

every third or fourth house at least should be licensed to dispense, what Robert Hall called, "liquid death, and distilled damnation."

At Windsor, Western District, I held two temperance meetings, at one of which I was assisted in addressing the audience by our old friend William Williams, who says he now has very rarely an opportunity of opening his lips on the subject of temperance. Both meetings were interesting; the persons addressed being principally Volunteers who had come from the interior to defend the frontiers, and who seemed to be generally of the opinion that they would be far better without strong drink of any kind; but, unfortunately, fashion and custom were so strong that they could not act upon their convictions. If, however, they are visited in quieter times, and well supplied with publications, I have no doubt very great effects will be produced, as I was earnestly solicited by several individuals to visit their respective neighbourhoods. In conversation with many of the Volunteers I found they would gladly have the Government allowance of liquor commuted for an allowance of coffee, vegetables, or money, as they were all conscious of the very great harm that liquor was doing, not only to themselves, but the service. I therefore took the liberty of waiting on Col. Foster when I returned to Toronto; and laying before him the facts which I have detailed, dwelling strongly upon the advantage that would accrue to the men themselves, to the service, and to the country at large, if this wish of the Volunteers, respecting the commutation of their allowances of liquor were complied with. He was deeply grieved at the extent to which drunkenness was carried, but said that the liquor was served out in accordance with a rule of the service, which could not be altered.

Upon the whole, I am inclined to think from what I have recently witnessed, and in part detailed above, that we must change our plan of operations in some essential respects. We must lay our foundations deeper, by setting that mighty engine the press more extensively to work. We have hitherto been, perhaps, too anxious to swell the number of pledged members of the Temperance Society, and have induced many, in the enthusiasm attendant upon public meetings, to enrol their names, who, having no strength in themselves, fall before the temptations that continually beset them, and thus cause the name of Temperance Societies to be a jest and a bye-word. It would, I think, be better to direct our chief attention to introduce the undeniable truths elicited by temperance investigations to the notice of every family in the country, to pervade the whole land with appeals to the common sense and Christian benevolence of the people, and to awaken every man's conscience to a sense of his responsibility in this matter, in order that the dominion of intemperance might be universally undermined, so that when it did fall, the fall might be great.

At the same time I earnestly desire that those who feel strong in the truth: who are willing, in humble reliance upon the grace of God, to fight the good fight against the mighty—the licensed destroyer, who is now preying upon the very vitals of the community, till alcoholic drinks be entirely banished from common use as a beverage—I earnestly desire, I say, that such should stand forth in all parts of the country as witnesses of the truth, and as leaders in this great reformation. A reformation which, when successful, will cut off at once and forever the greater part of all the evils which now afflict the human race, and prepare the way for the time of universal peace, purity, and happiness promised in the Gospel.

It only remains for me to add the weight of my experience to the testimony of thousands, that intoxicating drinks are not necessary to enable us to bear cold or fatigue; and I may also add, anxiety of mind. In the course of my recent journeys, in the very depth of a Canadian winter, I have travelled about 2200 miles, principally in open waggon, and often times two or three days and nights without rest. At one part of the road I was obliged to walk about forty miles, carrying or dragging my luggage, and some times sinking into water and ice two or three feet deep. Yet I never felt either the inclination or the need for any kind of intoxicating drinks, and suffered less from cold and fatigue than some of my fellow passengers, who thought that liquor did them good.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

JOS. DOUGALL.

Canada Temperance Advocate.

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor drink wine, nor do any thing by which thy brother is made to stumble, or to fall, or is weakened." ROM. xiv. 21.—*Magnific's Foundation.*

MONTREAL, APRIL, 1838.

The information which we are able to give under the head of "Progress of the Temperance Reformation" this month will be found unusually interesting. The most important item is the act of the State Legislature of Tennessee, repealing the License Laws, and declaring the retailing of spirituous liquors a misdemeanour. Tennessee has, by this, laid the whole Christian world, and especially the friends of Temperance, under obligation to her. We confess that she has taken us by surprise. We expected that something would be "done" in Maine very speedily, and we hope this will give an impulse to her movements, but we had no idea that any such measures were in contemplation in Tennessee.

The Legislature of that State have thus declared that, in their judgment, the traffic in spirituous liquors is a fit subject for legislation. In this we fully concur with them, though some difference of opinion exists respecting it. Such legislation is not intended to curtail the liberties of individuals, but to protect those of the public. It is purely defensive. It takes away from individuals the liberty to injure their neighbours, and this is a liberty which they ought never to possess. But the act itself seems to us a very defective one, if the copy, which is given in another page, and which we have extracted from the *Journal of the American Temperance Union*, is correct. It prohibits only the "retailing of spirituous liquors," and licensing houses for that purpose. It appears then that the Distiller and Importer are still to be permitted to follow their avocations, and that houses may be licensed for the sale of other intoxicating drinks. If this is the case, the present act will have little practical effect, but we hope that its moral influence will be great and extensive. Tennessee has set an example to the other States, which, we hope, will be soon imitated. Will Canada be ready, when the movement has come northwards to her borders? *Nous verrons.* But every successive act of the different States, as they follow one another, condemning and prohibiting the fatal traffic, will give the cause "a lift" here.

We entirely agree with "A Christian Philanthropist" in the sentiments which he expresses; but we question the wisdom of singing out *one* religious body, and directing against it such severe animadversions.

We have just received a communication informing us that what we stated last month respecting the duties, imposed by the British Government on Spirits and Books respectively, imported into Canada, is incorrect. We regret that it has come *too late* for insertion in this number. We shall give it at large next month.