

THE CANADA

TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE,

DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE & NEWS.

PLEDGE.--We, the undersigned, do agree, that we will not use Intoxicating Liquors as a Beverage, nor Traffic in them; that we will not provide them as an article of Entertainment, nor for persons in our Employment; and that in all suitable ways we will discountenance their use throughout the community.

VOL. XVIII.]

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 16, 1852.

No. 4

Sixteenth Annual Report of the Montreal Temperance Society.

This meeting took place on Monday evening, 2nd February, in the Wesleyan Church, Great St. James Street. The President of the Society, Mr. John Dougall, occupied the chair, and ably conducted the proceedings. The audience was numerous, respectable, and apparently deeply interested; and the speakers were argumentative and convincing. The Report, which will be found below, was read by Mr. J. C. Becket, Cor. Secretary. The list of resolutions appended indicate the names of the speakers who took a part in the exercises. Upon the whole this was one of the best Temperance Anniversary Meetings that the Society has held.

REPORT.

The operations of this Society since last Annual Meeting have not been numerous, but they present some points of great interest, which will be noticed in their order.

DISTRIBUTION OF TEMPERANCE TRACTS.

The last report contained a recommendation to employ a Temperance Visitor, or Tract Distributor for this city, and in pursuance thereof, this Committee shortly afterwards engaged the services, in that capacity, of Mr. John Ritchie, who labored for about three months. His reports showed a very large number of visits paid, and 57,600 pages of temperance tracts were distributed; an amount of seed, which, it is hoped, has produced fruits already, and will yet produce more.

TEMPERANCE HOTEL.

Mr. Duclou, the well known and respected proprietor of the Eagle Hotel, having announced his intention of opening his House on Temperance principles on the 1st of May last; the Committee had great pleasure in aiding him to celebrate that important occasion by a Soiree, and also to recommend and advertise his house in various ways as one which enjoyed their confidence, both on account of its general good management and the upright character of its owner, which was a guarantee that he would make it really what it professed to be, a Teetotal House. The Committee are happy now to add their testimony to the fidelity with which Mr. Duclou has carried out his principles, to congratulate him on the success of his experiment, and to bespeak for his House increased patronage. It is hoped that no long time will elapse ere they may be able to add other Hotels in the city to the list, as Temperance Houses.

THE SARATOGA CONVENTION.

This great convocation of the Temperance men of North America was attended by two delegates from the Montreal Society,—one from the Montreal Young Men's Temperance Society, and one from the Howard Division Sons of Temperance—

in all, four. The meetings of the Convention proved exceedingly profitable and interesting, and the principles there agreed upon mark a new era in the Temperance Reformation. The best mode of protecting Society against Intemperance by Legislation was the great theme of discussion; and the Delegates were unanimously in favor of the Maine Law, in its substantial features. It would be out of place here to expatiate upon that law, but we cannot allow the opportunity to pass without recommending it to the attention of Canada, as the most effectual remedy yet devised for the evils of Intemperance. One of the recommendations of the Saratoga Convention was, that delegates should, on their return home, hold meetings to explain its proceedings to their constituents. A meeting was accordingly held in Montreal, at which the delegates reported, and which was favored with an address from Judge Marshall, of Halifax.

It may be remarked here, that one of the most effective speakers at Saratoga, was Dr. Jewett, whose explanations concerning the principles and operation of the Maine Law were most lucid and convincing, and it gives this Committee great satisfaction to know that that distinguished speaker has been engaged by the Young Men's Society for a series of lectures, to be delivered in this city, commencing next week.

Your Committee felt much satisfaction in being the agents to secure a second visit from John B. Gough to Canada, last fall. Mr. Gough lectured a week in Montreal with distinguished success, and afterwards proceeded to fulfil other engagements along the Ottawa and through Canada West. By the time he reached Kingston, however, the weather was so inclement, and his health so precarious, that he was compelled to postpone his appointments farther West, until next spring, when we hope he may be in health and strength to resume his beneficent career.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Committee cannot close this brief report without indicating some objects to which they think special attention should be turned during the ensuing year, among which are:

1st. The employment of a Temperance Visitor and Tract Distributor for the city. This is deemed a very efficient agency to advance the cause, and should, in the opinion of the Committee, be a prominent object with their successors.

2nd. The opening of public fountains, for the use of emigrants, strangers and laborers, about the wharves, markets, and other places of public resort, in large cities, should be strenuously urged upon the civic authorities. As without them, every one who requires to quench thirst must go into a dram shop. We consider it quite in place here to notice the promptitude with which our civic authorities accepted and acted upon a suggestion on this subject from temperance friends, and while we thank them for what they have done, we would venture to hope that