouth, which taught them to anticipate "a sell." But the majority of the company hastily fetched their drinking cups and stood expectant round their chief. The cork was drawn and the liquor proved to be buttermilk.

Upon another occasion two members of his staff sat up late at night discussing a keg of whiskey and a problem of algebra. On meeting one of them in the morning, General Lee enquired, as usual, after his health, and learned in reply that he was suffering from a headache. "Ah, colonel," remarked the old man, "I have often observed that, when the unknown quantities, X and Y, are represented by a keg of whiskey and a tin cup, the solution of the equation is usually a headache!" The late Admiral Farragut, who was at the head of the American navy, the hero of Mobile, and the first to occupy an office created expressly for his promotion, in responding at a public dinner to the toast—"To our Navy," taking in his hand a

glass of wine, said:—"The wine goes round pretty freely to-night. I take a glass with my dinner; but when I am on duty, and especially when going into action, I never allow myself to take a drop of any kind of stimulant. For when my country has trusted me with grave responsibilities, I could not bear the thought of doing anything that might lead me to distrust myself, or that might shake the confidence of officers and men in my command. To do my duty, I must respect myself."

In "this Canada of ours," are many men occupying positions of honour and responsibility, who have given similar testimony.

The Hon. S. L. Tilley, C. B., Minister of Customs, when in London, England, not long since, was not ashamed to drink the health of the Queen with pure cold water, and in the presence of Royalty too. It is needless to add that our noble Queen admires Mr. Tilley's adherence to principle.

The Hon. Malcolm Cameron has also on many public occasions fearlessly testified to the injury done by intoxicating drink.

Not many months ago, hundreds of the most gifted physicians of England signed a declaration that the use of alcohol, as a beverage, is injurious, and that, even as a medicine should be used with great caution. We thus have the testimony of the learned and of those occupying exalted positions in society, hence have ample opportunity for observing that alcohol is deleterious to our race. It remains for us then to take steps to banish this evil from our midst. Let us earnestly make the attempt, and doubtless success will crown our efforts.

JINGO.

THE CATACOMBS OF ROME.

BY PROF. JULES DE LAUNAY.

They dug the galleries so as to make them inaccessible to the tyrants, and baffled any effort to pursue the saints. The numerous shafts and the labyrinthine passages which it would require a familiar acquaintance to thread and follow, facilitated the escape of the christians from the pursuit of those relentless foes. In the vicinity of those entrances the scouts were placed so as to warn the saints of the approach of danger. Many of those openings, scattered all over Campania, are now overgrown with vines, and are quite dangerous to incautious riders. It is asserted that there are six hundred openings to the sixty-one catacombs, the catacomb of St. Agnes, owing to its numerous foramina, or shafts, became for ages a den of Eanditti. There they could lurk in comparative safety—and the agents of the Papal Police would never venture in such places, everywhere well arranged with means of escape. It is not without a tumult of emotions overwhelming us, that we peer away into the darkness. Interest in places die away when we descend. What crypt, what gallery records no episode of the great inbulation or the name of a christian here? A scene of blood under Diocletian was related by our guide.

"A party of soldiers found an entrance to the catacomb. They made their way through the hedge of laurel, that conceals the private opening—marched with determined tread down the steps of sandstone into the narrow labyrinth one by one—a torch bearer in front cautiously pursuing his path till he hears distant voices in conversation or singing. A noise startled the little party. The song is hushed; the colloquy is broken off. They listen. The sound of the comers is not that of brothers. It is too late for them to escape. A helmet is seen by the light of a torch. There are other helmets behind. The character and purpose of the visitors are but too evident. The christians are speedily overcome, bound and led away to some *bazilia* of a trial they are sentenced to die, the bodies of some were cast into the Tiber, others were exposed and left to be devoured by dogs. The remains of these, the faithful, gathered up and brought to the catacombs. The steps of the Martyrs' tomb served as a table of the Lord, and became the altar of the Primitive Church.

"BE CONSISTENT."

We were informed a few weeks ago in the *Casket*, over the signature of the G. W. C. T., of the I. O. G. T., Oranyhatekha, that it was a violation of the Temperance pledge to vote for any person engaged in the sale of intoxicating drinks. We are not aware if the letter of the law from which the above decision was drawn would be violated by a Good Templar canvassing for such a man, but as far as the spirit is concerned we have no doubt, for it is certainly less injurious with cause to vote yourself against it than to throw your own vote away and induce others to do what you are not allowed to do yourself.

What can we say of these Templars, Sons or members of other Temperance organizations who are using their influence to return opponents to their views to Parliament. Only this, that the organization to which they belong would be better without them, for a secret enemy is more dangerous than an open one, and we would advise the temples of divisions who have such members to get rid of them at any cost, for through them they are being made the laughing stock of the country, and through one such defaulter the efforts of the whole organization for good may be nullified.

While on this subject we must congratulate our friends on the return of Mr. Chisholm for Hamil,

ton. The man who had so long been in this nine-teenth century banquet in which no "wine nor strong drink" was allowed to be drunk is the man we want to send our interest in parliament.

REVIEW.

The Antiquana Magazine and Numismatic Journal—Published Quarterly by the Numismatic and Antiquana Society of Montreal, by Daniel Rose Montreal.

Terms, \$1.50 per annum in advance. This Magazine occupies a place hitherto unfilled in our literature, and to those who read the history of a country by its coins, and relies on it will be of great interest. Its contents are varied and interesting, and the subjects are in the most part treated in a masterly manner. The articles in the present and first numbers are as follows:—Introduction; Old Colonial Currencies, by S. E. Dawson; American Antiquities; The Roman Brick in Mark Lane, by the Rev. Professor De Sola, L. L. D.; A Montreal Club of the Eighteenth Century, by Alfred Saneham; Sir John Franklin laying the first stone of the Rideau Canal, from the "New Montreal Gazette," for August, 1872; a few words upon the knowledge of Coins, Medals and Miscellaneous Antiquities, by Henry W. Henfrey; a plea for an Archaic Coinage, by R. W. McLochlan; and numerous others. We wish it every success.

SUNSTROKE, OR THERMIC FEVER.—"Thermic Fever, or Sunstroke," by H. C. Wood, Jr., M. D., (Philadelphia; J. P. Lippincott & Co., 1872), was recently awarded the Boylston Prize, Harvard College. It is a very careful study of coup de soleil both in the light of hospital clinics and experiment. Dr. Wood has divided his essay into four parts: first, the clinical history of the disease; second, its nature; third, its treatment, and fourth, its sequelae or consequences. In his clinical history the author gives descriptions of the disease, extracts from the books of previous writers, which he supplements by cases in his own practice, especially in Pennsylvania. In this very succinct account of a rather uncommon disease Dr. Wood shows that death results from the failure of respiration, and not, as some have supposed, from the stopping of the heart. In his account of the nature of coup de soleil the author examines very carefully the opinions of his predecessors and contemporaries in the same line of research. He proves to a demonstration that it is a fever, and that as heat produces it, it is properly named thermic fever. Following in the line of Drs. Claude Bernard, Vallin, Brown Sequard, Ruhnke, and others, he has instituted a series of elegant experiments on the lower animals, in which he has fortified the position which his clinical researches has led him to adopt. He fitted to the head of a cat a "bonnet" through which a circulation of hot water was kept up, and after about an hour's interval the animal died. All the symptoms were identical with coup de soleil. In the third part of the treatment of thermic fever Dr. Wood says that blood-letting should be resorted to only on rare occasions. Cold douches or rubbings with ice is the real remedy. In some cases—that is of great exaltation—he would recommend hypodermic injections of morphia as well as the use of the cold bath. In his fourth part Dr. Wood gives a succinct description of the common consequences of coup de soleil—the deranged digestion, headaches, etc. The book is a model of its kind. It is what is known in Europe as a medical thesis, and is handled with circumspection and originality.—N. Y. World.

BOHEMIANISM.

It is surprising how many men are anxious to be called "Bohemians." It is a due to the press to state that those who aspire "Bohemian life" in the present signification of the term, are only the hangers-on of the journalism, men who have neither place, character, nor very high aim, and who delight in living by jerks and doing business by the job. Bohemianism, a word that was originally of doubtful respectability, though it possessed a certain strained charm of its own, has so lost its original modicum of dignity as to mean a careless life, intemperate habits, false excitements, an independence greatly resembling that of men who have "no visible means of support," the probability of a pauper's grave, and other features, all of which are supposed to be mingled with "a love for high art," and a certain flippant excitement of the pen which is often mistaken for real brilliancy. How a man can boast of being a "Bohemian," when the class have covered the word up in this, by no means doubtful disgrace, it would be hard to conceive. We have yet to hear its glorification from the country press, whose members are not easily deceived by mere words, and it is to be hoped that the low city class who adopt it will soon give up both the expression itself and the habits which it characterizes.

Correspondence.

ONTARIO TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITORY LEAGUE.

To the Editor of the PURE GOLD. DEAR SIR:—The Annual Meeting of the above-named society, will be held in this city. A few words on the cause of Temperance generally, and the operations of this society in particular, will not, we trust, be out of place in the pages of your excellent journal. The moral and social aspect of the temperance question is worked with