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THE ABSTAINER.

ORGAN OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE
SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

EDITOR.

Fidelity—Union—Perseverance.

JAMES BARNES & CO.
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VOLUME IV.

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 15, 1860.

NO. 12.

THE LAMENT OF A DRUNKARD'S WIFE.

Oh! I was once a happy wife,
Had neither sorrow, grief, nor care;
I lived a quiet, contented life,
Beloved by him I lo'd most dear;
For then my Jamie was sincere,
An' wun'd a life o' honest fame,
To rise bytimes he wun'a sweer;
At night he aye cam' sober hame.

But, wae's my heart, there cam' a change
O'er Jamie's mind—I kenna hoo—
Wi'ither eliels he 'gan to range
Ilk e'enin, when his work was through;
The public house they aye gaed to,
An' there they drank, an' swore, an' sang,
Till whisky fill'd them a' sae fit,
That hame they n'er were fit to gang.

Oh, whiskey is a deadly curse—
A thing that's guid for nocht ava;
My Jamie grew frae bad to worse,
An' n'er frae drink could bide awa;
His faithfu' wife an' bairnies sma'
Who strove to keep him aye at hame,
Were left in hunger's cruel claw,
To mourn their wretchedness an' shame.

I'm worn doon wi' grief an' care,
My bairnies cry for bread—for bread!
My heart is sair, an' cold despair
Creeps o'er my soul wi' weight o' lead;
I feel as tho' the slender thread
O' my pair life were soon to break,
But spare, O God Almighty, spare
The mither, for the children's sake!

For oh! I canna, canna leave
Them friendless, hameloss, here below—
Their little hearts would sadly grieve—
Would break—if e'er it should be so.
Baith day an' night, that they may know
The less o' want, the less o' ill,
Whate'er my han's may find to do,
That will I do, wi' a' my skill.

An' oh! if Jamie yet would mend,
And be what ayece he was before;
Oh wad he never mair attend
Their drunken spree, or filthy splore,
Then, as in happy days o' yore,
Around our wee bit cottage hearth,
Our bairns might play—a merry core—
An' wake sweet notes o' joy an' mirth.
Edinburgh. ALEX. STUART.

Original Tale.

[WRITTEN FOR THE ABSTAINER.]

SIDNEY'S WARNING.

It was an elegant room, half parlour, half library. The carpet was of the richest, softest texture, green blending in deep brown and fading away in pale crimson,—the furniture of curious and old-fashioned workmanship had defied the touch of time, and stood in its pristine glory a little stiffly to be sure, but yet far handsomer than half of the flimsy trash of modern make. On one side of the room stood a carved mahogany book-case filled with old-fashioned but substantial looking volumes that appeared as if they contained a world of information. A piano standing open, and pictures that bespoke the touch of a master hand arranged with care and exactness as to the effect of light and shade, told of the wealth and refined taste of the occupant. Near a large bow-window toward the west,—from which the heavy damask curtains were carelessly looped back to admit the last beams of departing day,—sat a lady—her mourning dress, trimmed with folds of sombre crape, fell gracefully around her slight figure, revealing the delicate whiteness of her complexion; the pure forehead gleamed like marble from beneath the dark abundant tresses that fell over it; and in the expression that lurked around the corners of the sweet mouth, was a world of sorrow subdued by christian resignation and holy trust; her large mournful eyes were fixed on a picture that hung opposite in a rich gilded frame—a picture of a noble looking man, evidently taken in the morning of life, in the glory of his young manhood; the full white brow, waving hair, and sweet earnest mouth, were an exact counterpart of hers, and told of the relationship existing between them. The glory of the day faded in the west, and the shadows deepened in the room, but yet she sat there apparently in deep meditation; for memory, painfully faithful to her trust, had drawn aside the veil of the

past, and before her with fearful distinctness passed scenes that had been enacted fifteen years before.

The door softly opened and a young man entered; not more than twenty summers had passed over his frank sunny brow, and sorrow had left no lingering trace there,—for Sidney Harrison's life had thus far been as joyous as a summer day. Everything that wealth and loving parents could procure had been his; an only child petted and indulged twenty years would have found him ruined, had not he possessed an open frank disposition, an ardent loving nature, mingled with a reverence of everything good and beautiful. To his mother's only sister, who had resided with them from the time of his fifth year, he owed much for what was really good in his character. It was impossible for any one to come within the range of her holy influence, and not be made better and purer by it.

"Well Auntie," he exclaimed, as he drew a footstool toward her, and seated himself at her feet; "I have come according to promise for the story you wished to tell me; but now I am here, you look so sad it almost frightens me, and I have a mind to back out, as they say."

"It is sad, Sidney," she answered, gently caressing the brown curls, "but if I did not believe it necessary for you, I would not pain you with a recital of the sorrows that have darkened my whole life.—Do you remember the words you so thoughtlessly uttered last night?"

"No, Aunt, what were they?"

"You know when Kate Murrey insisted upon your drinking wine with her, and held out the ruby liquid so temptingly, you replied something like this, 'Although I had partly decided to drink no more wine, yet who can resist so eloquent a pleader as you are, Miss Kate; I find Eve still lives.' Now, dear Sidney, it was said thoughtlessly I know, but if you could have known the pang that wrung my heart when I saw you so happy, gay, and unsuspecting, with your feet just pressing the brink of a flower-covered precipice, and knew you were lured from a promise made to me by the sweet voice of a lovely deceiver, who has not your soul's welfare at heart as I have, you would not have wondered that I turned from the gay scene to the dim solitude of my room, to weep bitter tears for my own blighted hopes, and to tremble with fear for the moral safety of one dearer than my own life."

"Why, Aunt, dearest Aunt, how seriously you talk. Surely you do not think I shall ever become a drunkard! What harm can there be in taking a glass of wine at a fashionable party with a young friend out of compliment?"

"Sidney, look at me. For fifteen years I have borne a seared and blighted heart. My sable robes have hung to me, a memento of past misery. I have tried to lay them aside and be gay, but I cannot; my cheek has become pale, my step prematurely subdued, and my eyes often dim with weeping. The glad song of girlhood was changed to the wail of sorrow, and I, in the spring of existence, in the hey-day of life, just exulting in the glory of living, was suddenly plunged into dense palpable darkness, through which light seldom shines. Sidney, for fifteen years the sun has not shone to me as it used to, the birds have not sung as in the olden glow of life. Nature has been an unmeaning blank, anguish has forbidden me to smile, and I have wept until it often seems as if I had no more tears to shed. Look at that picture opposite, you know it well, 'is the image of my only brother. It was painted when about your age. Did you ever see a fairer face? so noble and generous, and that tender earnest smile around the mouth. Oh! my brother, my brother, would to God I had died for you;" and, overcome by her emotion, she bowed her head and wept convulsively. "Sidney," she said, at length "you were named for him, and you are like him in disposition and appearance. I have watched over you ever since you were a little child, and have striven to have you escape the shoals on which he made such total wreck; and oh, Sidney, have I striven in vain? You are my only hope; if you fail me, life has no other joy. On you I hope to lean when I walk the down-hill of life. I need your tender love and sympathy. I cannot be robbed of this one treasure. In the loneliness of my chamber last night I wrestled with God and cried earnestly to him, that he would save you from present and eternal ruin. It is for this I shall tell you that part of the history of my brother that has hitherto been kept from you.

"My mother fell quietly asleep when I was born. Her mild blue eyes never looked on me; she closed them forever just as my first feeble wail sounded on her ears. They laid her away beneath the roses of June, and left her grave to minister to the wants of the little weeping frail thing thrown so suddenly on their care. There were two beside me, your mother, then rapidly advancing to womanhood, and Sydney, a rosy-cheeked laughing boy of three years. There were three little graves beside my mother's, and three dear little children older than he slept there. He was the last boy, the only one who had outlived the time of infancy. My father worshipped him. After my mother's death he became more fond of him than ever. He would scarcely suffer him from his sight. He watched over him, fearful lest the dread destroyer might bear him away on his shadowy wings, and he should go to make another grave by the little green mounds in the old church-yard. But his fears were ungrounded; he reached his twelfth year a healthy, happy, rosy boy. About that time your mother married and quitted the dear old Hall, to live many miles away, happy, however, with the man of her choice. My father was very wealthy, and, at the time of my mother's death, had retired from business that he might have more time to devote to us. He undertook our education—being himself a classical scholar, we found in him the best of teachers. So jealous was he lest we might imbibe some injurious principles that he would neither employ tutor nor governess! Oh! Sidney, those happy childhood hours, how the memory of them comes over me like a soothing balm!

"On the hill, at a little distance from our house, stood the elegant residence of a widow lady of some fortune. Mrs Morrison had two children, a son and a daughter. She was a distant relative of my mother's, so we were very intimate. Philip and Alice often spent their mornings with us, reciting, studying, or reading some of the glorious works of the old authors, until our ardent young hearts would be all afire at the lofty deeds of heroism, or the mournful lays of tenderness would melt us into tears. We all had fine voices, and in the quiet gloaming we would sing sweet old ballads, or listen to our father as he played on the deep-toned organ, the divine compositions of Mozart or Handel. One mind moulded ours,—we were alike in thought and sentiment. Alice was fair, gentle, and quiet, but always happy. Philip was brave, generous, and tender, like Sidney, easily influenced for good or evil. The days of our childhood and early youth passed away like a happy dream. Our mornings were spent in study—our afternoons in reading, drawing, or music,—and in the quiet summer evenings we would wander in the garden, or extend our walks still farther, and roam at will over the green meadows and beautiful hills that lay stretched around us, like the Garden of Paradise, to our enthusiastic, ardent natures. And so the stream of our lives flowed calmly, evenly on, until Sidney had reached his eighteenth year, and I my fifteenth, when a change came. The first light of "love's young dream" dawned sweetly upon us, almost unconsciously. I found I was only happy in Philip's society, and Sidney sought oftener the sweet smile of Alice. I was happy, too happy, a crowning glory had settled upon my peaceful life. I asked for no greater bliss. Ah! why could not those days of unbroken joy have lasted longer? why were they changed so soon for years of bitter anguish?"

"Sidney's nineteenth birthday was a day of sorrow. The next morning he was to leave home, in company with Philip, for college. To spend a year away from them seemed like an eternity. Oh! what bitter tears I wept when I knew they must go, for I felt that the old joys could never return. I knew that a year's intercourse with fashionable society must change them. Well, the last evening came, and Philip and I stood together in the dim old library, exchanging our vows of eternal constancy. I saw his dark, earnest eyes bent full upon me, and I heard his words of tenderness in the inmost depths of my soul. Oh, how I loved him! It was idolatry, and God punished me. I caught the gleams of Alice's white robes as she and Sydney walked through the garden, and when, a few moments after, we joined them, I knew by the pale sweet face that she was betrothed. The moon shone through fleecy clouds softly upon us, the night-birds sang their saddest songs, and the wind moaned mournfully through the trees, as we returned with full hearts to the house. I cannot linger over that

parting; it brings the past too vividly to my mind. It is enough to say they went, and it seemed for weeks as if every joy had gone with them. We could not enjoy our walks, our books were laid aside, and music had lost its charm; but gradually, as time wore on, and we received letters from the absent telling of their happiness and enjoyment, of the novelty around them, we returned to our old pursuits.

"Half of the year had passed when Mrs Morrison was taken suddenly ill. The best medical skill was procured, but all in vain. After a few weeks of extreme suffering, she rested on the bosom of Jesus, and Alice was an orphan. After the funeral was over, the great white house on the hill was closed, and the lonely mourning girl came to live with us until Philip's return. It was my melancholy duty to acquaint him of his mother's death, and his mournful letter in answer told how tenderly that mother had been loved, and of his deep and heart-felt sorrow that he had not been with her to have received her dying blessing. Well, the year passed and they returned. Philip, pale and sorrowful, folded me in his arms, and Sidney fervently kissed the pale cheek of Alice. They were happy to be home once more, they said, though it was only for a short time, for in a few weeks they must return to their college-life for another year. My heart died within me. I tried to be happy, but could not. I saw too plainly they had changed. The purity of their souls had been sullied by contact with the world; they had not returned as they went. Our simple pleasures had not the relish they once had, they longed for something more exciting, and so they left the peaceful shades of the dear old elms, and our heartfelt love, for the busy city and their gay companions. A year passed away, and they did not return. Sidney's frequent applications for money seemed to arouse my father's suspicions. He became peevish and fretful, and it was evident a feeble old age was fast coming upon him. Alice, too, did not seem as well as usual; a slight cough, attended by a pain in her side, alarmed me greatly. And I knew that Sidney's apparent neglect did not administer much either to her health or happiness. Yet she never complained, and I kept my grief closely locked in my own heart. I could not bear to add a feather's weight to her fears.

"The summer passed away drearily enough to me, and when the autumn days grew short and dark, they returned, just in time, however, to accompany Alice and I to the city of B—, where she had been ordered for better medical attendance. I left my father with feelings of regret, but the dear old man loved Alice so tenderly, and knew that I was so necessary to her happiness, that he readily agreed to anything that would be for her advantage. The novelty of spending the winter in the city, and the prospect of its benefitting Alice, made me more hopeful and happy than I had been for some time. I hoped I could win Philip and Sidney back. I presumptuously thought I could break the chain of evil influences that surrounded them. I trusted in my own strength, and, alas! I found too late it was a broken reed to lean upon.

"Plunged in the dissipation of a fashionable city, I found what little restraint we exercised was soon swept away by the ruthless hand of worldly folly; yet were Philip and Sidney as dearly loved as ever. Our hearts were not changed. Such love as ours knew no change. Night by night I would sit by the couch where Alice lay, pale and languid, while Philip and Sidney spent the hours in the ball-room, at the opera, and theatre, and, alas! too often at the gaming table. I tried not to complain. I tried to win them to other enjoyments by kind words and gentle smiles. I hid my sorrow from them, that I might not make them unhappy when in my presence, but there were hours when the old-time happiness would come to us again, quiet morning hours, when, weary with the previous night's dissipation, they would seek the room of the invalid to wile away the time, and often an old song that we used to sing together, or a loving word, would cause my heart to beat hopefully.

"Dear Alice, she faded away gently and quietly; she suffered very little, but it was evident to me she would not long need earthly physicians. Sidney did not believe it, he continually assured himself she would be better when the spring came, and the roses bloomed; dear angel, she was better.

"Philip would say, 'Ally, dear, we will all go to Italy next year, and the balmy climate will bring back the roses to your cheek. We will all be happy

thers, and you, Constance, will learn to smile of-
tender.' I brushed away the tears and spoke cheer-
fully. I could not dim their pleasant prospects, for
I knew too well when the roses bloomed Alice
would sleep beneath them.

"One stormy, dreary night in January, I sat
alone in the drawing-room. I had prepared every-
thing for Alice's comfort during the night, and had
left her in a peaceful doze. I felt unusually wretch-
ed—a foreshadowing of coming ill rested upon me;
I could not drive it away. I went to the piano and
tried to play, but it jarred painfully on my over-
wrought nerves. I looked out of the window re-
peatedly. The storm raged fearfully, and the night
was intensely dark. I had not seen Philip or Sid-
ney since dinner, and then their strange conduct
alarmed me. Philip's brow was clouded, and he
spoke very little, and seemed to evade all conver-
sation with Sidney. I knew that there was some
trouble, and longed to ask their confidence, but
dare not intrude. Philip, after swallowing two or
three glasses of wine, left the table hastily without a
word to me. Sidney arose and stood by Alice's
chair a moment, as if he wished to say something.—
Then, suddenly changing his mind, he stooped, and,
kissing her tenderly, left the room. I thought this
all over,—every look and word came vividly before
me. The clock rang out the hour of midnight. I
threw my dressing gown around me, and, leaning
my head back, tried to sleep. Another hour pass-
ed,—the streets grew quieter,—the gas burnt less
brightly,—a drowsy sensation crept over me,—I
slept, and dreamed a fearful night-mare dream. A
noise in the lower hall awakened me. It sounded
like the tramping of many feet. I rushed to the
door, threw it open, and, leaning over the railing,
I looked down into the dimly-lighted hall. I saw a
group of rough looking men bending over a litter
on which lay a prostrate figure. The face was
ghastly pale. I looked a moment—it was Sidney.
In an instant I was at his side. His eyes were
closed. I thought he was dead. His brown hair
was dabbled in blood from a great clotting wound
across his forehead. 'Is he dead?' I screamed
frantically. 'Oh! Sidney, Sidney, speak to me.'
He opened his blue eyes languidly, and smiled.—
'Constance, I am dying,' he said with difficulty.—
'Don't blame Philip; it was my fault. Tell him I
forgive him. Alice! Alice! come to me.' He held
out his arms. There was a rustling of robes. I
looked up. Alice stood by my side in her white
night robes. Her face was ghastly pale. My
screams had aroused her; she glanced wildly from
one to the other, then, with a piercing scream, she
threw herself on his breast. Some one tried to lift
her up. 'Let her alone,' the physician said, softly;
'poor young man, he is dead.' The hall door was
thrown open and Philip rushed in without his hat.
He looked like a madman,—great drops of sweat
stood on his brow. 'Constance, I have killed him.
I have killed him with my own hand. Forgive me,
for God's sake. I knew not what I did.' And,
rushing past me furiously, he fled up the stairs be-
fore I could answer him. I stood looking after him
like one in a dream. My senses seemed leaving
me, when the sudden report of a pistol sounded in
my ears. For one instant I comprehended all.—
The dimly-lighted hall, the group of men with pale,
sorrowful faces, and the white, stiffening corpse of
my only brother, half covered by the prostrate form
of Alice, and then the horrid scene in the upper
room. I knew that one dearer than my own life
had fallen by his own hand. The floor seemed slid-
ing from under me,—a horrid darkness gathered
over my eyes, my senses mercifully fled, and I sank
unconsciously by the side of my murdered brother.
Oh! Sidney, would to God I could shut out that
scene from my memory for ever. But it cannot be,
time will not heal the wound grief has made. I never
looked upon either face again. For many weeks
I was insensible to everything. At last I arose a
shadow of myself, scarcely conscious of anything.—
I wandered about like a lost spirit, pale and wan.
They carried me back to my old home; my poor
father met me at the door. Oh, how I was shocked
at his appearance. My once proud, noble-looking
father as feeble and imbecile as an idiot—his intel-
lect gone, his reason shattered, he stood before me
a wreck of his former self.

"When they raised Alice from the bosom of
Sidney, a small crimson stream trickled from her
mouth. She never spoke again. In the dim morn-
ing light her spirit went forth to meet his. Kind
friends prepared everything for their last home,
and they were taken back to the spot that had been
so dear in other days. They sleep side by side be-
neath the shade of a broad willow. I never learned
the particulars of that horrible night,—I never wish-
ed to know. But one thing I do know, that Sidney
came to his death by a blow from Philip's hand in a
moment of intoxication. It seems wonderful to me
how I lived through such a scene, but the human
heart can bear much, can suffer and break, and yet
'brokenly live on.' The summer passed away I
scarcely know how, but I believe the most of my
time was spent at their graves when darkness veil-
ed every object, or, in my room with the light of day
excluded.

"The next winter my father died, but I did not
weep. He had been dead to me so long, a very
child, neither companion nor friend, I was thankful
that he was at rest, and longed to lie down by his
side. I coveted the peace of the quiet sleepers in
the grave. I did not see your mother through it all,
for about that time you were born, and her health
was too feeble to undertake so long a journey.

"The great white house on the hill passed to the
next heir, a coarse, good natured man, with a grown
up family. The shutters were soon thrown open,
gay company passed up and down the broad ave-
nues, and all was life and festivity in the place that
should have been my home. For five years I wan-
dered about the haunts of my childhood like a spec-
tre, pitied by all, approached by none. So closely
was I enveloped in my own mourning that none
dared offer their sympathy. I was heirless with your
mother of all my father's vast estate. I did not value
wealth, I could not bring back the love I had lost.
I would have given it all willingly for rest in the
grave. Summer succeeded winter, only marked by
the roses on their graves. The garden was over-
grown with weeds. Every thing had a gloomy, de-
serted look. One by one the servants dropped off
—they did not thrive well in such a gloomy atmos-
phere. At last they were all gone but the old house-
keeper and her husband. We lived there alone,
with the greater part of the Hall closed. One or
two rooms were enough for me. I never entered
those where I had been happiest. They were all
shut up with their elegant furniture, to dust and
decay. I thought I was shut out forever from the
world, when, unexpectedly, your mother came from
her far American home, bringing you with her. It
was a mournful meeting, but I felt peace in once
more leaning my weary head on my sister's bosom.
During her stay I became so much attached to you
that when circumstances made it necessary for her
to return to the duties of her home, I found it im-
possible to be separated from you. After a great
deal of entreaty I was induced to leave their graves
for a home on another continent. The old Hall and
all the lands were disposed of to a young nobleman,
and I tore myself away from the spot dearest to me
on earth.

"Many fathoms of ocean roll between their graves
and me. I shall not sleep by their sides as I had
hoped to, but I shall meet them all again, when the
green mounds shall yield up their trust. Till then
I wait in hope. And now Sidney, do you blame
me for my fears?"

He had covered his face with his hands, and was
weeping.

Constance arose and walked the room softly, until
his tears were wiped away, when he looked up and
said in a clear decided tone—"I will never drink
wine again as a beverage, so help me God." And
that promise was faithfully kept. He lived to be a
good and noble man beloved and respected by all
who knew him. Constance Egerton lived to find
the happiness of her old age in her nephew and his
children; and at last when she peacefully fell asleep,
it was on the bosom of Sidney she leaned her head,
and it was his voice that gently soothed her when
the pangs of death had hold upon her, and her hand
lingered last upon his head in loving benediction.
She died peacefully and hopefully murmuring the
names so dear to her. A white marble shaft over
her place of rest points to the home above, and chil-
dren hands keep the turf green upon her grave.

Many years have passed since then, and in the
drawing-room of one of her descendants hangs the
picture of Sidney Egerton. And if any of the fa-
mily are ever tempted to the use of intoxicating li-
quors, the sad history is related, and they take warn-
ing therefrom.

THE ABSTAINER.

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 15, 1860.

GROCERY vs. GROG SHOPS.

Is there any other part of the world but Hal-
ifax, where the terms which form the head of this
article are confounded so as to mean the same
thing? We know not; but to many ears the com-
bination sounds offensive and anomalous. Grocery
used to signify the place where the poor man
could get his bit of cheese and bacon,—and the
good woman her grain of tea and sugar, and tri-
fle of spice,—and the name was significant of
humble luxury, and of cozy gatherings about fa-
mily fire-sides. Now, what does it too often
mean? Does it not signify the decoy where vil-
laneous compounds called liquors are vended;—
where the poor man is, in effect, much more than
swindled out of his scant cash?—where he becomes
worse than brutified, and whence he goes to terrify
and blast the poor tenement where he is still cal-
led husband and father? Husband and father,
indeed! the names written in such connection
might well blister the paper on which they ap-
pear. They are among the most sacred titles in

the world,—they include some of the dearest
earthly privileges and most solemn duties,—and
he who deserves them aright is no indignant per-
sonage in the eyes of Heaven and good men.
though his speech may be unpolished, his clothes
coarse, and his hands horny. Such a one keeps
warm and active some of the patriarchal life, even
in this day of parade and sham and worldly wisdom.
But the husband and father, as perverted by the
grog-shop, might cause pity and disgust among
the very fiends whose work he does.

We did not intend to harrow our own feelings
or the feelings of others, when taking up the pen
to put together a few thoughts on the separation
of the sale of Groceries from that of Liquors, so
instead of continuing the theme just touched on,
we again enquire, Why are the terms of the title
of this article united? Why do those Grocers
who refuse to have any part in the evil, al-
low such a slur to exist? Why do the people,
generally, tolerate the anomaly and the mischief?

Two or three years ago, some friends of Temper-
ance urged that the sale of liquors should be kept
separate, by law, from the sale of other articles,
that the name, if tolerated, should not be allowed
to thrust itself among articles to which it had no
affinity; that, in fact, the evil spirits, which had
too many patrons for entire suppression, should
be restricted to pandemoniums of their own, and
not be allowed to wander at will where they liked.
Such restriction, influential friends of Temperance
said could be effected at the time, rather easily,
if the Temperance public generally interested it-
self on the subject. But that public was rather
apathetic on the question, and a part of it adopt-
ed, in reference to a more sweeping measure,
the cry of "The Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing
but the Bill." We believe that to have been very
poor policy; policy, in fact, which, as representa-
tives of a great cause, they had no right to adopt.
While seeking for the abolition of the free traffic
in that which was a lamentable evil (an effort in
accordance with reason and right and justice,) they
should have taken, meantime, any part of the full
measure. They were not warranted in refusing
any portion of the debt, provided that they did
not accept the instalment as full and satisfactory
payment. Such instalment would be an advance
in the right direction,—and would, naturally, ren-
der the chief object more practical; so that, if
believed to be good in itself, it should by no means
be declined, merely because more was desirable.

The "whole Bill" is again asked for, and very
properly;—but, if delay be apprehended, should
not the minor and more practicable measure be
sought, and thus a past mistake be in some de-
gree remedied?

The objections to the trade-junction of liquors
and other articles, are: That it extends a pern-
icious system; that it causes temptations to the
poor, who go to purchase articles of food, and are
induced to expend money which they cannot afford,
and for that which is dangerous and detrimental;
—that it gives cover to stippling by those who
would not resort to other places for that purpose;
—that thus, it very seriously promotes the forma-
tion of deplorable habit; aids the great plague
of intemperance, and brings considerable collat-
eral influence in support of the liquor system.

Proofs of these points are evident enough; the
group is seen at the liquor counter, while another
group is at the counter where the tea and sugar
are dispensed;—the shivering horses of the coun-
try carts, late at night, outside the liquor groceries,
tell the sad tale of spendthrift dram-drinking, and
of wronged and suffering families anxiously wait-
ing for the heartless loiterers. Again, of another
class, the visitors, solitary and in twos and threes,
to the back shop, are notably numerous, while a
sense of self-respect and of social position, would
effectually deter the same from haunting the com-
mon grog-shop. Of such customers one sometimes
sees the liquor-hardened stultified indulger; the
blotted inebriate suggestive of incipient putrefac-
tion;—and the lank stripling, proud, forsooth, of
his bad introduction to the path of ruin. The lat-
ter reminds of the calf, ambling playfully on the
way to the slaughter-house; with this difference,
that the four-legged creature is not aware of the
end of his journey, and the biped has it before his
eyes.

To check all this would be a good work, and
would be so far travelled on the road to prohibi-
tion. But should not the benefit of the dealers
themselves form part of the estimate? Yes, sure-
ly; for Temperance seeks "the good of all man-

kind." Is it nothing to save men, otherwise res-
pectable, from the contamination and responsibil-
ities of a deplorable traffic? Would they like to look
back on the day of probation so occupied? Do they
deem the present life so long and important, that
the great life beyond, and its views and estimates,
are to be ignored? Surely, surely not. For their
sakes, then, as well as for the weakening of such a
trud, the lessening of a dire temptation, and the
growth of a great virtue, the separation of the
"Grocery" and the "Grog-shop" seems well wor-
thy of wise, timely, and generous effort.

TEMPERANCE AID ASSOCIATION.

The semi-annual meeting of this Association
was held in the Division Room, on last Saturday
evening. Reports from delegations were re-
ceived, which gave the most encouraging accounts
of the progress of the work in the various rural
districts where meetings have been held. In
some settlements rum is only heard of, and in
other places the people are preparing eagerly to
wage war with the enemy of domestic peace and
comfort. Indeed, there would be little or no dif-
ficulty, in a large portion of the villages visited,
in carrying out and maintaining in all its integ-
rity, a Prohibitory Law. The President's Re-
port for the term exhibits the operations of the
Association for the past six months, but, as it is
likely to be published, we make no further com-
ments on it. The following Officers were elected
for the ensuing term:—

WM. C. SILVER—President,
PATRICK MONAGHAN—Secretary,
MANFRED A. SHAFFER—Financial Secretary,
JOHN LAMIGAN—Treasurer,
R. BOAK, SENR., G. BUTLER, R. M. BARRATT,
W. A. S. BLEWETT, E. BOAK, E. MORRISON,
G. MATHESON, C. ALLAN, J. COOMBS, and
W. G. PENDER—Comtee. of Management.

On motion, it was resolved to confer the degree
of HONORARY MEMBERSHIP on the Presidents of
Branch Associations, and on donors contributing
the sum of ten shillings towards the funds of the
Association,—whereupon, several gentlemen were
elected to that position. After some discussion on
minor topics, the meeting adjourned.

NEW DIVISIONS.

On 17th February, Rev C. Randall, D. G. W.
P. for Digby County, assisted by members of
"Union," "Hope," and "General Williams" Di-
visions, opened HALYON Division, No. 160, at
Digby. Mr Charles Pinkney was installed as
W. P., and Abijah Hurd R. S.

On the 21st February the same Brother, as-
sisted by "Tyro" Division, organized a new Di-
vision at Long Island, Westport, in the same
county. Twenty-one members were admitted.—
The name of the Division is WESTERN STAR.—
W. P.—Isaiah Thurber, Esq.; R. S.—Robert
Haines.

This week the Grand Scribe has forwarded
Charters for the organization of two new Divi-
sions—one at Springfield, Annapolis County, the
other at Big Baddeck, Victoria County, C.B.

Two other applications for Charters are expect-
ed from Cape Breton. Thus the good work goes
bravely on.

THE MIC-MAC DIVISION ENTERTAINMENT came
off on Monday evening last with great eclat, as
the saying is. It was an exceedingly interesting
occasion. A happy company, in which the whole
of the temperance family were represented, occu-
pied the benches of the Division Room. The W.
P. (H. A. Jennings), opened the meeting with an
appropriate address, and introduced the Rev P.
G. McGregor, G. W. P., who was the speaker of
the evening. He contrasted the state of society
now to what it was some years ago, and showed
to how great an extent its improvement was due
to the progress of the temperance reform. He
felt very great pleasure in being present on this
occasion, and witnessing the character of the au-
dience before him. Here was the child—the
youth—the aged, of both sexes. What a bright
prospect for the future! He passed a high eulo-
gium on the character of woman, and entreated
all to use their influence to suppress that which
blights and withers their fondest hopes.

Recitations were given by Messrs. Weeks and
Harrington, and Master Barnes, all of whom ac-
quitted themselves very creditably; a reading
on "The Beauties of Water" was given by Mr
R. M. Barratt.

Rev Messrs. Gunnison and Cramp also made
a few remarks with reference to the meeting, &c.
The Mic-Mac Bard of Hope took a prominent
part in the entertainment. A dialogue between
several of its members elicited great applause.—
Too much praise cannot be given to several of
the Lady Visitors and Band of Hope for the
musical treat with which they favored the audi-
ence.

Refreshments in abundance were handed round
during the evening.

TEMPERANCE MEETINGS.

DARTMOUTH.—A Literary Entertainment, under the auspices of the T. Aid Association, came off on the evening of the 6th inst., in the Baptist Chapel. The meeting was ably presided over by W. Silver, Esq., and addressed by Rev. Mr Munro and Mr R. M. Barratt,—the former, in the course of his remarks, alluding to the manifest good resulting to the Province of New Brunswick from the operation of the Prohibitory Law, and the means used for its subsequent defeat,—the latter, explaining the object of the T. A. Association, and the duty of temperance persons to use their influence on behalf of it and kindred societies. A. James, Esq., in moving the formation of a Branch Association, also addressed the meeting, and spoke at some length on the necessity of combination for the effectual carrying out of temperance principles. These gentlemen were listened to with much attention. During the recital of "The Drunkard's Return," by Mr. W. Harrington, the most profound silence prevailed. The touching tale of which this recitation is the subject, and the graphic and powerful style in which it was delivered, touched the hearts of many who were present, and in whose eyes stood the glistening tear of sympathy. "Music sweet" also lent its charms to the evening's entertainment,—a choir of young ladies and gentlemen from the city performing several pieces of choice vocal music, for which favor they received the thanks of the meeting.

The Office-bearers of the "Dartmouth" Branch are:—Nathaniel Russell, *President*; R. H. Beckwith, *Secretary and Treasurer*; C. Robson, A. James, and —Webb, *Committee of Management*. The pledge was administered to 5 persons.

We are glad to see our friends in this quarter again united, and we hope they will work on and prosper. If there is one place more than another which requires the vigorous and untiring exertions of temperance men, that place is the town of Dartmouth.

Cow Bay.—On the 7th inst. a very interesting meeting was held in the school house at this place. The delegates from the Association were Rev Mr Gunnison and Mr John Coombes, both of whom addressed the audience, which numbered about 60 persons, 9 of whom took the pledge.

SPRING GARDEN THEATRE.—A very successful meeting was held in the Theatre on Thursday evening, 8th inst. Our venerable Brother Matheson presided. Eloquent practical speeches were delivered by Rev Messrs. Brewster and Munro, and Messrs. Hare and Pitblado,—all of whom were listened to with apparent satisfaction and pleasure. The meeting, which was much larger than anticipated, was conducted under the auspices of a society lately formed, called "The Working Temperance Association." We hope its members will maintain the high standard which its title designates, and show themselves to be in actual working temperance men.

MUSQUODOBOIT HARBOUR.—A Public Temperance Meeting was held at Musquodoboit Harbour on Thursday, the 8th inst. The attendance, which numbered over 100 persons, assembled in the Free Church, to hear the Delegates from the Temperance Aid Association. The meeting was presided over by the Rev Alexander Stuart, to whom again the Association is under renewed obligations for his untiring energy in the cause. The Delegates, Messrs. N. Russell and R. M. Barratt, were listened to with marked attention, and, at the close of their addresses, 70 persons gave in their names and subsequently accepted the Pledge, after which a Society was organized, under the name of the "Musquodoboit Branch of the Halifax Temperance Aid Association," and the following persons were chosen office-bearers:—President, Rev Alexander Stuart; Vice President, Mr Duncan Bayers; Secretary, Mr Isaac Gaetz; Treasurer, Mr Archibald Bayers;—with a Managing Committee of seven members.

The Delegates were treated with the hospitality for which Musquodoboit Harbour and Petpisswick, in common with the whole of Musquodoboit, is so noted.—*Com.*

ORIGINAL TALE.—We are under great obligations to an unknown friend at Yarmouth, for the very touching story which appears on our first page. We hope it is not the last contribution of the kind with which our accomplished female friends will favor us.

The Financial Secretary of the Temperance Aid Association acknowledges the receipt of a donation of *Five Shillings* from Mr Charles Legg, Secur.

Mr Schmare, of Mahone Bay, will please accept thanks for new club of twelve subscribers.—Also Brother John Edwards, of Sydney Mines, for additional list of eight subscribers.

Bro. Dullinger of Yarmouth will please accept our special thanks for his exertions on behalf of this journal.

MELANCHOLY!

We might easily fill our columns with sad details of the fatal result of the inordinate use of strong drink, but it would be of little benefit, as no one can fail to observe it even within the circle of their own acquaintance. Here is one instance out of many:—

"The Richmond papers of the last week announce the death, in the poorhouse of that city, of Dr Thomas Johnston, at one time the popular and skillful physician of that metropolis. Dr Johnston held a professorship at the University of Virginia, at a later period was head of the medical faculty of Richmond, and for many years enjoyed a lucrative business in that city. With talents to adorn any station, possessed of rare professional skill, loved and respected by hundreds, whose lives he had rescued from imminent death, blessed with all the endearments that a loving, trusting and forgiving wife could add to the home circle; yet with these multiplied providences of heaven to render earth happy and desirable, he threw them all away, crushed the heart of his wife, drove away, by constant degradation, friends, fame and fortune, for the gratification of an appetite, moderate in its first demands, but which, like the serpent, wound closer and firmer round the heart, until all that was manly, noble and elevated, was crushed out forever, leaving but the bloated, degraded and brutalized carcass of him who was once the pride of his profession, and a bright ornament to the social circle. He who had ministered consolation to many a bleeding heart, healed the sick, and made joy and gladness leap forth in the midst of death, died in the poor-house of the metropolis, a wretched, degraded pauper!"

Is there no lesson to be drawn from the sad history of this man? Think. He was eminent and skillful in his profession—loved and respected by the community in which he dwelt;—what more could be desired to make life pleasant and happy? Like too many of his class, he was at first a "moderate" drinker, and, like them, he eventually became a *drunkard!* There are none so dull as those who will not learn, and they too often neglect it until it is too late. Then listen to the warning voice of total abstinence, and "Touch not, taste not, handle not" the unclean thing.

NOTICE.—An adjourned meeting of the Temperance Aid Association will take place this evening in the Hall, at half-past 8 o'clock.

Good News!—Our subscribers will no doubt rejoice to learn that their Bills are being prepared, and will be sent out in a day or two. Don't all come at once!

For the Abstainer.

DOINGS OF THE LUNENBURG MAGISTRATES.

Mr. Editor,—

In looking over the reports from the several quarters of our Temperance Province, I was pleased to learn that Temperance principles are on the advance, and men becoming active and zealous in the cause; but I intend to give you some information showing the imposition practised upon the Bridgewater Temperance community, by a minority of the Magistrates in the General Sessions, by the granting of two Licenses;—why that portion of the county should be singled out, and contrary to the wish of two-thirds of the inhabitants, as shown by petition;—and what was the mind of well-thinking and Temperance men on the subject.

At the approach of the General Sessions of this county, the village of Bridgewater was aroused to a sense of the pernicious effects and soul-destroying influences, of the monstrous evil sanctioned by the law of the land, the traffic and sale of Satan's most powerful weapon, intoxicating drinks;—therefore, at a meeting of the Temperance Alliance in agreement with the order of the Sons, they presented a petition largely signed, praying to be relieved from the curse, as far as it could be averted, by not granting License. Accordingly, the time anxiously wished for by the friends of humanity, arrived, and the Magistrates from the different localities met to transact business for their respective districts in particular, and for the county in general. Having gone through, principally, the dreaded question came up—that of License. After considerable discussion, there appeared for the withholding of License in the county, a majority of four. The question naturally arises—How, then, is there granted five Licenses? Notice the dodge. I do not like to cast reflection, upon the Magistracy, neither can I to the degree that they themselves have done, that were guilty in this unwise and unwarrantable transaction.

It appears that the business for the different sections outside the town was completed, and, with the exception of the rum question, there was no further necessity for the gentlemen from the country remaining, being on expenses. There was made manifest, on the part of the town Magistracy, a great deal of dissatisfaction,—they principally voting for License. Notice was given to rescind in

the morning, therefore, in order that the portion of that honorable body wishing so to do, might return home, and Lunenburg town allowed to further indulge in the evil that has carried so many of her intelligent sons to an untimely grave, there was made a compromise, the vote of License to be rescinded only as far as the town was concerned, several gentlemen filling high and responsible positions in society, promising and pledging their integrity, by their word, that the now-arrived-at mutual understanding should be carried out; and the custos, in thanking the gentleman about to leave for home, avowed his intention to have carried out the condition, and the second time being solicited for his pledge, said, "Give yourselves no uneasiness, return to your homes and I will see carried out your wishes according to the present understanding."

Several of those gentlemen that same evening visited the Division at Bridgewater, where was made known what had taken place; it being so very unexpected for such to take place in the county of Lunenburg, the news spread rapidly. The rejoicings of our Temperance community on account of the victory achieved had but short duration, for behold those men, regardless of their promise and their honorable appointment, rescinded the vote as a whole, in which the custos must have acquiesced, otherwise it could not have been done. I am glad to state there were some few honorable exceptions, making an exception of Bridgewater; but at the request of two men, whose calling is to make drunkards, they granted two Licenses in our midst, and that, too, in the face of a petition so largely signed.

I am happy to state, although there are at present three places where the enemy of souls is having done his bidding, that in the village of Bridgewater, Temperance is quite a high standard, and the work appears progressive.

No more at present from

A LOOKER ON.

Bridgewater, March 5th, 1860.

For the Abstainer.

PORT GEORGE.

Mr. Editor,—

It may be interesting to the readers of the *Abstainer* to hear how the cause of Temperance stands in our vicinity.

In September last the members of Port George Division resolved that they would hold a public Temperance Meeting on the second Monday evening of every month during this winter. We have carried that resolution into effect, and also have held two meetings on Handy Mountain. We are already reaping the good effects flowing from our united efforts, by seeing the young men of our village enrolling their names under the banner of Temperance, which can be seen floating in the air every Monday over our Division room, and not only there, but in the lives of members of Port George Division.

About a year ago we commenced with only 17 members. Since then our number has increased to 80 good members.

There were in this village two *taverns* selling Spirituous Liquors contrary to Law. Since then we have had a hard battle to fight, but are coming off victorious. One of these taverns has been closed, and the keeper has become a religious man.

Through the influence of a petition sent from this Division (signed by 200 persons) to the Grand Jury of this county. We have no licensed Hotel to sell Spirituous Liquor.

A very great change has taken place in our village during the last year. For which we ought to thank God and take courage.

We will not be satisfied until we have a Law established in our Province prohibiting the importation and sale of all Spirituous Liquors.

A SON OF TEMPERANCE.

Port George, Wilmot, Feb. 27th 1860.

BAPTIST MINISTERS ON TEMPERANCE.

The following is the Address to the Baptist Clergy of the United Kingdom referred to in our last. It was signed by 212 ministers—22 of whom held charges in Scotland:—

"Dear and Honoured Brethren,—Within the last thirty years the Temperance movement has assumed a high position among the social reforms of the age. It originated, as you may know, with Christian men; and thousands of Christian ministers throughout the world have allied themselves with it. A great majority of the members and ministers of our own denomination in the United States and British provinces of North America have espoused it; and as we rejoice to rank ourselves with its adherents, we now fraternally invite your impartial consideration of its principles and claims. This we do as pledged or practical abstainers, and without feeling committed to an unqualified approval of the means employed for its advancement.

"Should you inquire what, in our judgement, ought to determine our line of conduct, as Christians and Christian ministers, in reference to the Temperance cause, we unhesitatingly point to the spirit and motives of the Christian religion. Scriptural examples of abstinence (divinely approved), and Scriptural denunciations of the deceitfulness of intoxicating liquors, might be cited; but to do this is not here required. If we have learnt 'the truth as it is in Jesus,' we shall not be slow to adopt the means shown to be most practicable and efficient for the suppression of great evils.

And such is intemperance, our greatest national opprobrium and curse. Intemperance is the master obstacle amongst us to the education and evangelisation of the masses—the chief nurse and prolific parent of our national vice, destitution, and crime. Because of intemperance 'the land mourneth' through all its cities, towns, and rural places; and over the ravages of this destroyer our churches, Sunday-schools, and other religious institutions have cause for constant and bitter lamentation.

"Brethren, ought these things to be? Ought we to concur in their continuance? Is it for us to countenance the outward source or conditions of such a course of appalling evils? Some evils cannot be cured by abstinence from things that are seen and handled; but it is no less certain that, by abstinence from alcoholic liquors, intemperance, as an individual and national curse, can be entirely abolished. Intemperance exists and flourishes, though its countless victims prematurely perish, because intoxicating articles are used as beverages; and neither science or experience extends a hope that while so used they will become less dangerous and destructive. The alcoholic stimulus acts prejudicially on the nervous system; a desire for the customary exhilaration is excited; if this desire is indulged, as it so often is, we know the sure result; and, even where it does not grow into a drunken craving, injury both to body and mind is frequently induced. Here, brethren, we are persuaded that the adoption and advocacy of the Total Abstinence principle is an eminently reasonable means, and one in perfect harmony with our holy religion, for the accomplishment of its benevolent object—the extirpation of all intemperance.

"As additional reasons for this abstinence, we would remind you that the manufacture of intoxicating liquors in this country annually consumes fifty million bushels of corn; that the drink-traffic in all its branches, and whether licensed or unlicensed, is a national calamity; that drinking customs and usages are ruinous to myriads, and attended with some danger to all; and that the purchase of these liquors costs the British nation every year upwards of sixty millions, sterling—a sum equal to the annual income of the State, and sixty times greater than the aggregate receipt of all our religious and charitable institutions.

"Suffer us then, earnestly to inquire, what benefit do intoxicating liquors impart that they should be retained as beverages at so frightful a sacrifice of human interests, material and moral, temporal and eternal? Their habitual use may render them agreeable to the taste, but are they necessary? and, if not necessary, how can they compensate for the miseries and losses they entail? Their utility, as ordinary drinks, we have, indeed, learned altogether to discredit. That they are not food, yield no strength for bodily or mental labour, and do not tend to prolong life or make it more rationally enjoyable, are conclusions to which we have arrived from scientific testimony and the records of experience—that experience being of the most varied and comprehensive description. 'We are of opinion,' say two thousand medical practitioners, some of whom are the most celebrated in their profession, 'that the most perfect health is compatible with total abstinence from all intoxicating beverages;' and many abstainers have testified, in explicit terms, to an improvement in health from the entire renunciation of alcoholic liquors.

"The moral results, however, of the Temperance movement, in proportion as it has been supported, commend it most powerfully to your favour. Sobriety, industry, thrift, forethought, personal respectability, domestic comfort, and social progress have been its common attendants. Multitudes of the once reckless and abandoned have been brought by its means to frequent the house of God, and to profess faith in the Redeemer. Its association with the extensive revivals of religion in Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and other parts, is matter of general and indisputable testimony; and this association, whether as cause or effect, has brought into striking relief the natural opposition existing between an earnest piety and all the sources of intemperance involved in the sale and use of intoxicating drinks. Who can now affirm that the promotion of the Temperance reform is a slight upon the preaching of the Gospel and the work of the Holy Spirit? On the contrary, Total Abstinence has proved in every district an efficient pioneer of the Gospel message, as well as a course of life to which the intemperate have been disposed by the influence of the Spirit upon their hearts. We are so far from believing that the Temperance movement can receive too much support from Christians, that we mourn over the limited measure of this support in the past, as having limited the measure of those moral and spiritual benefits which might have been realised in richer variety and affluence. If during the last twenty years all the ministers of religion in the United Kingdom (not to speak of our church-officers and members)—nay, if only the whole body of our Baptist brethren in the ministry had abstained from intoxicating drinks and advocated abstinence—can we doubt that innumerable blessings, not yet enjoyed by society and the church, would have been the assured result?

"We, therefore, beseech a prayerful review on your part, dear and honoured brethren, of this great social question; one of life or death to millions born or unborn. Our sacred calling renders our course of action, in regard to public movements, peculiarly influential for good or evil. Our responsibility is vast and solemn. Let us in this matter be as vigilant watchmen giving the timely warning. Let us be free from the blood of all men. Let supineness vanish before the asseveration, 'To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is a sin;' and let emulation be stirred up by the exhortation, 'To do good, and to communicate forget not, for with such sacrifices is God well pleased.' Do not underestimate the influence, favourable or unfavourable, which you are constantly exerting on the Temperance movement; for its further progress depends much on the decisions which the Christian ministry may form and embody. If there be any virtue and any praise, may you think upon this thing, when alone with conscience and with God, in the light of work to be done and a future account to give. The Holy Spirit helping us, let us be of one heart and one way, in obedience to the sacred oracle, 'Whether ye eat or drink, or whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God.'

The Juvenile Department.

THE DRUNKARD'S BOY.

Oh, chide him not nor cast a shade
Of sorrow o'er his brow,
Nor break, by unkind words, the spell
Which hangs around him now,

Oh, true it is the heart will sigh
To think that coming years
Will blast his hopes and strew his path
With bitter, scalding tears;

Then chide him not—too soon, alas!
The bitter truth he'll know,
Too soon his heart will bow beneath
The helplessness of woe;

THE FALLEN YOUTH.

He was the hope of his father; his mother's soul
was bound up in him; he was an only child; his
form majestic to his parents' eyes, and his voice was
music in their ears.

Twenty two years had scarcely passed from the
morning which gave him birth, when the nuptial
ceremonies between him and a lady as fair and inno-
cent as an angel, were celebrated. It was a glad
day. He loved his wife. Her paradise was formed,
and she gloried in nothing but her husband.

LITTLE THINGS.

Blade by blade grows the grass, until the meadows
are covered with their carpet of green; leaf by
leaf the trees put on their foliage until every branch
is clothed, and whole forests rejoice in summer beauty;

SILENCE AT HOME.

Let parents talk much and talk well at home. A
father who is habitually silent in his own house, may
be, in many respects, a wise man; but he is not wise
in his silence.

News Gleanings.

Provincial Parliament resumed business on Monday
the 12th inst.

The body of a named James Cleff was picked up
at Hogan's Wharf on Monday last. He was formerly
navigator of the schr Susan, but had recently
been discharged in consequence of his intemperate
habits.

We believe that Messrs. J. Watson & Co. are
making arrangements for securing a Tug Boat for
Halifax harbor, which is expected to be ready
for service early in the spring.

Two young men belonging to Yarmouth were lost
overboard from the barque Beaver, on her passage
from that place to New York. One was the son of
Edward Crosby, the other the son of Isaiah Crosby.

The residence of Sir Edmund Head, Governor
of Canada, "Spencer Wood," about three miles
from Quebec, was totally destroyed by fire on Tues-
day evening last.

FIRE.—The Grist and Saw Mills of Mr George
Anderson, Pictou, were destroyed by fire on
Wednesday, the 7th inst., together with a large
quantity of Farming implements, Grain, lumber,
tools, &c. We understand there was no insurance
on any of the articles destroyed, therefore the loss
will be very heavy.

The Canadian Parliament was to assemble at Que-
bec on the 28th ult.

The news of the loss of the Hungarian caused
great excitement in Canada. It is feared that these
successive disasters to the Canadian line of steamers
will be the means of stopping its operations.

Two fires in Canada, one at Prescott on the 19th,
and the other at Brantford on the 17th, Feb., were
very destructive in their results. At Brantford
property to the amount of \$150,000 is said to have
been lost.

Stephen Whitney, whose death is announced, has
left an estate valued at upwards of ten millions of
dollars.

Five California steamships were sold on Monday,
at New York, under protest from Mr E. H. Cheever
one of the Trustees of the owners.—They were
knocked off at the following prices:—Illinois, \$100,000,
to B. H. Cheever; Moses Taylor, \$102,000, to the
same gentleman; Star of the West, \$15,000 to
Moses Taylor; Philadelphia \$5,000, to Francis Morris;
Empire City, \$10,000, to the same gentleman.

CINCINNATI, March 2.—On Wednesday a descent
was made upon a gang of counterfeiters at Lexing-
ton, Mo., who were caught in the act of altering bills
on the Farmer's Bank of Rhode Island to the Far-
mer's Bank of Wisconsin, and raising the denomina-
tions of other notes, including the Farmer's Bank of
Lexington, to 20's. Fifty-two arrests were made.

The walls of St. Xavier Church, Cincinnati, on
which fifteen men were at work, fell down on the
2nd inst., killing thirteen and mortally wounding one.
The remaining man escaped injury.

COPPER MINE IN LOWER CANADA.—The Gran-
by Gazette reports the discovery of a copper mine
at Acton, near the Grand Trunk depot. The ore
is said to yield 30 to 40 per cent of copper.

Liabilities stood for in the Middlesex Division
Court for the eighteen months ending 31st Decem-
ber, 1858, amounted to \$294,194!

The Grand Trunk Railway of Canada continues
to improve in its traffic receipts. The return for
the week ending Jan. 14, 1860, amounts to \$52,335
25c., being an increase on the same week of the
previous year of near by \$20,000!

Both the State and city governments of New York
are at work upon legislation to prevent the erection
of unsafe tenement houses in the city. The superin-
tendent of sanitary inspection for the city has been
on a round of examination, and reports 409 tenement
houses either dangerous or unwholesome.

A late English paper says that Vice Admiral Sir
Houston Stewart, on his return to England, will
either take the place of senior Sea Lord of the Ad-
miralty, or succeed Vice Admiral Sir Barrington
Reynolds, as Commander-in-Chief at Devonport,
where time is up in May.

The search for the log-book and journal of Sir
John Franklin, will, it is said, be renewed next
spring.

A stone has been taken from the monument of
Napoleon the Great, on St Helena, and presented
to the American Consul there, by order of the
French Emperor, to be placed in the Washington
monument at Washington.

Russia and Austria are about forming an alliance
for the protection of the latter power against insur-
rection in Hungary and Venetia.

There appears to be no foundation for the rumor
of the intended marriage between the Princess Alice
and the Prince of Orange.

A French newspaper states that the Queen of
Madagascar is seriously ill, and not at all likely to
recover.

Kossuth had suddenly disappeared from London,
and it was thought he had gone to Hungary.

The English government is now building four
iron ships of war, two of 6,000 tons each and two of
8,500. They are built by private contract and are
to be protected with shot proof iron plates, 4 1/2 inches
thick, around their sides.

The army of England is to be increased by 10,000
regulars. The Government will not contribute
anything towards the support of the Volunteer
movement.

The French Government has bought the Debats
for £100,000. It is to become the great organ of
free trade for France and the Continent, with Mi-
chiel Chevalier as editor.

The citizens of Edinburgh are making preparati-
ons to give a grand reception to the 78th or Ross-
shire Highlanders, now to be stationed in Edinburgh
Castle.

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION.

The following Declaration was drawn up and
signed by the Ministerial Conference which assem-
bled in this city in October last. Since that date
the following signatures have been added. By pub-
licating the list you will oblige

- P. G. MCGREGOR,
J. M. CRAMP,
W. H. HUMPHREY,

Committee appointed by the Conference to
procure the signatures of Ministers.

The undersigned, Ministers of the Gospel in the
Province of Nova Scotia, hereby declare their firm
conviction that the Traffic in Intoxicating Liquor,
as a beverage, is highly injurious to Society, and
ought to be abolished; and they pledge themselves
to exert all the influence they may possess in order
to secure the effectual administration of a Law pro-
hibiting the importation, manufacture, and sale of
intoxicating drink, for beverages purposes, when-
ever such Law shall be passed by the Legislature:

- John Cameron—Nine Mile River, P. C. N. S.
Thomas Donnie—Antigonish, "
George Patterson—Green Hill, "
David Roy—New Glasgow, "
George Walker— "
Angus McGillivray—Springville, "
Henry Pope—Halifax, Westeyan.
Duncan B. Blair—Barney's River, Free P. Church.
John Stewart—New Glasgow, "
John Currie—Maitland, P. C. N. S.
A. P. Miller—Miramichi, "
Richard McLearn—Dartmouth, Baptist.
James Bayne—Pictou, P. C. N. S.
William Somerville—W. Cornwallis, Ref'd. P. C.
Henry Stamer—Hubbard's Cove, Episcopal.
James A. Murray—Annapolis, P. C. N. S.
George Roddick—Durham, "
A. W. Herdman—Pictou, Church of Scotland.
John J. Teastate—Gaysborough, Wesleyan.
George J. Heustis— "
James McLean—Shubenacadie, P. C. N. S.
W. B. King—Parrsboro', Episcopal.
J. W. Tays—Barrington, "
John I. Baxter—Onslow, P. C. N. S.
John L. Murdoch—Windsor, "
John Sprott—Musquodoboit, "
James Ross, Professor—Truro, "
(To be continued.)

Answers of Grand Scribe to Correspondents.

"W. A. C. R.—Lunenburg Co."—Members under
18 years of age cannot vote on any question.
See decision of National Division in Journal of An-
nual Session, 1858.

"Aps Yar. C."—The first Temperance Society
in Nova Scotia was organized, I believe, at Beaver
River, Yarmouth County, in the year 1828. Acadia
Division No. 1—first of the Order S. of T. in N. S.—
in Yarmouth Town 17th Nov. 1847.—The Order
exists, now, in thirteen Counties of the Province. It
is extinct in Sydney and Queen's Counties.—National
Division was organized 17th June, 1844.

"Old Teetotaler, Liverpool."—No. Judge Mar-
shall, I believe, is not a member of the Order. Mr
Wm. M. Brown is still connected with it and "as
active as ever."

"A Hunts' Son"—The National Division will
meet at Portland, Maine, U. S.—in June next. The
G. D. has "not decided to send delegates to that
meeting." Nova Scotia ought to be represented on
that occasion.

"John P."—If, as you say, "the Constitu-
tion is your study" you need not have put the ques-
tions contained in your communication. The Con-
stitution is quite plain. Perhaps you had better
study it a little more. In reply to your several ques-
tions, I would refer you for the 1st.—to Sects 1 and
2, of Article 5. Const. of Subordinate; 2d.—to Sects.
3, 4 and 7, of Art. 7; and 3d.—to Sects. 3, 4 and 7,
of Art. 10. Article 11 of this Constitution is very
plain, and must surely have escaped your notice
during your studies.

"A. G. D. member."—The G. D. is too poor to
"pay the expenses of half-a-dozen Delegates to next
meeting of National Division." Perhaps the Subor-
dinate Divisions "in the city might" as you say,
"appropriate a sufficient sum to send one or two
Delegates." We certainly should be represented at
that meeting, as the Constitutions of the Order will
be revised. It is also the meeting at which the
officers of that body will be elected.

"C. S., J."—If the decision of the Nation-
al Division—"against the admission of colored men
as members of the Order" is "repugnant to the feel-
ings of your Division," I would suggest that you
"pass a resolution in favor of their admission, and
forward it to the G. D. with a request to transmit it
to the National Division."

"Wm. S.—Geo. Town, P. E. I."—I have no doubt
the Editor of Abstainer would be pleased to hear
from you occasionally. Give him an account of the
cause in your locality.

PATRICK MONAGHAN, G. S.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

OFFICIAL.

HALIFAX, N. S., 15th March, 1860.

A Quarterly Session of the Grand Division S. of
T. of Nova Scotia, will be held at Yarmouth, on
Wednesday, 25th day of April, at 7 1/2 o'clock P. M.
It is earnestly requested that all Returns be for-
warded to the G. S. before the 16th day of April.
The financial accounts of G. S. will be closed on that
day.

Divisional Deputies will please be prompt in for-
warding the Quarterly Reports to the County depu-
ties; and the latter will please forward their Reports
to the G. W. P. before the 14th day of April.

The Seal of Subordinate Divisions must be affix-
ed to all official communications:

The address of the G. W. P. is, Rev P. G. Mc-
Gregor, Halifax.

Received by Grand Scribe on account of Ab-
stainer:—

- GEORGETOWN, P. E. I.—Wm. Sanderson, £0 10 0
St. JOHN'S, N. F.—W. D. Morrison, " 0 0
MAHONK BAY—Henry Schware, " 1 10 0
SYDNEY MINES, C. B.—John Edwards, sr. £ 0 0
SHIP HARBOR—Peter Paint, " 5 0

The undernamed have paid their subscriptions
on vol. 4:—

- HALIFAX—J. W. Quinan, Robert Boak,
PATRICK MONAGHAN,
Grand Scribe.

VERY PARTICULAR NOTICE.

BOOTS, SHOES
AND RUBBERS.

THE subscriber has received per Canada—11 trunks
and 1 case BOOTS & SHOES, additional to recent arrivals,
consisting of—

- Gents' Balmoral, Elastic Side, and Button Boots,
Gents' Fancy, Felt, Carpet, and Leather morning SLIP
PERS,
Gents' Long and Short BOOTS,
Ladies' Kid, Cloth, Cashmere, and Lasting Boots,
Ladies' Kid Balmorals,
Ladies' Kid Elastic Side Boots,
Ladies' belt Royal Osborn's,
100 dozen cheap Prunella Boots,

—ALSO—

Per Eastern State from Boston and Rosale from New York
Two Hundred Cases Boots, Shoes and
Rubbers,

Men's and Women's Rubbers, from Two Shillings and
Sixpence upwards,
Men's Stout Kip Brogans, from 4s 6d,
Ladies' long Rubber Boots, very cheap,
16 cases Rubber Boots and Shoes, from Hayward Rub-
ber Co.—warranted superior to any other make.

GEORGE S. YATES,

56 George-street,

Dec 1—1m North End Province Building.

VICTORIA HOTEL,

Lunenburg, N. S.

CONDUCTED ON STRICTLY TEMPERANCE PRINCIPLES.

GOOD accommodation for Travellers and Perna-
ment or Transient Boarders on the most reasona-
ble terms.

Good Stabling for Horses.

D. S. McDONALD,

Proprietor

July 1—12m

ACADIA DRUG STORE,

No. 76 DUKE STREET.

Adjoining CUNNINGHAM'S CLOTHING STORE

Medicines, Seeds, &c.

DYE-STUFFS; Logwood, Redwood, Fustic, Annatto
Indigo, Coppers, Bluestone, Alum and Borax, Brimstone,
Sulphur, Baking Soda, Cream of Tartar,

SPICES OF ALL KINDS,

Nutmogs; Cinnamon, Allspice, and Pepper (ground and
whole), Starh; Mustard;

CASTOR OIL, OLIVE OIL, COD LIVER OIL,

&c; Varnish, Turpentine, Ochres, Perfumes and Pomades
in variety; Hair Oil, Tricopherous, Hungarian Balm,
Wood's Restorative, Macassar Oil, &c. &c.

HAIR BRUSHES, SHAVING

AND CLOTHES BRUSHES.

PATENT MEDICINES in great variety.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.

Trusses, Fancy Soaps and other Toilet articles.

JOHN UHLMAN.

Jan. 15

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

Form of Application for a Charter for a

Division of the Sons of Temperance.

The undersigned, inhabitants of ———, believing the
Order of the Sons of Temperance to be well calculated to
extend the blessings of Total Abstinence, and promote the
general welfare of mankind, respectfully petition
THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE PROVINCE OF

NOVA SCOTIA,

to grant them a Charter to open a new Division, to be
called the ——— Division, No. —, Sons of Temperance of
the Province of Nova Scotia, to be located in ———, and
under your jurisdiction

We pledge ourselves, individually and collectively, to
be governed by the rules and usages of said Grand Divi-
sion, and also by those of the National Division of North
America.

Enclosed is the Charter fee, \$5, Books, &c., \$2,

Address Mr. P. MONAGHAN, Grand Scribe of Grand
Division, Halifax,

TEMPERANCE WATCHMEN.

FORM OF PETITION FOR NEW CLUB

Seven Male Signatures are necessary to form a Club.

To the S. O. Provincial Club Temperance Watchmen of Nova
Scotia.

SIR,—We, the undersigned residents of ———, being
desirous to promote the good cause of Temperance, and
believing your organization efficient, respectfully request
you to visit us on ———, and assist us in establishing a
Temperance Watchmen Club in this place.

As in duty bound will ever pray.

Dated at

Address Mr DANIEL McDONALD, Provincial Secretary

Temperance Watchmen, New Glasgow, N. S.

Rituals, Constitutions; Blank Returns, Odors, Journals,

&c., can be had upon application to the Sec.

DANIEL McDONALD,

Prov. Sec. & T. Temp. W.

THE ABSTAINER.

ORGAN OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE

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